# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

## Agenda item 11

*For information**

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# PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 2010) — BANGLADESH 200142

| Assistance to Refugees from Myanmar | |
|---|---|
| Number of beneficiaries | 31,000 |
| Duration of project | 2 years (1 January 2011–31 December 2012) |
| WFP food tonnage | 14,790 mt |
| **Cost (United States dollars)** | |
| WFP food costs | 8,002,544 |
| Total cost to WFP | 10,830,751 |

\* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions, 2000, items for information should not be discussed unless a Board member specifically requests it, well in advance of the meeting, and the Chair accepts the request on the grounds that it is a proper use of the Board's time.

# NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

**This document is submitted to the Executive Board for information**

The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Regional Director, ODB*:        Mr K. Oshidari                  tel.: 066513-3063

Liaison Officer, ODB:           Ms S. Izzi                      tel.: 066513-2207

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms I. Carpitella, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

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## ABSTRACT

1.    Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 200142 will assist Rohingya refugees living in Kutupalong and Nayapara camps in Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh. Most of the refugees came to Bangladesh in 1991 following religious and ethnic persecution in Myanmar. The refugees depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival owing to restrictions on their income-earning activities established by the Government of Bangladesh.

2.    A July 2010 nutrition survey found that although the global acute malnutrition rate in the camps has improved, the current level of 14.9 percent remains cause for concern. A joint assessment mission conducted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and WFP in June 2010 made recommendations for addressing issues, particularly those relating to food and nutrition security. WFP will improve its food and nutrition support based on the recommendations of the two assessments.

3.    The main role of food provided under this PRRO is to safeguard the nutritional status and food security of the refugee population. WFP's assistance has three components: i) a general food ration to meet the minimum nutritional needs of the entire refugee population – 2,190 kcal/day – with rice, pulses, vegetable oil, fortified blended food, sugar and salt; ii) a supplementary feeding programme to address the nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women, moderately malnourished children aged 6−59 months, and all children aged 6−23 months, with a take-home ration of pre-mixed fortified blended food, oil, sugar and dried skimmed milk; and iii) a school feeding programme to serve as a safety net for refugee children by enhancing dietary diversity and improving access to education through the provision of fortified biscuits on each school day to primary schoolchildren and adolescent literacy learners.

4.    WFP's assistance to Myanmar refugees is provided at the request of the Government of Bangladesh and is consistent with WFP's Strategic Plan (2008–2013). It contributes to Strategic Objectives 1 – Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies; and 3 – Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post-conflict, post-disaster or transition situations. The PRRO supports achievement of Millennium Development Goals 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; 2 – Achieve universal primary education; 4 – Reduce child mortality; and 5 – Improve maternal health.

5.    Phasing out of WFP assistance is subject to the refugees attaining self-reliance, which depends on Government of Bangladesh policy. WFP considers that it is premature to establish a hand-over strategy before UNHCR and the governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar reach agreement on the refugees' future. International humanitarian support continues to be required because the Government of Bangladesh, communities and non-governmental organizations lack the means to substitute the inputs now provided by WFP.

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