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**Executive Board  
Third Regular Session**

**Rome, 23 - 26 October 2000**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

## Agenda item 9

### *For information*



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## PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY—30 JUNE 2000)— INDIA 6211.00

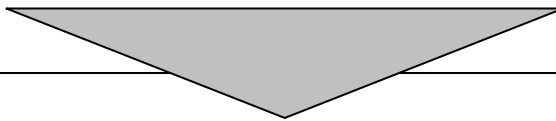
### Rehabilitation of Cyclone-affected Districts in Orissa

Number of beneficiaries	425,000
Women	309,600
Men	115,400
Duration of project	Four months (1 March–30 June 2000)

#### Cost (United States dollars)

Total food cost to WFP	2,439,600
Total cost to WFP	2,955,899

# 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.

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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).



1. Two violent cyclones that ravaged the state of Orissa on 18 and 29 October 1999 left more than 15 million people affected—one third of the population of the state. Ten thousand people lost their lives, almost 2 million houses were destroyed, and cash crops and horticulture were severely damaged. In the most affected districts, Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapara, almost 100 percent of the crop was destroyed and 70 percent of cattle perished. There has also been a huge loss of labour opportunities as a significant proportion of the rural population is dependent on agriculture, and this sector was the worst affected.
2. The immediate requirements were largely met by the Government of India and state emergency interventions. WFP participated in this effort by providing some food from its regular activities in the region. However, there was a need to consolidate the initial response with a longer-term recovery strategy in the worst-affected districts. Based on a joint United Nations assessment and a WFP nutritional review of the situation, this protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) prioritizes immediate assistance to cyclone-affected areas in Jagatsinghpur and Kendrapara.
3. In collaboration with the Government, WFP proposed to assist those severely affected in the two selected districts with a four-month PRRO that comprised three major components: a) vulnerable group feeding through expanded integrated child development services (ICDS), combined with nutrition and health messages to food aid recipients (210,000 beneficiaries); b) primary school feeding (125,000 children); and c) household and community recovery and rehabilitation through food for work (90,000 beneficiaries). The 425,000 beneficiaries (73 percent female) belong to the one third of rural families who live below the poverty threshold in the two affected districts.
4. Although unable to provide all the resources required, this PRRO was the first response to support the Government's initiative for rehabilitation. Despite the gravity of the situation in the two districts, the first phase enabled rehabilitation and reconstruction to begin immediately. To build on these existing endeavours, PRRO 6220.00—"Relief and Rehabilitation of Cyclone-affected Districts in Orissa" was approved by the Board in May 2000: it is to last an additional year and its aim was to restore the economic base of the affected population. This has made it possible for WFP to concentrate on more districts.
5. The primary objective of PRRO 6211.00 was to prevent any increase in malnutrition among the vulnerable populations, improve basic food security through rebuilding community (primary schools, *anganwadi*—i.e. village child development centres—etc.) and personal assets, and increase the capacity of households to earn a living.
6. WFP activities have been part of a common strategy for the reconstruction process undertaken by the Government and international agencies, including United Nations agencies. WFP continues to coordinate with NGOs and has initiated joint activities with CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), OXFAM, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Action Aid and Council of Professional Social Workers (CPSW).

