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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR– (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 2006)– GEORGIA 10211.1

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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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ABSTRACT

1. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10211.1 was approved in November 2006 for January 2007 to the end of December 2008, during which WFP plans to assist 212,000 vulnerable people with 26,500 mt of food. The operational budget is US\$13.23 million.
2. WFP extended PRRO 10211.1 as part of a phase-out operation. The extension focuses on addressing the needs of destitute people until the Government's social assistance programme and other mechanisms are in place, with most of the resources channelled to promoting sustainable food security among the rural poor. Resources are also earmarked to support the Government's efforts to promote education and fight tuberculosis (TB).
3. PRRO 10211.1 consolidates the strategies employed during past years, while gradually reducing the implementation of activities. In all components of the operation, WFP will address in a balanced way the needs of local populations, displaced people and people affected by conflict, thus contributing to peace and confidence building in the region.
4. The goal of WFP's assistance is to support vulnerable groups during transition through selected relief and recovery activities, in line with the Government's commitment to poverty eradication. Focusing on food security and livelihoods, health and education, the PRRO will contribute to WFP Strategic Objectives 2–5 and to Georgia's achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Its immediate objectives are to:
 - improve food production and security among subsistence farmers in rural poor communities through rehabilitation of agricultural assets, disaster-mitigation mechanisms and increased ability to manage shocks;
 - support de-institutionalization of children;
 - improve concentration and learning capacity among primary schoolchildren;
 - improve the health status of TB patients and people living with HIV and improve nutritional support for them;
 - cover critical food needs among Chechen refugees and other destitute people; and
 - promote ownership and build capacities among government counterparts on food security issues to achieve the conditions for WFP's phase-out by the end of 2008.
5. WFP activities include:
 - relief food assistance to contribute to food security among the most vulnerable groups, including the elderly, destitute children, Chechen refugees and victims of natural disasters;
 - food-for-work (FFW) to assist small-scale rural landholders to enhance their agricultural assets with a view to increasing local food production, self-reliance and income; and
 - food-for-education (FFE) to complement government efforts to address short-term hunger and micronutrient deficiencies among schoolchildren and prevent more children from being admitted to state institutions.
6. In partnership with the Global Fund, WFP also provides food assistance to support directly observed treatment with short-course chemotherapy (DOTS) and recovery among TB and HIV/AIDS patients.



7. Partnership with the Government will be a priority. WFP will continue to advocate for food security and will use its resources to build the capacities of government counterparts at all levels. Government authorities will be involved in planning and implementing WFP-assisted interventions, thus promoting ownership and facilitating the conditions for phasing out WFP activities by the end of 2008.