



World Food Programme Hunger Seminar
“Rising Food Prices: Dimension, Causes, Impact and Responses”
9 April 2008, 14:30 – 17:30
WFP Auditorium

Background

Many factors that have or could have a deep influence on the dynamics of world hunger are rapidly changing. One of the most important of these factors is the recent upward trend in food prices. The dimension, causes and consequences of changes in food prices need to be carefully analysed in order to determine how this trend might impact the hungry poor and other vulnerable groups, as well as what the implications might be for governments, partners and WFP.

Thus WFP is organizing a seminar for its membership on the dimension, causes, impact and responses of rising food prices. The seminar will be an open space to express and discuss views.

Agenda

14:30 – 15:00 Opening remarks – the Executive Director

15:00 – 15:30 Keynote address: “Rising Food Prices: Dimension, Causes, Impact and Responses”

Mr Joachim von Braun, Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), will provide an overview and analysis of the dimension and causes of high food prices, as well as the actions that might be taken to minimize the impact on the most hungry and vulnerable people, especially in the short and medium term.

15:30 – 15:45 Rising food prices: a WFP perspective

Mr John Aylieff, Director, Programme Design and Support Division, will discuss the impact of rising food prices on food insecurity and hunger, along with potential options for WFP in responding to the higher prices together with governments.

15:45 – 17:15 Discussion – moderated by the Executive Director

17:15 – 17:30 Closing remarks – the Executive Director