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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 OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY-31 DECEMBER 2004) – TIMOR-LESTE 10388.0

Investing in People's Future

Number of beneficiaries	1) School Feeding/MCH Year 1: 98,500 Year 2: 151,600 2) Relief 20,000 disaster-affected households (6 weeks)
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Duration of project	Two years (15 November 2004–15 November 2006)
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Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	9,460,887
WFP food cost	4,279,496

* 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 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 point(s) indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Director, Asia Regional Bureau (ODB): Mr A. Banbury

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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. Timor-Leste is one of the poorest countries in Asia: 40 percent of the population lives on less than US\$0.55 per day. Food insecurity is widespread; 600,000 people - two thirds of the rural population - experience food shortages at some time during the year.
2. Up to 47 percent of children under 5 are chronically malnourished (stunted), 43 percent are severely malnourished (underweight) and 12 percent are wasted. A third of women suffer from chronic energy deficiency (low body mass index [BMI] < 18.5), which is reflected in the fact that 80–90 children in every 1,000 die in their first year; another 120–130 in every 1,000 die before the age of 5.
3. The Government gives priority to the delivery of basic services, especially education and primary health care, as a key to poverty reduction.
4. The project comprises mother-and-child health (MCH), school feeding and emergency preparedness. With regard to MCH, the project will support the Ministry of Health Sector Investment Plan (SIP) by providing incentives to malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women to report to health posts to receive food and non-food assistance and obtain awareness training and education on reproductive and nutritional matters. This will also address the issues related to low immunization rates, high rates of infant and maternal mortality and poor nutrition.
5. On the basis of the Education Policy Framework (2004–2008) and SIP objectives, the project will assist in raising the enrolment, attendance and concentration/performance rates of primary schoolchildren, especially girls.
6. With regard to emergency preparedness and response, the project will provide the capacity and technical assistance to deal with natural disaster risks before, during and after an event.
7. Beneficiaries of the MCH and school feeding components will be determined through established criteria such as malnutrition rates among children under 5, maternal mortality rates, availability of health facilities, and enrolment, attendance and retention rates. Beneficiaries of the emergency preparedness element will be based on a joint rapid needs assessment.
8. The project is jointly managed by the Government and WFP. The project management committee, to be formed by the Ministries involved and WFP, will be responsible for planning and project monitoring at the national level. Project management units will be established at the district level with the participation of the Ministries concerned, non-governmental organization (NGO) partners and WFP.
9. During the two years of the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO), 98,500 beneficiaries will be supported in year 1 and 151,600 in year 2. Under the MCH component, pregnant and lactating women will receive a monthly ration of 9 kg of corn-soy blend (CSB) and 600 ml of oil; children under 5 will receive 6 kg of CSB and 600 ml of oil. The daily mid-morning meal for primary schoolchildren will consist of 100 g of CSB and 10 ml of oil. Under the emergency preparedness component, families affected by natural disasters will receive 50 kg of rice and 5 kg of beans per month. The total project requirement is 10,024 mt of CSB, 956 mt of oil, 1,500 mt of rice and 150 mt of beans.

