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EVALUATIONS

Agenda item 5

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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted for information to the Executive Board.

Pursuant to the decisions taken on the methods of work by the Executive Board at its First Regular Session of 1996, the documentation prepared by the Secretariat for the Board has been kept brief and decision-oriented. The meetings of the Executive Board are to be conducted in a business-like manner, with increased dialogue and exchanges between delegations and the Secretariat. Efforts to promote these guiding principles will continue to be pursued by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat therefore invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document, to contact the WFP staff member(s) listed below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting. This procedure is designed to facilitate the Board's consideration of the document in the plenary.

The WFP focal point for this document is:

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Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 6513-2641).



INTRODUCTION

1. In general, the 1997–98 work plan which was presented to the Executive Board in May 1997 (WFP/EB.A/97/6) is progressing with minor variations.
2. Two out of the five development project evaluations have been carried out, namely Burkina Faso 3326.01—Rural development and Nepal 5572—Rural community infrastructure works. Of the remaining three, one was completed in early 1998 (India 2206.06—Support to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)), one was cancelled owing to other priorities (Namibia 4500—Pre-primary and primary school feeding) and the third is on the current work plan (Pakistan 4185—Promotion of primary education for girls in Baluchistan and North-West Frontier Province). In addition, the Office of Evaluation conducted four evaluations within the relief portfolio, namely Former Yugoslavia 5142.04—Assistance to refugees, internally displaced persons and war-affected populations; Cambodia 5483 (PRO)—Programme for rehabilitation to assist returnees, displaced persons and vulnerable groups; Tajikistan 5253—Food assistance to returnees, displaced and war-affected persons in Tajikistan. The fourth one was the Tripartite (UNICEF/UNHCR/WFP) study of operational coordination in the Great Lakes emergency programme since September 1996, which covered both eastern Zaire 5390.03 Regional—Burundese/Rwandan refugees and the joint evaluation on Rwanda in transition.
3. During 1997, three sectoral or thematic evaluations were also completed, namely ‘Lessons learned from food aid contributions to mother and child health’, ‘Food assistance and natural resources’, and ‘WFP assistance to indigenous communities in Latin America’.
4. The priority criteria for evaluations will continue to be the following: a) those mandated by the Executive Board; b) the significance, in terms of both volume and risk, of the intervention in WFP’s overall portfolio; and c) the potential for providing lessons for future project design.
5. As has been the practice, evaluation documents produced by the Office of Evaluation (OEDE) were shared and discussed not only with the Executive Board, but also with country offices, recipient governments, cooperating United Nations agencies, bilateral institutions, and with various Divisions at WFP headquarters.

ORIENTATION OF THE 1998–99 WORK PLAN

6. The orientation of the new work plan will continue to be based on the overall strategic priorities of WFP, with a special focus on gender issues and, in line with the trend of WFP’s resource utilization, on relief operations. OEDE will strengthen its role to facilitate, among WFP operational units and implementing partners in the field, the adoption of evaluation findings.

THE 1998–99 WORK PLAN

7. The following work plan is indicative, and may be modified to meet the need for evaluation work to be closely in line with WFP’s changing priorities.



PROJECT AND OPERATION EVALUATIONS

Development projects

- ⇒ INDIA 2206.06—Support to integrated child development services (ICDS)
- ⇒ BURKINA FASO 4959—Supplementary feeding for vulnerable groups
- ⇒ PAKISTAN 4185—Promotion of primary education for girls in Baluchistan and North-West Frontier Province
- ⇒ PAKISTAN 2237.03—Supplementary feeding of pre-school children, expectant and nursing mothers
- ⇒ NIGER 2072.03—Support for MCH activities and nutritional rehabilitation and education
- ⇒ NIGER 2445.04—Food aid to primary schools in nomad and transhumant areas
- ⇒ ECUADOR 4463—Primary health care and improved health sanitation
- ⇒ DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO—Quick action projects (to learn lessons from quick action projects of use for future programming)
- ⇒ GAMBIA 2729.02—Community-based rural development
- ⇒ SENEGAL 5655—Community nutrition
- ⇒ MOROCCO 2288.04—Feeding of children in rural primary schools (food incentive for girls' attendance)

Protracted relief operations (PROs) and emergency operations (EMOPs)

- ⇒ NEPAL 5324.02 (PRO)—Food assistance to Bhutanese refugees in Nepal
- ⇒ MALI 5804 (PRO)—Food aid for Malian refugees, returnees and conflict-affected persons
- ⇒ IRAQ 5311 (EMOP)—Food assistance to destitute and vulnerable persons
- ⇒ KENYA 4961.04 (PRO)—Food aid for Somali, Ethiopian and Sudanese Refugees
- ⇒ SUDAN 5016/5826 (EMOP)—Emergency food assistance to war- and drought-affected populations (Major conflict operation of long duration)
- ⇒ SUDAN 4168 (PRO)—Food aid for Ethiopian and Chadian refugees (sizeable and long duration)
- ⇒ HAITI 5010.02, 5539 (EMOP)—WFP humanitarian assistance and the involvement of the military

COUNTRY PROGRAMME MID-TERM EVALUATIONS

- ⇒ Bangladesh—Country Programme, 1997–2000
- ⇒ Bolivia—Country Programme, 1997–2001
- ⇒ India—Country Programme, 1997–2001
- ⇒ Egypt—Country Programme, 1998–2001
- ⇒ Yemen—Country Programme, 1998–2001



THEMATIC EVALUATIONS

- ⇒ Recurring problems of food assistance in complex emergencies
- ⇒ WFP assistance to post-conflict and post-emergency settlements
- ⇒ Food aid and demobilization—(Angola, Tajikistan, etc.)
- ⇒ Mid-term evaluation of WFP Commitments to Women by the year 2000
- ⇒ Analysis of WFP school feeding interventions
- ⇒ Analysis of WFP assistance to predictable emergencies (Uganda 5833, etc.)
- ⇒ Graduating from WFP assistance (Viet Nam 5322, 5325, 5669)

WFP ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE REVIEW

- ⇒ Mid-term evaluation of organizational change

OTHER AREAS OF WORK

8. In addition to the evaluation activities outlined above, OEDE will continue to give special consideration to the development of evaluation memory, lessons learned, and recommendation tracking systems.

