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Agenda item 10

*For information**



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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2011) — CENTRAL AMERICA 200043

Assistance to Vulnerable Groups Affected by Natural Disasters and other Shocks in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua

Number of beneficiaries	700,000 (total)
Duration of project	2 years (1 January 2011–31 December 2012)
WFP food tonnage	31,429 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food costs	17,921,566
Total cost to WFP	29,042,740

* 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 matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms I. Carpitella, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

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ABSTRACT

1. Food insecurity in Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala is a factor of natural disasters and poverty. The poorest communities suffer most from the repercussions of successive shocks. In recent years high food prices, the global economic crisis, droughts resulting from the El Niño phenomenon, and excessive rainfall and flooding have further compromised the already precarious food security situation in these countries.
2. In response to this situation of vulnerability, this protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) contributes to meeting the immediate needs of food-insecure people affected by recurrent shocks in a timely manner and to protecting their livelihoods, avoiding a deterioration of the nutrition status of vulnerable individuals, and accelerating recovery before new crises occur.
3. The two main components are:
 - **Relief.** Immediate emergency response will provide general food distribution (GFD) in order to save lives, avoid deterioration of beneficiaries' nutritional status and prevent the use of negative coping strategies. Blanket supplementary feeding (BSF) for children under 2 will also be used as a preventive measure to stabilize acute malnutrition rates in this particularly vulnerable group.
 - **Recovery.** Early recovery activities will aim to increase household income and rehabilitate community infrastructure and agricultural productive capacity through food-for-work, food-for-assets and food-for-training activities. Cash-for-work activities may be implemented depending on the circumstances as indicated by feasibility and market studies.
4. In coordination with national and local counterparts, 450 mt of contingency food stocks will be established each year in each country in traditionally food-insecure and disaster-prone areas, before the start of the hurricane season in June. This pre-positioning, in combination with the preparedness tools already in place, such as the early warning and food security monitoring systems, will increase the effectiveness of the relief response by enabling immediate assistance for up to 13,360 beneficiaries in each country. WFP and its partners will lead contingency planning and other local emergency preparedness activities with the participation of communities.
5. The food basket is composed of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and salt for the GFD; fortified blended food, vegetable oil and sugar for the BSF activities; and cereals, pulses and vegetable oil for the early recovery activities.
6. The number of beneficiaries is 700,000 for GFD (300,000 per year); 28,000 children under 2 years for BSF; and 175,000 for the early recovery activities.
7. A regional PRRO has proved to be an effective way to respond quickly to a variety of events in the four countries, while enabling the country offices to work with government counterparts to strengthen their capacity to prepare for and respond to emergencies.