

**Addendum to the 19 September 2019 background paper  
Integrated Road Map:  
Proposed permanent delegations of authority**



**Informal consultation**

**4 October 2019**

**World Food Programme  
Rome, Italy**

## Introduction

1. During the informal consultation on the Integrated Road Map held on 4 September 2019, the Secretariat presented the background and rationale for proposals related to governance arrangements and permanent delegations of authority. The proposals entailed ensuring the Board's strategic oversight through a streamlined consultation process; optimizing permanent delegations of authority; simplifying the five-day Member State review process for crisis-response-related revisions; and augmenting the country strategic plan (CSP) data portal with additional information to improve its usefulness to users in line with recommendations 7 and 8 of the External Auditor's report on country portfolio budgets.<sup>1</sup>
2. Following a robust discussion, management issued a background document<sup>2</sup> in advance of a scheduled 19 September 2019 informal consultation that described revised versions of proposal 2, on optimizing the permanent delegations of authority, and proposal 3, on modifying the five-day Member State review process for crisis-response-related revisions. The 19 September 2019 informal consultation was postponed, however, because management developed alternative options for proposals 2 and 3 that could potentially strike a better balance between oversight and governance and the need for simplicity and efficiency based on feedback from country offices, regional bureaux, headquarters divisions and some Member States. This addendum presents those alternative options, which will also be discussed at the informal consultation on 4 October 2019.
3. Table 1 shows the four proposals presented at the 4 September 2019 informal consultation, the revised proposals described in the 19 September 2019 background document and the alternative options presented in this addendum.

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<sup>1</sup> WFP/EB.A.2019/6-E/1.

<sup>2</sup> Integrated Road Map: Proposed permanent delegations of authority: Informal consultation: 19 September 2019.

**TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS RELATED TO GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS  
AND PERMANENT DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY**

<b>Proposal as presented at the 4 September 2019 informal consultation</b>	<b>Revised proposal presented in the 19 September 2019 background document</b>	<b>Alternative option presented in this addendum</b>
1. Streamline the two-step consultation process while ensuring strategic engagement of the Board.	Unchanged from the 4 September informal consultation	Unchanged from the 4 September informal consultation
<i>Reference:</i> Paragraphs 23–33 of the 4 September background document		
2. The Executive Board will approve all new CSPs and interim country strategic plans (ICSPs) and any revisions that add or delete strategic outcomes related to resilience building or root causes. <sup>a</sup> Other revisions will be delegated to the Executive Director or, for crisis-response-related revisions, the Executive Director and, if required, the Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).	<b>2(a)(i).</b> The Executive Board will approve all new CSPs and ICSPs and any revisions that add or delete strategic outcomes from a CSP or ICSP. <sup>a</sup> The Board will approve budgetary increases exceeding USD 36 million in a calendar year arising from non-emergency-related revisions of one or more individual strategic outcomes of a CSP or ICSP.	<b>2(a)(ii).</b> 1. The Executive Board will approve all new CSPs and ICSPs and any revisions that add or delete strategic outcomes from a CSP or ICSP. <sup>a</sup> 2. The Board will approve each non-crisis-related revision to a CSP or ICSP that increases its value by more than 25 percent. <sup>b</sup> 3. For such revisions, the Board will employ a Member State five-day review process and the mechanism for approval by correspondence in accordance with Rule IX.8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board.
	<b>2b.</b> Maintain other delegations of authority to the Executive Director as applied during the interim period.	<b>2b.</b> Unchanged from the 19 September informal consultation
<i>Reference:</i> Paragraphs 34–49 of the 4 September background document.	<i>Reference:</i> Paragraphs 5–20 and annex I of the 19 September background document.	<i>Reference for (2)(a)(ii):</i> Paragraphs 6–17 below <i>Reference for (2)(b):</i> Paragraphs 18–48 below and annex I of the 19 September background document
3. Simplify the five-day Member State review process for crisis-response-related revisions by notifying and sharing such revisions with Member States. <sup>c</sup>	<b>3(i).</b> Modify the Member State review process for crisis-response-related revisions by sharing for comment only crisis-response-related revisions greater than USD 50 million and shortening the process to four days.	<b>3(ii).</b> Modify the Member State review process by sharing for comment crisis-response-related revisions greater than 25 percent of the overall budget value and maintaining the review period of five days.
<i>Reference:</i> Paragraphs 50–62 and annex III of the 4 September 2019 background document.	<i>Reference:</i> Paragraphs 21–33 of the 19 September background document	<i>Reference:</i> Paragraphs 49–57 below.
4. Provide more detailed information via the CSP data portal to improve its usefulness to users in line with recommendations 7 and 8 of the External Auditor’s report on country portfolio budgets.	Unchanged from the 4 September informal consultation	Unchanged from the 4 September informal consultation
<i>Reference:</i> Paragraphs 63–66 of the 4 September background document		

<sup>a</sup> Except when the CSP or ICSP or the strategic outcome at issue is funded entirely by a host country that has not requested Executive Board approval or when the strategic outcome relates to emergency activities or service provision activities.

<sup>b</sup> Fundamental, emergency and service-related revisions will not be included in the threshold calculation; in addition, upward revisions will not be offset by downward revisions.

<sup>c</sup> All crisis-response-related revisions of CSPs and ICSPs that are more than USD 7.5 million will be shared.

4. In addition, this document provides the rationale for those delegations of authority applied during the interim period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019 per paragraph vi of the Board's decision 2017/EB.2/2 that are recommended to be maintained under proposal 2 (b). Paragraphs 18–48 below are intended to supplement paragraph 19 of the background document for the 19 September informal consultation.
5. Feedback received at the 4 October informal consultation will be incorporated into the proposals, which will be presented to the Executive Board for consideration at its 2019 second regular session. Permanent delegations of authority will be presented for approval at the Board's 2020 first regular session and, if approved, would take effect 1 March 2020.

### **Alternative option 2(a)(ii) for permanent delegations of authority**

6. Under General Article VI.2 (c) of the WFP General Regulations, the Board is responsible for the approval of activities of WFP but may delegate to the Executive Director such approval authorities as it may specify.
7. Paragraphs 8–17 below outline an alternative option for permanent delegations of authority for budget increases for CSPs and ICSPs that are not related to fundamental changes, emergency responses or service provision.
8. Management proposes to use delegations of authority to maintain WFP's rapid and effective emergency response and to ensure that the Board's oversight role is maintained for significant changes to operations while maximizing internal efficiencies by delegating approval authority to the Executive Director for less significant changes.
9. Under alternative option 2(a)(ii), management proposes that the Executive Board approve all new CSPs and ICSPs and any revisions that add or delete strategic outcomes from CSPs or ICSPs<sup>3</sup> (see paragraphs 6–9 of the background document for 19 September informal consultation). In addition, the Board will approve each non-crisis-related revision to a CSP or ICSP that increases its value by more than 25 percent.<sup>4</sup> Table 2 shows the proposed revision to the permanent delegations of authority and accompanying commentary to reflect this alternative option. The proposed threshold is not intended to apply to new CSPs and ICSPs, fundamental changes to CSPs, ICSPs, limited emergency operations, transitional ICSPs or revisions related to emergency response or service provision.

<b>TABLE 2: ALTERNATIVE TEXT FOR OPTION 2(A)(II)</b>	
<b>Text</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
Appendix to the General Rules (b)(2): Increase in the value of a CSP or ICSP, provided that the value of an individual increase does not exceed 25 percent of the plan's current budget.	The percentage threshold for an increase to a CSP or ICSP will be calculated based on the value of the CSP or ICSP budget on the date that the revision is made.

<sup>3</sup> Except when the CSP or ICSP or the strategic outcome at issue is funded entirely by a host country that has not requested Executive Board approval or where the strategic outcome relates to emergency activities or service provision activities.

<sup>4</sup> Fundamental, emergency and service-related revisions will not be included in the threshold calculation; in addition, upward revisions will not be offset by downward revisions.

10. In addition, management proposes to streamline the approval process by employing a Member State five-day review of budget revisions and mechanism for approval by correspondence in accordance with Rule IX.8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board.<sup>5</sup>
11. The review process would entail the following steps, prior to employing the mechanism for approval by correspondence:
  - i) Draft budget revision posted on WFP's website;
  - ii) minimum of four working days for Member States to comment;
  - iii) comments compiled on the membership area of the Executive Board website;
  - iv) a fifth working day reserved for Member States to react to other comments; and
  - v) final budget revision posted on the membership area of the Executive Board website along with a matrix of comments.
12. To ensure that the Board retains visibility and effective oversight, in line with current practice all approved revisions that increase CSP or ICSP budgets by USD 7.5 million or more will be published on WFP's website. The CSP data portal will continue to be updated with all revisions upon their approval. Improvements in notifying Member States of newly posted changes, including the use of email to inform Board Members, will be made. Lastly, in addition to the annual management plan, the annual performance report and annual country reports, twice-yearly reports detailing the Executive Director's use of his delegated authority will be submitted to the Board.

### **Rationale**

13. The single proportion-based threshold represents a simplification compared with the interim delegations of authority, which utilize a maximum absolute value threshold of USD 150 million and proportion-based threshold of 25 percent of the last Board-approved CSP or ICSP budget. This responds to feedback from the field that interim delegations of authority for approving revisions are unduly complex and cumbersome to implement and should be simplified.
14. This proposal retains the Executive Board oversight of significant budget revisions for non-crisis-related revisions. Most importantly, it retains the element of proportionality, especially when considering the significant disparities in the operational size of CSPs and ICSPs.
15. Further, when applying the proposed threshold to revisions from 2018, the Secretariat concluded that there would have been no change to the number of revisions that were submitted to the Board for approval.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> The proposed mechanism is similar to the mechanism for approval by correspondence approved by the Board in 2017 (see decision point vii, WFP/EB.2/2017/4-A/Rev.1, para. 89) except that it provides for a 5-day Member State review period rather than a 10-day period.

<sup>6</sup> In 2018, the Board approved two revisions, for the CSP for Honduras and the transitional ICSP for Turkey.

16. Utilizing the Member State five-day review process for non-crisis-related budget revisions will result in a significant increase in transparency and oversight for Member States. Under this alternative option, management will share draft budget revisions greater than 25 percent of a CSP or ICSP's value<sup>7</sup> with Member States for a five-day review period. Increased consultation with the Board will benefit the design of WFP's interventions by considering Member States' views in a more structured and transparent manner along with the inputs provided through consultations with local partners and donors.
17. Employing the mechanism for approval by correspondence in accordance with Rule IX.8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board is an alternative to submitting budget revisions to the Board for approval at a formal session. It will facilitate timely revisions to adjust to the operational context. In addition it ensures that documents considered at formal Board sessions are more strategic in nature.

#### **Alternative option 2(a)(ii):**

1. The Executive Board will approve all new CSPs and ICSPs and any revisions that add or delete strategic outcomes from a CSP or ICSP.<sup>8</sup>
2. The Board will approve each non-crisis-related revision to a CSP/ICSP that increases its value by more than 25 percent.<sup>9</sup>
3. For such revisions, the Board will employ a Member State five-day review process and the mechanism for approval by correspondence in accordance with Rule IX.8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board.

#### **Proposal 2(b) for permanent delegations of authority: Additional background and rationale**

18. Overall the interim delegations of authority to the Executive Director approved by the Executive Board at its 2017 second regular session<sup>10</sup> are working. Therefore, under proposal 2(b) presented in paragraphs 19 and 20 of the background document for the 19 September 2019 informal consultation, management recommends maintaining delegations of authority from the Executive Board to the Executive Director as applied during the interim period with the exception of delegations of authority for budget increases that are not related to fundamental changes, emergency responses or service provision.
19. Paragraphs 20–48 below provide the rationale for those delegations of authority applied during the interim period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019 per paragraph vi of the Board's decision 2017/EB.2/2 that are recommended to be maintained under proposal 2(b).
20. It should be noted that limited emergency operations and immediate response activities approved by the Executive Director or by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO as well as revisions of country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans and corresponding budget increases approved by the Executive Director or by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO are reported to the Executive Board twice a year.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Fundamental, emergency and service-related revisions will not be included in the threshold calculation; in addition, upward revisions will not be offset by downward revisions.

<sup>8</sup> Except when the CSP or ICSP or the strategic outcome at issue is funded entirely by a host country that has not requested Executive Board approval or where the strategic outcome relates to emergency activities or service provision activities.

<sup>9</sup> Fundamental, emergency and service-related revisions will not be included in the threshold calculation; in addition, upward revisions will not be offset by downward revisions.

<sup>10</sup> WFP/EB.2/2017/4-A/1/Rev.1.

<sup>11</sup> WFP/EB.2/2018/8-E/1, WFP/EB.2/2018/8-E/2, WFP/EB.1/2019/8-E/1, WFP/EB.1/2019/8-E/2.

**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph (a)(i):** Limited emergency operations and transitional country strategic plans (T-ICSPs), with the joint approval of the Executive Director and the FAO Director-General when the limited emergency operation or the emergency-related components of the T-ICSP exceed USD 50 million in value.

21. Under this provision, limited emergency operations that are initially planned for up to six months and T-ICSPs that follow limited emergency operations and last for up to 18 months would be approved by the Executive Director or approved jointly by the Executive Director and the FAO Director-General when the limited emergency operation or emergency-related components of the T-ICSP exceeded a budgetary threshold.
22. At its 2017 second regular session the Board approved an increase in the budgetary threshold for joint approval by the Executive Director and the FAO Director-General from USD 3 million in food value to USD 50 million. The revised threshold reflects the increased scope, complexity and relative size of emergency operations and ensures a swift, efficient and effective response to emergencies.
23. Over the period 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019, the Executive Director exercised this delegated authority to approve three limited emergency operations as shown in table 3. Joint approval with the FAO Director-General was not required since the individual budgets of the three operations did not exceed USD 50 million.
24. The Executive Director did not approve any T-ICSPs following limited emergency operations in the review period.
25. Documents for the limited emergency operations were promptly posted on the WFP website. In addition, the Executive Board was informed at its 2018 second regular session of the Executive Director's approval of the limited emergency operation for Papua New Guinea in the report "Limited emergency operations and immediate response activities approved by the Executive Director or by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO (1 January-30 June 2018)".<sup>12</sup> The limited emergency operation for Comoros and the multi-country limited emergency operation for Latin America will be included in a report to be submitted for information at the Board's 2019 second regular session.

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<sup>12</sup> WFP/EB.2/2018/8-E/2.

**TABLE 3: LIMITED EMERGENCY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 1 JANUARY 2018-30 JUNE 2019**

<b>Approving authority</b>	<b>Project number</b>	<b>Regional bureau</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Operation</b>	<b>Food cost (USD)</b>	<b>Total cost (USD)</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Approval date</b>	<b>Original duration (days)</b>
Executive Director	-	Bangkok	Papua New Guinea	Limited emergency operation Papua New Guinea	-	21 592 495	153 000	30/3/2018	119
Executive Director	-	Panama	Latin America	Multi-country limited emergency operation for Latin American countries impacted by the situation in Venezuela	-	49 986 831	713 000	04/4/2019	184
Executive Director	-	Johannesburg	Comoros	Limited emergency operation Comoros	-	9 146 164	185 000	30/5/2019	190



**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph (a)(ii):** Country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans funded entirely by a host country where the host country has not requested the Executive Board to approve the plan.

26. In line with the Policy on Country Strategic Plans,<sup>13</sup> in cases where a CSP or ICSP is funded entirely by the host country, should the host country opt not to submit it for approval by the Board it will be subject to the provisions of Financial Regulations 5.1 and 5.2, which delegate approval to the Executive Director.
27. This provision, which recognizes the sovereignty of host countries, does not represent a substantive change from the project-based framework, under which the Executive Director had authority regarding bilateral activities.
28. Over the period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019 this delegation of authority was not exercised.

**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph (b)(i):** Revision of any limited emergency operation or emergency related revision of a CSP, ICSP or T-ICSP, with the joint approval of the FAO Director-General for any increase exceeding USD 50 million.

29. Under this provision, revisions of any limited emergency operation or emergency-related revision of a CSP, ICSP or T-ICSP that follows a limited emergency operation and lasts for up to 18 months will be approved by the Executive Director or approved jointly by the Executive Director and the FAO Director-General when the limited emergency operation or emergency-related components of the T-ICSP exceed a budgetary threshold. Emergency-related revisions are not treated cumulatively and do not count towards the Board approval threshold for non-emergency-related revisions.
30. Over the period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019 the Executive Director approved 42 emergency-related revisions. Of these, seven exceeded the USD 50 million threshold and required joint approval with the FAO Director-General.<sup>14</sup>
31. As part of the Member State review process, emergency-related budget revisions that exceed the lesser of USD 150 million or 25 percent of the overall budget are shared with Member States for comment before approval by the Executive Director and, if required, the FAO Director-General.

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<sup>13</sup> WFP/EB.2/2016/4-C/1/Rev.1, paragraphs 38 and 39.

<sup>14</sup> In paragraph 53 of the background document for the 4 September 2019 informal consultation, the Secretariat noted that 43 budget revisions for crisis-response-related strategic outcomes had been approved by the Executive Director between 1 January 2018 and 31 July 2019. In paragraph 30 of the background document for the 19 September informal consultation, the Secretariat noted that 51 budget revisions for crisis-response-related strategic outcomes had been approved by the Executive Director as of 9 September 2019. These updated figures were provided in relation to the review of the Member State review of crisis-response-related revisions rather than the use of the interim delegations of authority. In fact, as indicated in footnote 23 below, there were 52 budget revisions of crisis-response-related strategic outcomes as of 9 September.

32. The Executive Board was informed at its 2018 second regular session and its 2019 first regular session of approved revisions in reports “Revisions of country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans and corresponding budget increases approved by the Executive Director or by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO (1 January–30 June 2018)”<sup>15</sup> and “Revisions of country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans and corresponding budget increases approved by the Executive Director or by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO (1 July–31 December 2018)”<sup>16</sup>, respectively.
33. In addition, all approved revisions that increased CSP or ICSP budgets by USD 7.5 million or more were published promptly on WFP’s website, and the CSP data portal was updated to include any revisions to Board-approved CSPs or ICSPs.

**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph (b)(iii):** Downwards revision of any individual strategic outcome(s) of a CSP or ICSP.

34. Under this provision, approval of budgetary decreases – with the exception of the deletion of strategic outcomes, which would be considered a fundamental change and therefore subject to Board approval – is fully delegated to the Executive Director. This practice encourages managers to review and adjust budgets frequently for better alignment with prevailing costs.
35. Over the period from 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2019, 38 revisions included a downward adjustment to at least one strategic outcome of a CSP or ICSP. In the vast majority of these cases – 36 of the 38, or 95 percent – the downward adjustments were part of a larger revision of the CSPs and ICSPs.<sup>17</sup>
36. All approved revisions that increased CSP or ICSP budgets by USD 7.5 million or more were published promptly on WFP’s website. The CSP data portal was updated to include any revisions to Board-approved CSPs or ICSPs.

**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph(b)(iv):** Revision of non-emergency components of a T-ICSP.

37. Under this provision all revisions of non-emergency components of a T-ICSP following a limited emergency operation are delegated to the Executive Director. This is consistent with the Executive Director’s authority to approve non-emergency-related components of T-ICSPs as provided for in Appendix to the General Rules (a)(1).
38. Over the period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019 the Executive Director did not approve any T-ICSPs following limited emergency operations.
39. In the event of such an approval it would be reported in one of the twice-yearly reports to the Board detailing the Executive Director’s use of his delegated authority.
40. In line with current practice all approved revisions that increase CSP or ICSP budgets by USD 7.5 million or more will be published on WFP’s website.

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<sup>15</sup> WFP/EB.2/2018/8-E/1.

<sup>16</sup> WFP/EB.1/2019/8-E/1.

<sup>17</sup> It is important to note that upward revisions to strategic outcomes are not offset by downward revisions to strategic outcomes.

**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph (b)(v):** Revision of a CSP, ICSP or strategic outcome funded entirely by the host country.

41. In line with the Policy on Country Strategic Plans,<sup>18</sup> revisions to a CSP or ICSP funded entirely by the host country will be subject to the provisions of Financial Regulations 5.1 and 5.2, which delegate approval to the Executive Director. Based on feedback from Member States, management has determined that multilateral funds will not be eligible for allocation to a host-country-funded CSP, ICSP or strategic outcome that has not been approved by the Board.
42. This provision, which recognizes the sovereignty of our host countries, does not represent a substantive change from the project-based framework, under which the Executive Director had authority regarding bilateral activities.
43. Over the period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019 the Executive Director did not exercise this delegated authority.

**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph (b)(vi):** Addition to a CSP or ICSP of a strategic outcome funded entirely by a host country that has not requested the Executive Board to approve the strategic outcome.

44. In line with the Policy on Country Strategic Plans,<sup>19</sup> fundamental changes to CSPs that arise as a result of the addition of a new strategic outcome funded entirely by a host country may be approved by the Executive Director.
45. Over the period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019 the Executive Director did not exercise this delegated authority.

**Appendix to the General Rules paragraph (b)(vii):** Revisions related to service provision.

46. The Board retains the authority to initially approve CSPs and ICSPs;<sup>20</sup> this encompasses all WFP operations in all contexts, including service provision-related activities. Under Appendix to the General Rules (b)(7), all revisions related to service provision are delegated to the Executive Director.
47. It is recognized that service provision activities – planned common and shared services – are often planned in response to specific funded requests. To accommodate the varying nature and funding sources of these activities, authority to approve related budget revisions will be handled in the same spirit as authority for special operations was handled under the project-based framework: revisions arising from changes to service provision activities will be approved by the Executive Director.

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<sup>18</sup> WFP/EB.2/2016/4-C/1/Rev.1, paragraphs 38 and 39.

<sup>19</sup> WFP/EB.2/2016/4-C/1/Rev.1, paragraphs 38 and 39.

<sup>20</sup> Except when the CSP or ICSP is funded entirely by a host country that has not requested Executive Board approval.

48. Over the period from 1 January 2018 to 30 June 2019, the Executive Director approved five revisions, which exclusively revised service provision activities (see table 4).

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Operation</b>	<b>Overall revision value* (USD)</b>	<b>Approval date</b>
Iraq	T-ICSP (2018–2019)	-961 387	1/3/2018
Democratic Republic of the Congo	ICSP (2018–2020)	1 309 023	5/23/2018
Egypt	CSP (2018–2023)	4 443 030	6/2/2019
Libya	ICSP (2019–2020)	3 881 841	23/4/2019
Guatemala	CSP (2018–2022)	2 680 078	13/5/2019

\* Includes adjustment for direct and indirect support costs.

**Proposal 2b:** Maintain other delegations of authority to the Executive Director as applied during the interim period.

### **Alternative option 3(ii) for Member State review of crisis-response-related revisions**

49. Paragraphs 50–57 below outline an alternative proposal for the Member State review process for crisis-response-related revisions.
50. Under alternative option 3(ii), management proposes to share with Member States for comment crisis-response-related revisions greater than 25 percent of the overall budget before approval by the Executive Director and, if required, the FAO Director-General. In addition, management proposes to retain the current review period of five days.
51. To safeguard flexibility and ensure timely, swift and effective response to emergencies, the Executive Director and, if required, the FAO Director-General can approve crisis-response-related revisions without sharing the revisions for comment beforehand. In such circumstances, management will provide a brief information note explaining the operational context and explaining the urgency of the response. The revisions will be shared after approval, and Member States will be given five days to comment. The next iteration of the document can incorporate comments where appropriate.
52. In line with rule III.2(b) of the rules of procedure, Member States may request that a revision be presented at the next Board session.<sup>21</sup> In addition, operational briefings on WFP’s crisis response will continue to be offered, and country offices will continue to consult local missions on revisions and share relevant documents, which are often compiled in the context of humanitarian assessments.
53. This process is in addition to the publication of budget revisions greater than USD 7.5 million and the usual twice-yearly report on emergency operations approved by the Executive Director or jointly by the Executive Director and the FAO Director-General for information at formal Board sessions.

<sup>21</sup> Rule III, paragraph 2(b), of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board provides: “The Executive Director shall prepare a provisional agenda, taking into account the annual plan of work. The provisional agenda shall include all items as are required by these Rules of Procedure or as are proposed by ... any member of the Board”.

## Rationale

54. The single proportion-based threshold is aligned with the threshold under proposal 2(a)(ii) and represents a simplification compared with the current thresholds (i.e. the lesser of USD 150 million or 25 percent of the last Board-approved CSP or ICSP budget) applied for the review process. This responds to feedback from the field that interim delegations of authority for approving revisions are unduly complex and cumbersome and should be simplified.
55. The 25 percent threshold ensures sufficient visibility for significant crisis-response-related revisions. As of 9 September, there had been 52 budget revisions for crisis-response-related strategic outcomes, of which 20 exceeded the current applicable budgetary thresholds<sup>22</sup> and were subject to the five-day Member State review process.<sup>23</sup> If the 25 percent threshold had been applied, Member States would have instead reviewed 19 budget revisions.<sup>24</sup>
56. As noted in paragraph 16 and the update on the Integrated Road Map presented at the Board's 2017 second regular session,<sup>25</sup> the five-day Member State review process is an opportunity to increase transparency and oversight in respect of budget increases through enhanced consultation with Member States.
57. Subject to feedback from Member States, the modified process would come into effect in 2020.

**Proposal 3(ii):** Modify the Member State review process by sharing for comment crisis-response-related revisions greater than 25 percent of the overall budget value and maintaining the review period of five days.

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<sup>22</sup> It should be noted that the value of crisis-response-related revisions are primarily – but not solely – accounted for by crisis response, since revisions can comprise more than one focus area.

<sup>23</sup> It should be noted that paragraph 30 of the 19 September IRM document stated that there were 51 instead of 52 budget revisions of crisis-response-related strategic outcomes.

<sup>24</sup> The crisis-response-related budget revision for Somalia would not have gone through the review process because the revision accounted for 22 percent of the total CSP budget.

<sup>25</sup> WFP/EB.2/2017/4-A/1/Rev.1.

## **Acronyms used in the document**

CSP	country strategic plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
ICSP	interim country strategic plan
T-ICSP	transitional interim country strategic plan
IRM	Integrated Road Map