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REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

*For information**



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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2010) — CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 200050

Assistance to Populations Affected by Armed Conflicts in Central African Republic and the Sub-Region

Number of beneficiaries	738,000
Duration of project	24 months (1 January 2010–31 December 2011)
WFP food tonnage	44,107 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	17,649,905
Total cost to WFP	63,914,366

* 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.

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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.

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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. Socio-political instability stemming from a series of coups and military conflicts since the 1990s has caused large-scale displacement and impeded development in the Central African Republic (CAR). Although the peace process started in December 2008, the elections have been postponed for the fourth time, to 23 January 2011, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) have been slow. The continuing dissatisfaction of some groups has caused renewed clashes and displacement, especially in the north.
2. CAR ranks 179th out of 182 countries in the 2009 human development index. Results of the 2009 WFP-led comprehensive food security and vulnerability analysis indicate that 30 percent of the population, or 1.2 million people, are food-insecure. The global acute malnutrition rate among children under 5 is 10.2 percent, and chronic malnutrition is 37.5 percent. The country's HIV prevalence of 6.2 percent is the highest in the region. The national net primary school enrolment rate is only 56 percent.
3. Towards the end of 2009, there was an influx of 18,000 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) into southwestern CAR. In the same period, sporadic violent attacks by the Lord's Resistance Army on defenceless villages in southeastern CAR and eastern and northern DRC caused the internal displacement of 25,000 people.
4. The PRRO is in line with the Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy for 2008–2010, and is part of the 2010 Consolidated Appeals Process. It supports United Nations Millennium Development Goals 1 to 6 and WFP Strategic Objectives 1 and 3.
5. The overall goal of the PRRO is to mitigate the impact of conflict on populations by meeting their immediate food needs, while contributing to the peace consolidation process through early recovery measures targeting the most vulnerable groups, in collaboration with humanitarian partners.
6. The specific project objectives are to: i) save the lives of internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and returnees facing acute food insecurity; ii) reduce malnutrition rates to below critical thresholds among children, women and other people in the conflict-affected area; and iii) contribute to rehabilitating conflict-affected communities and restoring their livelihoods.
7. WFP activities comprise general food distributions to 170,000 IDPs, returnees and refugees in the north and, since the end of 2009, the southwest and southeast; and nutrition support to 46,000 malnourished children aged 6–59 months and malnourished pregnant and lactating women, and to 30,000 people living with HIV. Recovery activities include: i) emergency school feeding to facilitate the return to school of 155,000 children; ii) food for assets for 85,000 people, to promote food production/asset creation through land rehabilitation and the construction of storage facilities and to rehabilitate basic infrastructure such as roads and schools; and iii) food for training to support apprenticeships, literacy courses and the DDR process.
8. Technical aspects and implementation arrangements have been designed in consultation with concerned ministerial departments and humanitarian and development partners.