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Programme
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Mundial
de Alimentos

**Executive Board
Second Regular Session**

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REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

*For information**



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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2008) — YEMEN 10232.1

Food Assistance to Somali Refugees in Yemen

Number of beneficiaries	43,500
Duration of project	23 months (1 February 2008–31 December 2009)
WFP food tonnage	5,051 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	4,301,469
Total cost to WFP	4,600,000

* 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 C. Panlilio, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

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ABSTRACT

1. This two-year operation is a continuation of WFP assistance for refugees in Yemen, where WFP has been working with vulnerable Somalis since 1992.
2. In 2007 there were 117,000 registered Somali refugees living in Yemen. The language barrier limits integration and employment opportunities for the refugees, and their presence strains the fragile economy. Repatriation is limited because of continued instability in Somalia, and the number of new arrivals continues to increase: in the first half of 2008, an additional 22,500 refugees crossed into Yemen. For these reasons, it is unlikely WFP will be able to hand over its assistance in the near future.
3. The goal of WFP's assistance is to help refugees improve their living conditions. With reference to the Strategic Plan (2006–2009) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), PRRO 10232.1 aims to:
 - provide life-saving food assistance (Strategic Objective 1);
 - enhance the food security of targeted populations (Strategic Objective 2, MDGs 1 and 6);
 - alleviate short-term hunger to improve concentration and assimilation among schoolchildren and maintain high attendance rates (Strategic Objective 4; MDGs 2 and 3);
 - improve the nutritional and health status of children, mothers and other vulnerable groups (Strategic Objective 3; MDGs 4 and 5); and
 - enhance the capacities of local partners to assist WFP's beneficiaries (Strategic Objective 5).
4. The operation's activities include:
 - general food distribution for families living in the refugee camp of Kharaz;
 - supplementary feeding for mothers and children regularly attending health centres in the refugee camp and in Aden, where a large proportion of the refugees are settled;
 - food for education in the refugee camp and Aden;
 - life-saving food for refugees on arrival in Yemen; and
 - food for training to promote self-reliance – starting in November, in partnership with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).