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Mundial  
de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
Third Regular Session**

**Rome, 19 - 22 October 1999**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

**Agenda item 8**

***For information***



Distribution: GENERAL  
**WFP/EB.3/99/8-C/6**

6 February 2009  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

## **BASIC ACTIVITY WITHIN A COUNTRY PROGRAMME, APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY 30 JUNE 1999)— BOLIVIA 2735.03**

### **Educational Support to Pre-school and Primary Schoolchildren: Integrated Development of Children Under the Age of Six in the Most Depressed Areas**

Number of beneficiaries	Average of 50,000 children and 3,600 women and men per year
Duration of project	Three years (July 1999–June 2002)

<b>Cost (United States dollars)</b>	
Total cost to WFP	7,340,958
Total food cost	5,469,090
Total cost to Government	26,981,000
External funding (World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank)	40,267,000

## 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 point 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 Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 066513-2641).



1. The Country Programme for Bolivia was approved by the Executive Board at its Third Regular Session in October 1996 with “Educational Support to Pre-school and Primary Schoolchildren” as one of its basic activities. The pre-school component— “Integrated Development of Children Under the Age of Six in the Most Depressed Areas” of that basic activity is an expansion of project Bolivia 2735.02, and covers the period July 1999 to June 2002.
2. In accordance with decision 1999/EB.A/2 of the Executive Board, WFP focuses its development activities on five objectives: This activity addresses objectives 1 and 2 (enable young children and expectant and nursing mothers to meet their special nutritional and nutrition-related health needs; and enable poor households to invest in human capital through education and training).
3. The majority of children in Bolivia lack opportunities for their physical, intellectual and social development and this has an impact on their performance at school. This situation is the result of poverty and other related factors such as lack of food and psychological and intellectual stimulation, and limited access to health facilities.
4. The main objective of the activity is to contribute to the integrated development of young girls and boys of the poorest, most food-insecure areas, served by the National Programme for Attention to Girls and Boys under Six Years (PAN). It will increase the coverage and the quality of services provided to children in the areas of health, nutrition, early learning and protection. It also has the objective of promoting better socio-economic conditions for the women who work within the project as facilitators and educators.
5. Project activities will be implemented in: a) centres for up to 30 children with two educators and one cook, providing four hours' attendance a day, 22 days a month, 9 months a year; breakfast and lunch will be provided, representing 50 percent of the children's basic nutritional requirements; and b) centres of taking 30 children for eight hours a day, 22 days a month for 11 months a year; breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack will be served, representing 70 percent of the children's basic nutritional requirements. The food aid given to the educators and cooks working in the centres represents 50 percent of their monthly allowance.
6. For this new phase, the project's strategy envisages: a) narrowing the gap between services rendered in the urban and rural centres, increasing the quality in the latter; b) better beneficiary targeting, focusing on the poorest, most food-insecure young children; c) more appropriate training and materials for the rural facilitators/educators, including functional literacy courses, food preparation and storage; d) mainstreaming of gender considerations, with key ideas developed in each of the activity's components: early learning, health, nutrition and protection; e) advocacy about benefits; f) increased sustainability through greater participation of prefectures, municipalities and parents; and g) a simplified monitoring and evaluation system.
7. WFP food commitment to this project amounts to 650 tons of canned fish and 17,600 of wheat. Of the total wheat commitment, 12,400 tons will be exchanged for local commodities. According to the Resources Allocation Model, Bolivia receives US\$4.5 million of food a year. This project requires US\$2.46 million a year. Requirements will be reviewed annually within the Country Programme on the basis of implementation and availability of resources.



8. Complementarity between the Government and donors is a major feature of this phase: the food aid provided by WFP is considered by PAN and donors as a key, pivotal element of the activity, helping to link all other resources coming from the National Treasury, the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. NGOs will be the major implementing partners, while UNESCO, UNICEF and UNFPA will provide material support and participate with training activities.

