

برنامج  
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Programme  
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Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
Second Regular Session**

**Rome, 6-10 November 2006**

## **REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS**

**Agenda item 11**

*For information\**



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### **PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2006): NIGER 10509.0**

#### **Strengthening the Livelihoods of Vulnerable Populations and Targeted Assistance for Malnourished Children**

Number of beneficiaries	2,900,000
Duration of project	18 months (1 April 2006–30 September 2007)

#### **Cost (United States dollars)**

Total cost to WFP	37,000,000
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\* 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.

Regional Director, ODD\*:            Mr M. Darboe                            tel.: 066513-2201

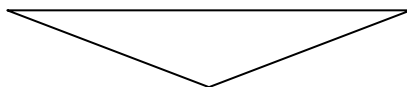
Senior Liaison Officer, ODD:        Mr T. Lecato                             tel.: 066513-2370

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).

\* Regional Bureau Dakar (West Africa)



## DRAFT DECISION\*



The Board takes note of "Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation approved by the Executive Director (1 January–30 June 2006): Niger 10509.0" (WFP/EB.2/2006/11-B/2).

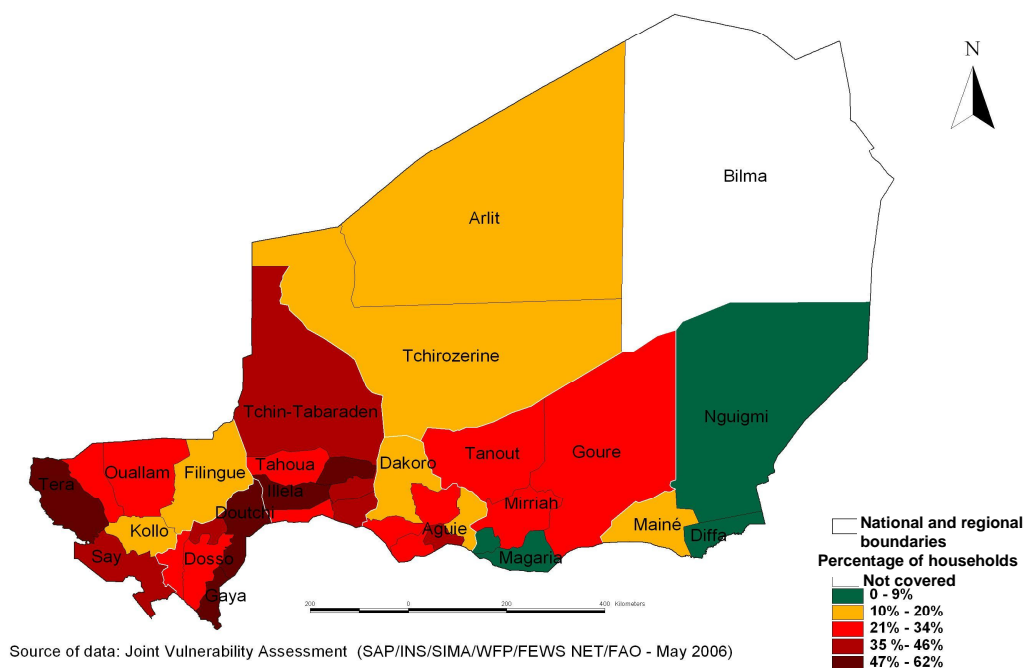
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\* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document (WFP/EB.2/2006/16) issued at the end of the session.



1. Classified as both a least-developed and a low-income food-deficit country, Niger is the lowest ranked country in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Index. It has a population of 12 million, 63 percent of whom survive on less than US\$1 a day. One child in four dies before the age of 5. Poor school attendance, especially among girls, contributes to Niger's 85 percent illiteracy rate. The country faces chronic food insecurity during the lean season before the harvest; the situation is exacerbated by frequent natural disasters.
2. The 2005 food crisis severely eroded the capacity of households to survive further shocks; 62 percent of families fell into debt and continue to pay the cost of indebtedness. The pastoral population was also strongly affected; most pastoralists lost almost all their herds.
3. According to a food security survey of 10,564 rural and urban households conducted in May 2006 by the Government, WFP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Famine Early-Warning System Network (FEWS-NET), the European Commission and France:
  - 15 percent of households are severely food-insecure;
  - 15 percent of households are moderately food-insecure;
  - 29 percent of households are at risk; and
  - 41 percent of households are food-secure.

### Percentage of food-insecure (severe+moderate) households by department



4. Extrapolated for a population of 12 million, these results indicate that 1.8 million people are in severe food insecurity and 2.1 million in moderate food insecurity; 3.9 million people are food-insecure.
5. In Niger, the main actor in food security is the National Food Security Mechanism (DNP-GCA),<sup>1</sup> set up in 1998 under an agreement signed by the Government of Niger and donors. DNP-GCA has a mandate to prevent and manage food crises, and is the major forum for discussing food security interventions and coordinating actions during emergencies.
6. WFP's assistance in Niger aims to improve the nutritional status of children under 5 (Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4–6); assist vulnerable populations in preserving and rebuilding their livelihoods and capacity to withstand food crises (MDGs 1 and 7); and strengthen the capacity of the Government and DNP-GCA to prevent and manage food crises.

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<sup>1</sup> *Dispositif national de prévention et de gestion des crises alimentaires.*