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de Alimentos

**Executive Board
Third Regular Session**

Rome, 21–25 October 2002

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

*For information**



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.3/2002/10-A
19 September 2002
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2002)— CAMBODIA 10170.0

Support to Mother-and-Child Health

Number of beneficiaries	65,000
Duration of project	21 months (April 2002–December 2003)

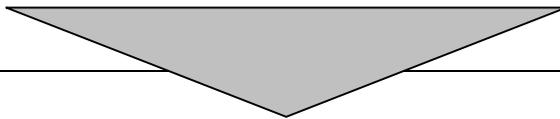
Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	5,070,664
Total cost to Government	21,000
Total food cost	2,619,120

* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions of 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 for information to the Executive Board.

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, Asia Bureau (ODB): Mr J. Powell

Senior Liaison Officer, ODB: Mr K. Sato tel.: 066513-2383

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Supervisor, Meeting Servicing and Distribution Unit (tel.: 066513-2328).



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1. With the worst malnutrition rates among children under 5 in Southeast Asia, as well as alarming rates of low birth weight, anaemia and underweight among mothers, Cambodia's nutrition situation is a silent emergency. Protein-energy malnutrition is still associated with more than two thirds of the under-5 mortality rate, 46 percent of children are underweight, and iron-deficiency anaemia affects 70 percent of preschool-aged children. In addition to causes related to poverty (high illiteracy rates, household food insecurity, low food intake, etc.), the high rates of malnutrition in Cambodia are also a result of the population's extremely low exposure to proper healthcare services.
 2. This project will provide children aged 6 to 59 months and expectant and nursing mothers living in food-insecure areas with a fortified food supplement as part of community-based mother-and-child healthcare services implemented through cooperation between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government partners. Activities include growth monitoring, health and nutrition education, and basic healthcare and disease prevention. Capacity-building of local volunteers and health centre staff will be stressed through extensive training.
 3. The project addresses the first objective of WFP's Enabling Development policy: enable young children and expectant and nursing mothers to meet their special nutritional and nutrition-related health needs. The project also responds to the first of WFP's Commitments to Women: provide direct access to appropriate and adequate food, addressing micronutrient deficiencies and ensuring that 80 percent of those collecting the food are women.

