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**Executive Board
Second Regular Session**

Rome, 7–11 November 2005

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 9

*For information**



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.2/2005/9-C/1
12 September 2005
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2005) — HAITI 10382.0

Assistance to Food Insecure Persons in Crisis Situations

Number of beneficiaries	550,000
Duration of project	Two years (1 May 2005–30 April 2007)
Total food tonnage	46,750 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
Cost to WFP	39,926,889
WFP food cost	17,815,867

* 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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ABSTRACT

1. Extreme poverty combined with political, social and economic instability and recurrent natural disasters have exacerbated vulnerability to food insecurity for large sectors of the population; young children and pregnant and lactating women are particularly at risk. Instability intensified early in 2004 as a result of an urban insurrection that led to the fall of the Government and deployment of a multinational interim force; devastating floods followed in May and September 2004.
2. The interim Government and the donor community face significant challenges in the current transitional situation: balancing immediate needs after crises, organizing elections, restoring security, stabilizing the economy and strengthening institutional capacity.
3. Health service coverage and effectiveness are low, particularly in rural areas. Before 2004–2005, less than 4 percent of the budget was devoted to the social sector, but this has increased to 20 percent in the latest budget. National average vaccination coverage is only 25 percent and is as low as 12 percent in some rural communes. Poor sanitary conditions and limited access to clean water contribute to high incidence of parasites and diarrhoea, particularly among children.
4. The situation of Haitian children is among the worst in the region: mortality rates among children under 5 and infants are high; chronic malnutrition is the main nutrition problem among children under 6 of whom 32 percent suffer from stunting – the rate is 48 percent in several areas.
5. The Micronutrient Initiative and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) estimate that 32 percent of children under 6 have sub-clinical vitamin A deficiency; 55 percent of women and 65 percent of pre-school children suffer from anaemia. Only 12 percent of households use iodized salt and there is no national policy to increase its market availability.
6. Haiti has the largest number of people living with HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean: 280,000 were infected in 2003, of whom over 50 percent were women. National prevalence is currently 4 percent, reaching an estimated 10 percent in some urban areas. Over 200,000 children have lost one or both parents to HIV/AIDS.
7. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10382.0 uses a flexible approach to address the immediate food needs of people affected by crises and to assist the most vulnerable people in targeted departments to recover food security.
8. PRRO 10382.0 consolidates the ongoing emergency operation (EMOP) 10347.0, PRRO 10275.0 and activities 1 and 3 of Country Programme 10217.0 into a cohesive two-year operation. It will reach 550,000 beneficiaries through: (i) the relief component, which will allow WFP to respond promptly and adequately to emergency needs throughout Haiti, using 15 percent of food resources; and (ii) the recovery component, which will include community nutrition activities such as education and fortification, food assistance to people living with HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis and food-for-livelihoods activities, using 85 percent of food resources.
9. WFP will play an important role in early warning, contingency planning and emergency preparedness. WFP will pre-position immediate-response stocks for Haiti, develop a rapid needs-assessment methodology and take part in inter-agency contingency planning.

