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REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 8

*For information**



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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2013) — LIBERIA 200550

Food Assistance for Refugees and Vulnerable Host Populations

Number of beneficiaries	90,000
Duration of project	2 years (1 July 2013–30 June 2015)
WFP food tonnage	23,859 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	12,235,036
Total cost to WFP	27,470,914

* 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 number of refugees and asylum seekers in Liberia grew substantially in 2011 following the unrest triggered by the December 2010 presidential election in Côte d'Ivoire. Persisting violence and a weak rule of law – especially in western Côte d'Ivoire – has made repatriation too dangerous. As a result, 65,000 Ivorian refugees continue to reside in four Liberian border counties: Grand Gedeh, Maryland, Nimba and River Gee. The humanitarian crisis is putting additional strain on a precarious food security situation.
2. Based on a joint assessment mission in November 2012, WFP and partners recommended continuing relief food assistance to Côte d'Ivoire refugees residing in designated camps and supporting early recovery for refugees living in host communities. Due to the high food insecurity among the host population, WFP will build on the experience gained during the recent emergency operation to scale-up activities that target vulnerable Liberian households hosting Ivorian refugees.
3. The objectives of this protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) are aligned to WFP's Strategic Objectives 1 (Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies) and 3 (Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post-conflict, post-disaster or transition situations), specifically:
 - improve the food security and nutrition of refugees from Côte d'Ivoire and vulnerable host populations in Liberia who have been adversely affected by the refugee influx (Strategic Objective 1);
 - treat moderate acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months from the refugee and host populations in the four refugee-hosting counties (Strategic Objective 3);
 - prevent stunting through complementary feeding for children 6–23 months and pregnant and lactating women within refugee and host populations (Strategic Objective 3);
 - protect the livelihoods of vulnerable host populations and alleviate their food insecurity during the lean season (Strategic Objective 3); and
 - improve enrolment and attendance rates among refugee primary school children attending schools in Liberia (Strategic Objective 3).
4. This PRRO will complement WFP Liberia's ongoing country programme 200395 (2013–2017), which aims to reduce chronic food insecurity, strengthen social safety nets, and develop national capacity for sustainable management of safety-net programmes, focusing on: i) school feeding; ii) nutrition support; and iii) food assistance for assets.