

Mr. President, Excellency's, Distinguished Delegates – Good Morning, Magandang Umaga Po (Philippine greeting)

Before I enter into the topic of the morning – I would like to thank each and every one of you for your immediate, continued and generous support during Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda, which helped to save countless, lives. Today the situation while slowly is returning to normalcy there is still a long way to go for the millions of people affected. So Once again thank you on behalf of the PHL PEOPLE

The Document before you is a new innovative PRRO for the Philippines. It will build the resilience of *both* vulnerable populations *and* the government structures; combining a range of market-sensitive food assistance options but also equally important technical support in activities and policy support, where WFP seeks to have the Government as the lead. The operation will target approx. 400,000 beneficiaries over a three-year period.

This operation is structured to providing the “Right Support, at the Right Time and with the Right Tools”.

The PRRO seeks to consolidate what has been done in the country and stands at historic & challenging crossroads in the history of Mindanao and the Philippines.

As you are all aware, in March 2014 the Philippine Government (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) signed a Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), paving the way for the creation of a Bangsamoro State by 2016. However, the long-running conflict between the two sides continues to be major factor in the perpetuation of poverty and inequality in Mindanao. Let me just say that the loss of 44 Special Armed Forces in Mindanao some 10 days back, marked an unfortunate turn of events in Mindanao. And here I would like to remind you all how

fragile the situation is and how Peace in Mindanao is the only option

Indeed, this PRRO is opportune – it is very much an integral part of the Bangsamoro Development Plan (BDP) and features significantly within the Section of FNS as an essential crosscutting theme.

Our work at the Provincial, municipal, Barangay level and most importantly directly with the people in Mindanao has strategically placed us to provide the very much-needed operational as well as technical support to the Bangsamoro Entity.

PRRO seeks a holistic approach based on integration, where WFP in the area of FNS will serve as the CONVENOR, not only to the local entities but also to the other UN sister agencies and International NGOs.

This PRRO will provide direct food assistance (both cash and in-kind). Food assistance for assets (FFA) will be an integral component of support to conflict and natural disaster-affected communities. Provision of direct and technical assistance make use of WFP 3PA tools (i.e., context analysis, gender sensitive seasonal livelihoods planning and community prioritization) for resilience and disaster risk reduction programming. (

Significant efforts have been made to ensure gender mainstreaming across the PRRO and is an integral part in its design; Gender-Sensitive assessments, intervention designs, implementation Modalities and M&E activities are all cross-cutting aspects and part of Food and Nutrition Security, including access and control over food supplies and response shocks;

Cash will be implemented in municipalities where the necessary market conditions are met.

WFP has put special attention to the needs of those chronically undernourished with interventions that will focus on reducing stunting. Stunting levels in central Mindanao are above the national average, WFP will strengthen its attention to addressing nutrition concerns in the first 1,000 days both for children 6 to 23 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLWs). The shift allows WFP to align itself with GRP priorities now that the country is part of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. WFP will continue working with the relevant government services and, when needed, provide direct support in the event of a declared nutrition emergency.

WFP will use its comparative advantage and technical expertise to augment and leverage public sector systems at national and *selected* sub-national levels for timely and appropriate responses to natural disasters and subsequent recovery needs.

Under the PRRO, and building on the existing framework for collaboration with the DSWD, WFP will establish a technical and operational agreement with the Institutional Development Unit (IDU) of the DSWD.

The PRRO includes critical capacity augmentation and policy development components. In particular, WFP seeks to bolster national Emergency Preparedness and Response capacities and help key government partners develop appropriate food and nutrition policies.

Capacity augmentation will include supporting local government structures in planning, implementation and monitoring of community-based resilience efforts, nutrition programmes and school feeding.

Strengthening of national disaster management systems will limit

the need for international assistance, policy for food security and nutrition will seek to develop national solutions and investment priorities, and direct assistance will meet essential food and

Under the PRRO, WFP will seek to develop and advocate for appropriate food security and nutrition policies. This will entail a re-orientation of WFP's partnership with national institutions, civil society organizations (CSOs), UN system agencies and development banks. Specifically, WFP will: conduct operations research and policy development on complementary feeding and food fortification with specific emphasis on rice fortification and the development of locally produced specialized nutritious foods for stunting reduction and management of acute malnutrition; (

Develop, at the request of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission, a Mindanao- specific food and nutrition policy framework and associated investment priorities.

Engage in policy dialogue with the GRP and prepare operational guidance on integrating of food security and nutrition to national poverty reduction and disaster risk reduction strategies (linkage to Component 2); and (

Conduct research and development of a framework for the analysis of climate change and food security with the relevant Departments, Universities and the Climate Change Commission (CCC). The findings from this analysis will inform food security policy development for Mindanao in particular.

Typhoon Haiyan demonstrated the need to have improved agility, speed and efficacy of government response supply-chains, all of which will be worked through the Special Operations 200706 that will assist to establish a decentralized disaster response network. This new Decentralized system will enable the prepositioning of

emergency response equipment and relief stocks that will reduce time and cost of transport across the Philippine archipelago whilst increasing flexibility of access affected areas.

The PRRO will establish a virtual emergency contingency food reserve which will be used only in the event of emergencies and should there be a request of the GRP. Philippines is visited annually by about 20 typhoons. (

Hand-Over Strategy (

The activities under this PRRO will seek to incrementally hand over the responsibility for meeting the food security and nutrition needs of vulnerable populations to the GRP and the Bangsamoro Administration. Direct food assistance activities in Mindanao will be complemented with capacity augmentation of selected local government structures in planning, implementation and monitoring of community-based resilience programmes, nutrition programmes and school feeding. The broader goal is to leverage GRP social protection schemes to expand their coverage to include vulnerable populations in Mindanao and Visayas. Augmentation of GRP systems will attempt to strengthen national responses to natural disasters, thereby limiting the need for international assistance. Lastly, policy development and advocacy for food security and nutrition will seek to develop national solutions and investment priorities.