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Programme  
Alimentaire  
Mondial

World  
Food  
Programme

Programa  
Mundial  
de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
First Regular Session**

**Rome, 23–27 February 2004**

## **POLICY ISSUES**

### **Agenda item 4**

*For information\**



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## **INFORMATION NOTE ON WFP'S SUPPORT FOR NEPAD**

\* 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.**

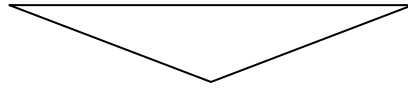
The Secretariat invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document to contact the WFP staff focal point indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Senior Adviser for Africa, Office of the Deputy Executive Director, Policy and External Affairs (PED): Mr H. Salha tel.: 066513-2301

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).



## DRAFT DECISION\*



The Board takes note of the document “Information Note on WFP’s Support for NEPAD” (WFP/EB.1/2004/4-F).

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\* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document issued at the end of the session.



## BACKGROUND

1. African leaders have established a New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) within the framework of the African Union for the purpose of developing and implementing a programme of action for the political, economic, social and cultural advancement of Africa. At a special session in November 2002, the United Nations General Assembly determined that NEPAD should be recognized as the main framework for international community efforts supporting Africa's development.
2. NEPAD establishes a new model of cooperation in Africa, a vision of Africans working together to address their own development challenges and of external partners contributing through a new commitment to collaboration and mutual accountability. NEPAD's aims, which are consistent with the Millennium Development Goals, focus on peace and security, good governance, promoting sustainable economic growth, infrastructure development and strengthening human resources and capacity.

## WFP'S COOPERATION WITH NEPAD

3. Cooperation with NEPAD is central to our goal of assisting the hungry poor in Africa, WFP's largest region of activity. On 19 November 2003, WFP and the NEPAD Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) identifying areas for cooperation (see Annex), which include (i) food security and livelihood protection, (ii) school feeding and basic education, (iii) nutrition, (iv) mother-and-child health, (v) HIV/AIDS, (vi) vulnerability analysis, (vii) emergency needs assessment, (viii) contingency planning, (ix) emergency preparedness and response and (x) national and regional capacity-building. WFP and the NEPAD secretariat are now working together to develop implementation plans in line with the MOU.

## PRIORITIES FOR EARLY ACTION

4. Pending finalization of the implementation plans, NEPAD and WFP are moving forward on school feeding and food-reserve systems, the two high-profile activities selected for early action.
5. **School feeding.** NEPAD, WFP and the Millennium Hunger Task Force (MHTF) agreed to launch a pilot programme called Home-Grown School Feeding, which is designed to stimulate local production through purchases of locally produced food. Smallholder farmers will be given the opportunity and initial assistance to supply food products to schools. WFP and NEPAD envisage cooperating with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to ensure the success of the programme. NEPAD and WFP selected nine potential pilot countries. A joint concept paper has been prepared to help governments plan for implementation of this programme at the national level.
6. **Food-reserve systems.** As a follow-up to the Emergency Response and Preparedness Programme, NEPAD requested WFP to assist in a study of food-reserve systems, scheduled for introduction at the July 2004 African Union Summit. The study will serve as a tool for defining appropriate regional and national food-reserve systems in the context of food security. It will review experiences, take stock of best practices and lessons learned and make recommendations on options and alternatives. A major input will be a joint WFP/FAO background paper on experiences with food-reserve systems. WFP and NEPAD will cooperate with the World Bank in preparation and follow-up to the study.





ANNEX

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME**  
**(WFP) AND THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S**  
**DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD)**

**I. PURPOSE**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is established between the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the New Partnership for Africa's Development ("NEPAD") for the purpose of identifying, facilitating and encouraging practical cooperation in areas of mutual interest.
2. The parties have entered into this Memorandum of Understanding mindful of the importance that African leaders and their international development partners have attached to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) as a comprehensive framework for cooperation and development in Africa. The Secretary-General of the United Nations has urged that NEPAD be regarded as the principal framework around which the international community, including the United Nations system, should concentrate its efforts to support Africa's development – and this position has been strongly endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly.

**II. IDENTIFICATION OF THE PARTIES**

3. *The World Food Programme (WFP).* The World Food Programme is the food aid arm of the United Nations and is the world's largest international food aid organization. The World Food Programme's mission is to use its food to meet emergency needs and to support economic and social development. WFP works to put hunger at the centre of the international agenda, promoting policies, strategies and operations that directly benefit the poor and hungry.
4. *The NEPAD.* African leaders have established, within the framework of the African Union, a New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) for the purpose of developing and implementing a programme of action for the political, economic, social and cultural advancement of Africa. In support of these objectives a NEPAD Implementation Committee was established, initially comprising 15 African States, Together with a NEPAD Steering Committee which provides direction and guidance to the Implementation Committee. The Steering Committee has then been extended to 20 and is comprised of the representatives of the Heads of State of Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia and Libya for the North Africa; Nigeria, Senegal, Mali, Ghana for West Africa; South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique and Angola for Southern Africa;





Gabon, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville and Sao Tome & Principe for Central Africa; and Ethiopia, Rwanda, Mauritius and Kenya for East Africa. To facilitate the work of the NEPAD Implementation and Steering Committees, a NEPAD Secretariat has also been established with a mandate to advance the practical implementation of NEPAD, ensure adequate coordination, and promote consistency. The NEPAD Secretariat is at present headquartered in Midrand, South Africa.

### III. COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

5. *The World Food Programme* will, consistent with its mission and mandate, proactively work to ensure that its activities, programmes, and policies relating to Africa are harmonized with NEPAD's identified priorities and objectives.
6. *The World Food Programme* will seek to respond positively and effectively to requests for technical assistance from the NEPAD Secretariat – including in the areas of food security and livelihood protection, school feeding and basic education, nutrition, mother and child health, HIV/AIDS, vulnerability analysis, emergency needs assessment, contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response, and national and regional capacity building.
7. *The World Food Programme* will work to encourage support by donors for NEPAD priority programmes -- especially those in the areas related to food security and livelihood protection, school feeding and basic education, nutrition, mother and child health, HIV/AIDS, vulnerability analysis, emergency needs assessment, contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response, and national and regional capacity building.
8. *NEPAD* will work with the World Food Programme to ensure that food aid programmes and activities are appropriately incorporated into NEPAD's implementation strategies and programmes – including with the G8 and other international donors.
9. *NEPAD* will work with the World Food Programme to help ensure strong, coordinated and effective support by African Governments and regional and sub-regional organizations for food aid activities, programmes and initiatives directed towards NEPAD priority areas – including those related to food security and livelihood protection, school feeding and basic education, nutrition, mother and child health, HIV/AIDS, vulnerability analysis, emergency needs assessment, contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response, and national and regional capacity building.
10. *NEPAD* will work with the World Food Programme to ensure that food aid programmes and activities are adequately reflected in the poverty reduction strategies, policies and programmes of African countries and regional and sub-regional organizations -- especially in NEPAD priority areas related to food security and livelihood protection, school feeding and basic education, nutrition, mother and child health, HIV/AIDS, vulnerability analysis, emergency needs assessment, contingency planning, emergency preparedness and response, and national and regional capacity building.





11. *The World Food Programme and NEPAD* will work to ensure that there is an effective exchange of information and documentation on matters of mutual interest, as well as timely notification of relevant new initiatives that might be taken by either party.
12. *The World Food Programme and NEPAD* will also work to promote and encourage the participation of each organization at regional, sub-regional and other international meetings where important issues of mutual interest will be addressed.

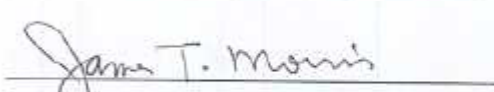

#### IV. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND PERIODIC REVIEW

13. *The World Food Programme and NEPAD* will develop an implementation plan, including a tentative timeframe, for giving practical effect to this Memorandum of Understanding. The parties acknowledge that African Governments, African Regional Economic Communities, and African and international civil society organizations will be key partners in the implementation process.
14. *The World Food Programme and NEPAD* will review their cooperation efforts on at least a biennial basis, including a review of the status of pending technical cooperation requests. A Joint Progress Report will be provided to the Chairman of the NEPAD Implementation Committee and the Executive-Director of the World Food Programme on at least a biennial basis.

#### V. MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION

15. This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified or amended by mutual consent of *the World Food Programme and NEPAD*, expressed in writing.
16. Either *the World Food Programme or NEPAD* may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding upon notice in writing to the other party.

Done in Rome, on 19/11/.....2003.

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