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**Executive Board  
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# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

*For information\**



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## PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2009) — LIBERIA 108210

### Food Assistance in the Transition from Recovery to Sustainable Development

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Number of beneficiaries             | 660,000  |
| Duration of project                 | 24 months<br>(1 September 2009–31 August 2011) |
| WFP food tonnage                    | 30,784 mt                                      |
| <b>Cost (United States dollars)</b> |  |
| WFP food cost                       | 14,092,852                                     |
| Total cost to WFP                   | 39,838,729                                     |

\* 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 to the Executive Board for information.**

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.

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Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms C. Panlilio, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).



## ABSTRACT

1. Liberia's long civil war ended five years ago, but the continuing negative social and economic effects include: i) diminished human capital, partly as a result of deficits in educational achievement; ii) significant levels of malnutrition and food insecurity arising from the collapse of productive agricultural assets and other livelihood opportunities; and iii) weak institutional capacity for national recovery.
2. Liberia is among the bottom five countries in the 2008 human development index: 64 percent of the population live below the poverty line, and 50 percent of the population are either severely food-insecure or highly vulnerable to food insecurity. Malnutrition among children under 5 is 7.5 percent; stunting exceeds the critical 40 percent threshold in 9 of Liberia's 15 counties. The gender gap is 12 percent in rural primary-school enrolment; it reaches 20–30 percent in some counties.
3. The Government has devised a Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) supported by four pillars to lift Liberia out of its present dire situation. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 108210 supports two of the pillars: economic revitalization (pillar II) and infrastructure rehabilitation and delivery of basic social services (pillar IV).
4. PRRO 108210 aims to contribute to the transition from conflict by: i) supporting the re-establishment of food security, livelihoods and the human capital of communities and families; ii) improving the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women and children under 2 to break the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition; and iii) increasing the capacity of institutions to monitor food security and reduce hunger.
5. PRRO 108210 is in line with Millennium Development Goals 1–6, WFP's Strategic Objectives 3, 4 and 5 and its gender policy of February 2009, the Liberia PRS and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework. It will be jointly implemented with the Government, non-governmental organizations and communities, in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme. The components of PRRO 108210 will together cover all 15 counties of Liberia; individual components will cover only some of the counties.
6. The main components of PRRO 108210 are: i) rehabilitation of livelihood assets for 65,000 people, mainly smallholders, with a view to contributing to the Purchase for Progress pilot; ii) lean-season safety net distribution for 200,000 vulnerable rural people; iii) school meals for 333,300 rural primary schoolchildren, including take-home rations for 8,800 upper-primary girls; iv) mother-and-child health interventions for 7,500 pregnant and lactating women and their infants, supplementary feeding for 12,000 malnourished children under 5, and food support for tuberculosis patients and people living with HIV who are undergoing treatment.