

برنامج  
الأغذية  
العالمي



Programme  
Alimentaire  
Mondial

World  
Food  
Programme

Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

Executive Board  
Second Regular Session

Rome, 13 - 14 May 1999

## REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 6



Distribution: GENERAL  
**WFP/EB.2/99/6-A/3**

7 April 1999  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

## DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 1998)— MALI 5941.00

### Support to school canteens

Number of beneficiaries	36,300
Duration of project	Twelve months
Quantity of food assistance	3,034 tons

#### Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	2,618,729
Total food cost	1,070,545

### ABSTRACT

Mali is one of the world's poorest countries. It ranks 171st out of 174 on UNDP's Human Development Index, and has particularly unfavourable social indicators, notably in the education sector, with a gross schooling rate of 44percent. This rate is even lower for girls and for the regions in the north of the country, afflicted by years of conflict which have impeded children's schooling. In the framework of the implementation of the Country Programme starting in 1999, WFP intends to contribute to improving the schooling of children in regions in the north of the country.

This project constitutes a pilot phase for intervention in the framework of the Country Programme. It will permit the collection of data, and testing of strategies and performance indicators with a view to fine-tuning. The objectives are to: increase the enrolment rate for primary schools; improve school attendance; and contribute to a faster increase than average in enrolment and girls' attendance rates.

The project aims to support school canteens in the regions of Gao, Mopti and Timbuktu. It is envisaged that 7,260,000 food rations will be distributed to 36,300 students. The project falls within the framework of implementation of the Ten-year (1998–2008) Plan for the Development of Education (PRODEC) drawn up by the Government of Mali with the active participation of the people concerned and partners.

## 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:

Regional Director: M. Zejjari tel.: 066513-2201

Senior Programme Coordinator: L. Bjorkman tel.: 066513-2244

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).

