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DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 1998)— GUINEA 5664.00

Support to community-based rural development initiatives in Middle and Upper Guinea

Number of beneficiaries	114,111
Duration of project	Three years

Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	3,571,660
Total food cost	1,682,330
Total cost to Government	1,506,340

ABSTRACT

Classified as one of the least developed and low-income, food-deficit countries (LDC/LIFDC), Guinea ranks 167th in the 1997 Human Development Report published by the UNDP. The support to community-based rural development initiatives project is a merger of three projects (Guinea 2674.01, Guinea 2469.02 and Guinea 4195.00) which ended in December 1996. It covers the components and activities of these three projects, which were identified as viable and satisfactory by a WFP/FAO/ILO pre-appraisal mission in November/December 1995. The project aims to improve the living conditions of the rural population in the poorest regions of Guinea by supporting rural development schemes initiated and implemented by local communities. It will draw assistance from locally-based government technical services and NGOs. The number of beneficiaries is estimated at 114,111 and the total cost to WFP is 3,571,660 dollars. The Government contribution is valued at 1,506,340 dollars.

Project activities include rehabilitation of feeder roads, reclamation of swamp and upland rice areas, promotion of rational use of natural resources, particularly forests, vegetable gardening, and training. The project will reinforce traditional communal participation in seasonal work during which collective meals are offered to participants. The project will establish a food reserve corresponding to 10 percent of total workdays to provide flexible support for rural community initiatives involving mostly women. The food reserve will be used in kind for food for work, food for training and feeding of children at day-care centres. WFP food will be delivered to extended delivery points as close to the distribution areas as possible, using a WFP subsidy covering 75 percent of the internal transport, storage and handling (ITSH) cost of 118 dollars per ton. Two United Nations Volunteers (UNVs) will be posted at these points in Middle and Upper Guinea to monitor project activities and keep track of WFP commodities.

NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted for information to the Executive Board.

Pursuant to the decisions taken on the methods of work by the Executive Board at its First Regular Session of 1996, the documentation prepared by the Secretariat for the Board has been kept brief and decision-oriented. The meetings of the Executive Board are to be conducted in a business-like manner, with increased dialogue and exchanges between delegations and the Secretariat. Efforts to promote these guiding principles will continue to be pursued by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat therefore invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document, to contact the WFP staff member(s) listed below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting. This procedure is designed to facilitate the Board's consideration of the document in the plenary.

The WFP focal points for this document are:

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Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 066513-2641).

