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**Executive Board
Third Regular Session**

Rome, 20–24 October 2003

ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

For consideration

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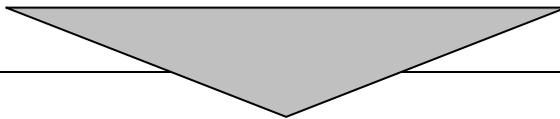
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UPDATING THE CONSOLIDATED FRAMEWORK OF WFP POLICIES:

**Proposed Executive Board Policy Agenda for
2004–2005**

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Note to the Executive Board



This document is submitted for consideration 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.

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Executive Summary

At the Annual Session, 2002, the Board requested the Secretariat to present proposals for policy topics that could be presented to the Board during the coming biennium. This information note responds to that request by proposing a series of papers on a range of important issues relevant to WFP's activities. The papers are intended to engage the Board on key policy matters, in areas both where decisions from the Board are needed in order to update and enhance the existing Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies, and in areas where policy lines are at a less advanced stage of development. The proposed topics to be addressed during the 2004–2005 biennium are:

a) Emergency topics:

- Emergency needs assessments
- Nutrition in emergencies
- Definition of emergencies
- Humanitarian access
- Exiting emergencies

b) Cross-cutting topics:

- Food for nutrition
- Food fortification
- Food-based safety nets
- Building national and regional capacities
- Targeting
- Food for training
- Food aid supplies and sources
- Local purchase and procurement

The policy topics approved by the Board will be added to the Board's programme of work, subject to revision if issues of interest emerge.

Draft Decision*

The Board takes note of the policy topic suggestions contained in document WFP/EB.3/2003/10-A/2 and asks that its programme of work be amended to reflect the results of its discussion of these topics.

* 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.



INTRODUCTION

1. At its Annual Session in 2002, the Board, in the context of its review of the “Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies: A Governance Tool”, asked the Secretariat to identify any policy gaps or existing policies that should be revisited. Subsequent discussions between the Secretariat and the Bureau resulted in a decision that the Secretariat would present to the Executive Board at its Third Regular Session in 2003 proposed policy topics for the 2004–2005 biennium. The Secretariat’s consideration of this request was informed by comments by Board members, as reflected in the “Summary of the Work of the Executive Board” (WFP/EB.A/2002/11), indicating that the emergency section of the policy framework, in particular, required further attention.
2. This paper lays out the Secretariat’s proposals for policy topics for the Board’s review in 2004–2005.

POLICY PROPOSALS

First Regular Session, 2004

⇒ *Emergency Needs Assessments*

3. In collaboration with its partners, WFP has embarked on a process of evaluating and refining its emergency needs assessment capacities. The Secretariat proposes that a policy paper reviewing the results of this process be presented to the Board for consideration at the First Regular Session in 2004.

Annual Session, 2004

4. The Secretariat proposes that the Executive Board focus the policy component of this session on nutrition, guided by the following three policy papers:

⇒ *Nutrition in Emergencies*

5. This paper would seek to identify and document how WFP and its partners are addressing nutrition in emergency situations and suggest ways to enhance the nutritional impact of WFP activities. This paper was originally scheduled for the First Regular Session in 2004; the Secretariat now proposes that it be presented alongside two other nutrition topics.

⇒ *Food for Nutrition*

6. This paper would inform the Board of the Programme’s ongoing review of food-assisted mother-and-child nutrition programmes and identify the key principles underlying the design and implementation of effective nutrition interventions.



⇒ *Food Fortification*

7. This paper would clarify the importance of using food aid to address micronutrient deficiencies, outline WFP's experiences with micronutrient fortification and propose ways to expand micronutrient-fortification efforts, including through support for national capacities.

Third Regular Session, 2004

⇒ *Food-Based Safety Nets*

8. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that examines the potential role of food aid in the context of social protection and safety nets, including possible policy and programming ramifications for WFP.

⇒ *Building National and Regional Capacities*

9. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that would engage the Board on possible ways to help ensure that national and regional capacities are established, strengthened and/or supported in the aftermath of a WFP intervention.

⇒ *Targeting*

10. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that reviews and assesses WFP's targeting policies and practices, updates the Board on the latest trends in this area, and identifies any specific issues or areas upon which the Board might wish to focus particular attention.

First Regular Session, 2005

⇒ *Definition of Emergencies*

11. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that reviews current trends in emergencies and the Programme's existing definition of emergencies in light of the definitions in use by other United Nations agencies and partners.

⇒ *Food for Training*

12. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that examines lessons learned from past experiences, including implementation of the commitment, articulated in the Gender Policy, to ensure that women and adolescent girls constitute at least 70 percent of the participants in food-assisted training activities.

Annual Session, 2005

⇒ *Food Aid Sources*

13. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that reviews trends in the availability and sources of food aid, and the implications of these trends to the Programme.



⇒ *Local Purchase and Procurement*

14. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that clarifies WFP's purchase and procurement of commodities and services and the further potential to use these efforts to make a positive contribution in developing countries.

Third Regular Session, 2005

⇒ *Humanitarian Access*

15. The Secretariat proposes to present a paper that informs the Board of two processes that clarify the Programme's approach, in collaboration with United Nations partners, to securing safe and unhindered access to people affected by emergencies, and, as needed, seek guidance from the Board on the implications of these processes for WFP policies.

⇒ *Exiting Emergencies*

16. The Secretariat proposes to review lessons learned from WFP and partner experiences in closing down emergency programmes in countries where long-term activities were not deemed necessary. The paper would seek to engage the Board on potential policy options and approaches.

