

**Executive Board Second Regular Session** 

Rome, 17 - 19 May 2000

## INFORMATION NOTES

## SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE— KOSOVO REGIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION 6040.00



Distribution: GENERAL WFP/EB.2/2000/INF/8

11 May 2000 ORIGINAL: ENGLISH This document should be read in conjunction with the document "Summary Evaluation Report on Kosovo Regional Emergency Operation 6040.00" (WFP/EB.2/2000/3/5).

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RECOMMENDATION TO WFP (NOVEMBER 1999)	ACTION BY	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE AND ACTION TAKEN TO DATE (APRIL 2000)
Establish a better framework for early warning, preparedness and response to rapidly evolving emergencies.	Headquarters level	WFP established the Emergency Preparedness and Response Steering Committee, at Executive Staff level. The Committee has two Working Groups.
		<ul> <li>The Rapid Response Working Group (chaired by the Head of the Augmented Logistics Intervention Team for Emergencies - ALITE), looking (through sub-working groups) at the issues of commodity management, human resources, financial preparedness and stand-by arrangements.</li> </ul>
		The Contingency Planning Working Group (chaired by a Senior Programme Adviser in the Office of the Humanitarian Adviser - OHA). Its aim is to better integrate WFP's contingency planning with operations at the field level. Focus is on institutionalization and the provision of support to contingency planning activities at the regional level.
		<ul> <li>In addition, a team working on Strengthening Emergency Response Capacity (SERC), reporting directly to the Committee, is providing an analysis of WFP procedures and identifying weaknesses.</li> </ul>
		The rapid resourcing tool available to the Programme is the Immediate Response Account (IRA). WFP has been strongly promoting contributions to the IRA among donors, and as a result, a record level of new contributions were made to the Account in 1999 (US\$ 23.8 million). This effort continues in 2000.
		<ul> <li>To increase resources available for emergencies, the Programme has been reallocating to the Account unspent funds from closed operations, in consultation with concerned donors, as recommended by the Review of the Resource and Long-term Financing policies. In addition, WFP has taken action to revolve a larger amount of contributions back to the IRA in 1999 (US\$ 5.2 million as at February 2000).</li> </ul>
	Balkans Regional Operation level	<ul> <li>A Contingency Plan for the Balkans has been prepared; this plan is updated regularly.</li> </ul>
		Contingency Plans are prepared by in-country representatives and shared with ALITE, the unit responsible for headquarters level coordination.

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2. Establish contingency stocks of food ready for airlifting.	Headquarters level	WFP maintains strategic stocks of ready-to-eat food in Pisa and Brindisi.
	Balkans Regional Operation level	<ul> <li>Unused balances of ready-to-eat food, including biscuits, are still stocked in the Balkans region. Some have been already airlifted to East Timor and Mozambique.</li> </ul>
3. Make available strategic supplies of essential logistics, communications, office and security equipment.	Balkans Regional Operation level	Surplus vehicles from Kosovo, including bullet-proof vehicles, have been airlifted to East Timor and Mozambique.
4. Explore possibilities to coordinate WFP contingency plans with those of other major role players.	Balkans Regional Operation level	<ul> <li>Regular meetings on contingency are held with UNHCR, ICRC and UNICEF at the regional level. These take into account the political and military situation in the region.</li> </ul>
5. Share results of WFP/FAO food and nutrition assessments with others at an early stage to reinforce common strategies.	Headquarters level	The reports from all WFP/FAO food and crop assessments, WFP/UNHCR food needs assessments and WFP household food economy Assessments in the Balkans are widely circulated and posted on WFP's web site.
		Key donors occasionally participate in assessment missions as observers.
	Balkans Regional Operation level	<ul> <li>Assessments are continuing and results are shared with partners locally.</li> <li>Partners are usually informed of missions ahead of time and have the opportunity to meet mission members and join the debriefing sessions.</li> </ul>
6. Prepare a study based on the personnel approach used in Kosovo, aimed at the drafting of a rapid deployment system for WFP.	Headquarters level	<ul> <li>As part of the Rapid Response Working Group efforts, HR has developed a concept paper for an Emergency Response Roster of internal WFP candidates, and developed an Emergency Response Training course that all staff retained on the Emergency Response Roster would attend.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Both the concept paper and the contents of the training course are under review by the Emergency Preparedness and Response Steering Committee.</li> </ul>
		HR is planning to start building the Emergency Response Roster in May and June 2000. The first WFP Emergency Response Training Course is scheduled to take place in October 2000.

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7. Implement steps for improving cooperation between the military and humanitarian organizations.	Headquarters level	WFP is consolidating and analysing lessons from past experience with different types of military interventions and aims to develop a broad framework for cooperation with different military elements.
	Balkans Regional Operation level	WFP participated in a Kosovo Lessons Learned conference, along with humanitarian partners and military counterparts.
		<ul> <li>Kosovo staff have participated in Civil-Military Cooperation workshops and other conferences concerning humanitarian/military collaboration</li> </ul>
8. WFP to improve its strategies as lead organization for food coordination and food policy in emergency situations.	Headquarters level	<ul> <li>As per its Mission Statement, WFP is an advocate of the hungry poor, and promotes the adequate and cost efficient use of food aid resources. This applies not only to situations where WFP is a major donor, but wherever hunger strikes.</li> </ul>
	Balkans Regional Operation level	<ul> <li>WFP is already well established as the lead agency for food coordination in the whole of the Balkans.</li> </ul>
9. Review the IT/TC experiences in the Kosovo operation to augment the Programme's rapid response capacity.	Headquarters level	Standard procedures have been established for the integration of the Fast Information Technology and Telecommunications Support Team (FITTEST) in the WFP corporate Emergency Response structure. Ways of institutionalizing the FITTEST team and the related funding are being analysed.
	Balkans Regional Operation level	<ul> <li>The Balkans Regional Office is hosting FITTEST Asia, which will provide IT/TC rapid response capacity primarily for Asia and Eastern Europe. However, FITTEST Asia staff may be deployed anywhere in the world where their services are required. Recent examples include East Timor and Mozambique.</li> </ul>
10. Deploy information officers in emergency operations and provide guidance on media relations in the staff training programmes.	Headquarters level	The deployment of information officers in large-scale, high-profile emergencies is already standard practice. Training on media relations is being considered for staff going into such emergencies.