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REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 7

*For information**



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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 2013) – THE GAMBIA 200557

Targeted Nutrition and Livelihood Support for Vulnerable People Impacted by Floods and Drought

Number of beneficiaries	100,200
Duration of project	2 years (June 2013–June 2015)
WFP food tonnage	4,091 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
Food	4,181,766
Cash/vouchers	2,500,000
Total	10,541,814

* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions, 2000, items for information should not be discussed unless a Board member specifically requests it, well in advance of the meeting, and the Chair accepts the request on the grounds that it is a proper use of the Board's time.

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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted to the Executive Board for information.

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 points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

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Should you have any questions regarding availability of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

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ABSTRACT

1. The combined effects of the 2011–2012 Sahel crisis and heavy flooding from July to October 2012 have eroded vulnerable households' coping mechanisms and resulted in protracted food insecurity and persistent malnutrition in parts of the Gambia. Despite an improved 2012/13 cereal harvest, access to food continues to be constrained by high food prices and the lingering effects of the 2012 food crisis. Two thirds of households face food insecurity, particularly during the rainy season; of these, 5.5 percent suffer from “moderate” or “severe” food insecurity. Global acute malnutrition at the national level is 9.9 percent and stunting prevalence is over 30 percent in one region.
2. Protracted relief and recovery operation 200557 aims to: i) support the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition among children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women in targeted regions (Strategic Objective 3); ii) restore and rebuild the livelihoods of the most vulnerable and support their transition to recovery (Strategic Objective 3); and iii) support the national disaster risk reduction agenda and enhance government and community capacity in emergency preparedness and response (Strategic Objective 2). It will provide assistance to 100,200 beneficiaries from 1 June 2013 to 30 June 2015 at a cost of USD 10.5 million.
3. Food assistance for all asset-creation and training activities will be through cash transfers given beneficiary preference, functionality of markets and the low cost of cash transfers relative to in-kind food distribution.
4. The operation is fully aligned with the Government's national priorities as defined in national and sectoral plans, the latest national nutrition protocol and WFP Strategic Objectives 2 and 3. It contributes to Millennium Development Goals 1, 4, and 5 and supports the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2012–2016).