

**Executive Board Annual Session** 

Rome, 17 - 20 May 1999

# ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda item 1

# ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA



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# 1. Adoption of the Agenda

Pursuant to Rule III of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Executive Director hereby presents the annotated provisional agenda of the Annual Session of 1999. During the session, the Board may, by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, amend the agenda by deletion, addition or modification of any item.

# 2. Appointment of the Rapporteur

In accordance with Rule XII of the Rules of Procedure, the Executive Board may appoint a Rapporteur from among its representatives.

# 3. Annual Reports

#### a) Annual Report of the Executive Director for 1998

In accordance with WFP General Rule VII.2, the Executive Director will submit to the Board, for consideration and approval, her annual report for 1998, which has been prepared in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

The report identifies the highlights of activities in 1998, key challenges encountered and progress made in achieving strategic objectives and implementing policy guidance. It also includes information on emergency relief activities.

Furthermore, as requested by the Board at its First Regular Session of 1999, the Annual Report of the Executive Director includes appendices on the United Nations reform, implementation of the Triennial Policy Review, and follow-up to the World Food Summit, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the World Conference on Education for All and the World Summit for Social Development.

# b) Annual Report of the Executive Board to ECOSOC and the FAO Council on its activities in 1998

In accordance with WFP General Regulation VI.3 and with paragraph 29 of Annex I to United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/162, the Board is required to report annually to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and to the Council of FAO. The Executive Director will submit a draft report on the activities of the Board in 1998, for the Board's consideration and approval. The Board may adopt it for onward transmission to ECOSOC and the FAO Council.

#### 4. Policy issues

# a) Food aid and development

At its First Regular Session of 1998, the Executive Board decided that a policy review of the use of food aid for development should be carried out. At its Annual Session of 1998, the Board further agreed to a review process based on three consultations, to be open to all Members and donors. The final step of the review process would be Executive Board consideration of a policy paper, guided by those consultations. In accordance with the aforementioned decisions, a document entitled *Enabling Development: Policy and Implementation* will be presented to the Board for review and approval.



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# b) WFP Commitments to Women: Mid-term review of implementation

Following the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, the WFP Commitments to Women (1996–2001) were adopted to improve the quality of WFP assistance by promoting gender equity in programming. A mid-term review was conducted to assess the implementation status of these Commitments. The review's summarized findings and recommendations are submitted for the Board's consideration.

# 5. Financial and budgetary matters

#### a) Strategic and Financial Plan (2000–2003)

In accordance with General Rule VI.1, the Executive Director will submit to the Board the Strategic and Financial Plan for 2000–2003 for its review and approval.

The four-year plan, prepared every two years on a rolling basis, consists of two sections. The Strategic Plan spells out the operational and organizational priorities of WFP for the four-year planning period. It identifies specific institutional requirements, activities and potential constraints associated with these priorities. The Financial Plan forecasts resource availability and income to WFP during the same period.

Pursuant to General Regulation XIV.4 and Financial Regulation 7.1, the Executive Director has forwarded the document to the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and the FAO Finance Committee for their review. Their comments and recommendations will also be submitted to the Board for information.

#### b) Budgetary performance report for 1998

The Board will have before it, for information, the Executive Director's report on budgetary performance, 1998. The report contains information relating to expenditures on operations, as well as on the Programme Support and Administrative (PSA) Budget, 1998. The Executive Director has forwarded the document to the ACABQ and the FAO Finance Committee, whose comments will also be submitted to the Board for information.

#### c) Financial Management Improvement Programme (FMIP)

The Board will have before it, for consideration and approval, a proposal to cover the FMIP funding shortfall. The proposal recommends the conversion of the existing 10 million dollars advance from the General Fund to a grant and the allocation of a further, estimated, 6.6 million dollars from the Fund to cover the remaining shortfall. The Executive Director has forwarded the document to the ACABQ and the FAO Finance Committee. Their comments and recommendations will also be submitted to the Board for information.

#### 6. Evaluation Work Plan: 1999-2000

The Board will have before it, for information, WFP's Evaluation Work Plan for 1999-2000 outlining the Secretariat's approach in the conduct of evaluations during the biennium. The orientation of the proposed work plan will continue to be based on the overall strategic priorities of WFP, with a special focus—in line with the trend in the utilization of WFP's resources—on relief operations. Taking into account the far reaching recommendations of the Food Aid and Development review, priority will also be given to developing recommendation tracking and lessons learned systems and producing



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evaluation guidelines for field-based staff as well as preparing suitable training programmes.

#### 7. Organizational and procedural matters

The Board will have before it, for review and approval, the report of the Working Group on the Distribution of Seats established in 1998 to carry out the review mandated by United Nations General Assembly resolution 50/8 and FAO Conference resolution 9/95. The report will include a resolution adopted by ECOSOC on 25 March 1999 that will be transmitted to the General Assembly for adoption; and the proposed draft parallel resolution and proposed amendments to Appendix B to the General Regulations of WFP, which the Board may wish to endorse and forward to the FAO Council for onward transmission to the FAO Conference.

# 8. Administrative and managerial matters

#### a) Report on post-delivery losses—October 1997–September 1998

The Executive Director will submit to the Board, for its consideration, a report on losses of commodities incurred after delivery in recipient countries.

#### b) Composition of WFP international staff—Personnel statistics report

The Board will have before it, for information, a list of all international professional and higher category staff with fixed-term or continuing contracts by organizational unit at headquarters and for each country and regional office as at 31 January 1999. In addition, statistics will be provided on nationality and gender by grade level, as well as representation of economically developed and developing countries.

# c) Report on Common Premises

The Board will have before it, for information and guidance, a document on the status of the United Nations House Programme. The document, which has been prepared jointly by UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP, will be presented to the respective Boards. The report relates the sequence of actions implemented so far and introduces the plan of action proposed for the next biennium.

#### 9. Other business

Representatives and the Executive Director may wish to raise further matters of interest to the Executive Board.

# 10. Verification of adopted decisions and recommendations

The Executive Board will have before it a draft document containing all decisions taken and recommendations made at its Annual Session for verification of their accuracy.

