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**Executive Board
Annual Session**

**Rome, 20–23 May 2002**

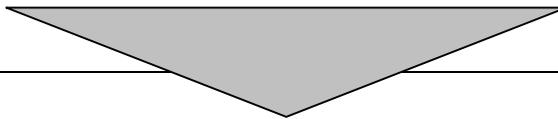# FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

## Agenda item 6

*For information\**

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# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR UNITED NATIONS STAFF SAFETY AND SECURITY

\* 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 for information to the Executive Board.**

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 point indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Director, Management Services Division (MS):    Mr A. Lukach        tel.: 066513-2500

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Supervisor, Meeting Servicing and Distribution Unit (tel.: 066513-2328).

# Executive Summary

At its Third Regular Session of 2001 the Executive Board considered the document entitled "Funding Arrangements for United Nations Staff Safety and Security" (WFP.EB.3/2001/INF/19) and in its decision (ref. 2001/EB.3/39) requested the Secretariat to submit an update on this subject to its Annual Session in 2002.

The purpose of this document is to inform the Board of developments in the following security-related areas:

➤ the final decision of the General Assembly concerning new arrangements for the United Nations security management system;

➤ the modalities by which that decision will be implemented and, in particular, WFP's funding of its share of the UNSECOORD budget for 2002–2003; and

➤ WFP's actions concerning development of the governance mechanism for the security management system being set up within the United Nations system.

## BACKGROUND

1.     The Executive Board, at its Third Regular Session in October 2001, under Other Business (ref. Decision 2001/EB.3/39):

   ➢ discussed the information contained in the document "Funding Arrangements for United Nations Staff Safety and Security" (WFP/EB.3/2001/INF/19) and considered the Executive Director's proposal for the establishment of a funding mechanism for WFP to cover its share of costs under the new arrangement for the United Nations security management system;

   ➢ authorized the use of the General Fund on a one-off basis to fund WFP's share of the 2002–2003 UNSECOORD budget in the amount approved by the General Assembly;

   ➢ agreed with the Executive Director's continuing support to the Secretary-General in implementing the actions and decisions to improve staff security in all areas, and advocating for continued support for the security of staff around the world;

   ➢ requested the Secretariat to submit to its Annual Session in 2002 a report on the final decision of the General Assembly and how that decision would be implemented; and

   ➢ requested the Secretariat to convey to the United Nations the Board's desire for WFP to be part of the governance mechanism for United Nations staff security.

2.     The purpose of this document is to inform the Board of progress made on the three items for action arising from its decision.

## FINAL DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3.     At its fifty-sixth session, the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly considered the report of the Secretary-General on inter-organizational security measures (A/56/384 and Corr.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) (A/56/619) and on 24 December 2001 adopted Resolution (A/C.5/56/L.31), which:

   ➢ endorsed the recommendations contained in the report of the ACABQ;

   ➢ welcomed the agreed inter-agency cost-sharing arrangement and requested that the apportionment of expenses be updated in 2003;

   ➢ noted with concern the lack of an accountability and responsibility mechanism in the area of field security and requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-seventh session, a comprehensive report on the establishment of a clear mechanism of accountability and responsibility, *inter alia*, in respect of its scope, depth, common standards and methods of enforcement in an inter-agency structure; and

   ➢ requested the Secretary-General to conduct an evaluation of the United Nations security system, including the new security arrangements and the relationship and interaction between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, and to report his findings and recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

## IMPLEMENTATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS OF THE DECISION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4.   Adoption of the Resolution by the General Assembly on 24 December 2001 provided the mandate necessary to implement major changes in the security management system as of January 2002. As a result of this decision, all funds, programmes and specialized agencies involved in the security and safety of United Nations staff and UNSECOORD are collaborating to develop and implement strategic initiatives in the following areas:

   ➢  funding of security;

   ➢  resourcing and strengthening of UNSECOORD;

   ➢  accountability; and

   ➢  governance.

## FUNDING AND RESOURCING OF SECURITY

5.   In Resolution (A/C.5/56/L.31), the General Assembly approved the budget for UNSECOORD for a total amount of US$55.4 million for the biennium 2002–2003. In the approved budget, the central Headquarters costs of management and direction of the United Nations security management system amounting to US$4.4 million are fully funded from the United Nations regular budget, while the field-related support costs amounting to US$51 million are apportioned among participating organizations, of which WFP's share is US$6.454 million. Following the Board's decision on the one-off use of the General Fund to fund WFP's share, the Secretariat transferred funds in December 2001 from the General Fund to the Staff Safety and Security account to earmark an amount sufficient for this purpose.

6.   The cost-sharing formula for the next biennium will be finalized after the next census of United Nations staff in duty stations in non-OECD countries scheduled for July 2003. Costs related to the implementation of Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS)— for protection of premises, field communications, etc.—will not be cost-shared but will remain the responsibility of each organization at the duty station.

7.   In the final UNSECOORD budget for 2002–2003:

   a)  The new post of Assistant Secretary-General for the United Nations Security Coordinator was approved by the General Assembly in view of the need for a high-level official to provide essential leadership in security coordination and management.

   b)  Provision was made for the recruitment of 100 professional field security officers (FSOs), 92 of whom are filling existing posts in the United Nations system and 8 of whom are filling posts that are newly created; all will be managed centrally by UNSECOORD.

8.   In addition to its share identified above, WFP continues to fund directly and assign field security advisers in areas where WFP maintains a strong presence or has requirements specific to its functions. In 2001, WFP had 7 of the reported 63 agency-specific FSOs.

## GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

9.   The Board's desire (2001/EB.3/39) for WFP to take active part in the governance mechanism for the United Nations system of staff security was conveyed in writing by the Assistant Executive Director for Administration to the Under Secretary-General for Administration and Management of the United Nations, who is the Chairman of the High Level Committee on Management (HLCM), a sub-committee of the Chief Executives Board (CEB) that is addressing the governance mechanism for staff security.

10.   In pursuing further its involvement in the governance mechanism, WFP, UNDP, UNHCR and UNICEF put forward recommendations to the HLCM for the development of a robust governance mechanism. Following discussions by a working group, in January 2002 the HLCM adopted a proposal to establish a high-level governance mechanism and an Inter-Agency Security Management Network that will support the HLCM when it deals with staff security matters within the United Nations system. Terms of Reference for the HLCM's role in security management were developed and approved. The Inter-Agency Security Management Network consists of senior managers who have oversight of the security function in their respective agencies. This body will not only report to but also make recommendations to the HLCM and monitor implementation of the budget for security management. WFP is actively involved in the Inter-Agency Security Management Network. It will lead the discussion on air safety at its next meeting in May 2002 and has initiated a weekly conference call with its sister field-based agencies and UNSECOORD to collaborate on the deployment of the approved FSOs.

11.   With regard to accountability, there have been preliminary inter-agency discussions, and agreement has been reached on the broad outlines of accountability standards. WFP participated in the Inter-Agency Security Management Network Working Group, which discussed this topic at its last meeting in February 2002 and will present its recommendations at the plenary session of the Inter-Agency Security Management Network in May 2002.

## THE WAY FORWARD

12.   The Secretariat would like to reassure the Board that the Secretariat will continue to participate actively in implementation of the new security management arrangements and will periodically inform the Board of progress.

13.   Through the HLCM, WFP will participate in the comprehensive review of policies and resource-related issues pertaining to the entire United Nations security management system, in the formulation of recommendations of the Inter-Agency Security Management Network to the HLCM and to the Chief Executives Board, and will work with its sister field-based agencies to make recommendations to enhance the security and safety of United Nations staff.