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**Executive Board
Third Regular Session**

Rome, 22–26 October 2001

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

For information*



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.3/2001/10-B/2
26 September 2001
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2001)— ZAMBIA 10051.0 (WIS no. 6134.02)

Food Assistance for Refugees from Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo

Number of beneficiaries	46,000
Duration of project	Nine months (1 April–31 December 2001)
Cost (United States dollars)	
Total cost to WFP	3,515,965
Total food cost	1,571,223

* 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 in advance of the meeting and the chair accepts the request on the grounds that this is a proper use of Board 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 points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Director, Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Bureau (ODK): Ms J. Lewis

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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).



1. Zambia is classified as a least developed country (LDC) and has a per capita gross domestic product (GDP) of US\$300. It is one of the world's poorest countries. Poverty and food insecurity remain widespread in rural areas and in recent years both have increased in urban areas. The country is also vulnerable to recurring natural disasters, floods, drought and animal disease epidemics. In addition, the presence of large numbers of refugees (currently estimated at 260,000) continues to put already stretched natural, social and economic resources under extra pressure.
2. The Government has maintained an open-door policy and consistently granted asylum to populations seeking refuge, despite the economic and security implications. The Government has allocated vast areas of fertile land since the 1970s to refugees in the settlements of Meheba and Mayukwayukwa. Its commitment and contributions to assist refugees through land allocation have been highly commendable.
3. This nine-month protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) will provide relief and recovery assistance to 46,000 refugees who are based in five settlements/camps in northern and western parts of the country and who have benefited from emergency and recovery assistance programmes run by WFP and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The refugees are mainly from Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In light of the volatile and highly insecure situation in both Angola and DRC, it is likely that refugees in Zambia will remain there for some time. Approximately 74 percent of the resources under this PRRO will be targeted to women and children. WFP has ensured that women refugees will participate actively in the management and distribution of food and benefit from income-generating activities and capacity-building training courses taking place in settlements and camps. WFP implementing partners are encouraged to recruit more women in their workforce, especially in decision-making positions.
4. This PRRO will complement and is closely coordinated with UNHCR programmes and the WFP Country Programme.

