Presentation to the Executive Board on Budget Increases to Development Activities – Tanzania Country Programme 200200

- 1. I am here before you to present for your approval the one year extension of Tanzania's Country Programme 200200, and I am representing the WFP Country Office. Richard Ragan, the Tanzania CD, is currently on TDY in Nepal to assist with the emergency coordination there, and the acting Country Director, Jerry Bailey is in country to ensure that we are responding quickly and appropriately under UNHCR leadership to the needs of the newly arrived Burundian refugees. I should also add that I had the privilege of visiting Tanzania recently and had the opportunity to meet with the Ministry of Agriculture, many donors and with UNHCR regarding the current crisis.
- 2. I will first give you some background and context behind the CP extension and then highlight the main programmatic changes in this Budget Revision.
- 3. *Context:* Tanzania's economy is growing at the rate of 7 percent annually, driven mainly by telecommunications, financial services, transport and construction. However, growth has occurred largely in urban areas, with limited job opportunities. About 80 percent of the population derives its livelihood from subsistence farming and predominantly rain fed agriculture. Some 28 percent of the population live below the poverty line. With an annual population growth rate of 3 percent more than 50 percent of the population is under the age of 18.
- 4. The recent discovery of large reserves of natural gas and crude oil offers the promise of a new and significant revenue stream for the Tanzanian economy and ultimately will impact how the Government takes over its development responsibilities. At the moment, however, Tanzania continues to remain aid dependent.
- 5. In 2012, in an effort to revamp the economy and improve delivery of social services, particularly in rural areas, the government embarked on a comprehensive programme called "Big Results Now" (BRN). The initiative targets additional resources towards priority sectors such as agriculture, health, transport, natural resources and education with a goal of providing sizeable social sector contributions to citizens throughout the country.
- 6. At the national level Tanzania is food self-sufficient. However, localized food deficits occur at regional, district and household levels mainly due to dependence on rain-fed agriculture and limited use of modern farming techniques. Given food surpluses in recent years, Tanzania's role as a grain supplier for East African region has been growing steadily. The government forecasted a surplus of 1.6 million mt of cereal production for the 2013/14 cropping season,

mainly attributed to the reliable rainfall and increased use of inputs, particularly improved seeds and fertilizers. However, adequate storage to accommodate excess production remains problematic as does the high level of post-harvest losses. Despite the improvement in national food security at household and individual levels, there are serious problems with food utilization and associated factors leading to high malnutrition in the country.

- 7. Tanzania is poised for national elections in October 2015, as President Jakaya Kikwete completes his second term in office paving the way for a new government. After a national referendum, a new constitution is also likely to be introduced.
- 8. Tanzania is a peaceful and stable country in an unstable region. It borders 8 countries, some of which are confronting rising terrorist threats, as well as political instability, most recently observed by the ongoing Burundi refugee influx to Tanzania. Since the end of April, tens of thousands of Burundians have sought refuge in Tanzania, by crossing over the border into the north western region of Kigoma, which has hosted refugees since the 1990s.
- 9. The Tanzania Country Office is currently implementing a Country Programme (CP 200200), a Refugee Operation (PRRO 200603) and more recently, an Immediate Response-Emergency Operation to provide humanitarian assistance to the newly arrived refugees from Burundi.
- 10. Tanzania is a *Delivering as One* country in which WFP operates under the framework of the United Nations Development Assistance Programme (UNDAP). UNDAP was launched in 2011. Tanzania's Country Programme is aligned to the UNDAP.
- 11. Tanzania's Country Programme is the result of a broad consultation process with stakeholders which began in late 2010, supported by a Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis (CFSVA) to facilitate geographical targeting of the vulnerable populations. It took into account government priorities as stipulated in the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty and the 2025 Development Vision. Implementation modalities of the CP took advantage of the well-established government structures at the local level and the experience of NGOs.
- 12. The current UNDAP 1 has been extended by one year to 30 June 2016 to align it with the government's next five year planning cycle (2016-2021). The process to develop UNDAP II is currently underway and focuses on the post-MDG agenda, taking into account Tanzania's ambition to achieve middle income status through accelerated economic development.
- 13. Given the contextual changes highlighted above, and in light of opportunities to re-position WFP as more of a technical assistance advisor than an implementer of direct assistance, WFP is embarking on a new Country Strategy process to inform if and how and in what strategic areas WFP can assist the Government in addressing Zero Hunger post 2016.

- 14. *Programmatic Changes:* This budget revision proposes 4 aspects of change to the current CP.
 - a. Firstly, Tanzania's current Country Programme is proposed to be extended by one year from 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016 to align it to the revised UNDAP I timeline.
 - b. Secondly, WFP proposes to discontinue direct implementation of school feeding operations, starting 1 July 2015 as a result of funding constraints. WFP will continue to support policy dialogue and provide technical assistance for Home Grown School Feeding (HGSF) pilot. The Country Programme will retain the other 3 components of the Country Programme, namely, Food Assistance for Assets (FFA); Mother Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) and Supplementary Feeding Programme (SuFP).
 - c. Thirdly, due to funding constraints, WFP proposes to reduce the number of beneficiaries targeted for FFA by half.
 - d. Fourthly, the Capacity Building and Augmentation modality is proposed to be introduced to the Country Programme to accommodate the Belgian Fund for Food Security.

To summarize, the budget revision document before you proposes (i) a one year extension to align the Country Programme to the revised UNDAP timeline; (ii) the discontinuation of traditional FFE; (iii) the reduction in the number of beneficiaries for Food Assistance for Assets (FFA); and (iv) the inclusion of the Capacity Building and Augmentation modality to the Country Programme. The revision will increase the total planned budget of the CP by US19.4 million.

Madam President, I would like to thank you as we present this document for the Board's approval.