

البرنامج
الأغذية
العالمي



Programma
Alimentare
Mondial

World
Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

Executive Board
Annual Session

Rome, 27 - 29 May 1997

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: 1996

Agenda item 3 a)



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.A/97/3-A
21 April 1997
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COVERING NOTE

This document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. At its annual session of May 1996, the Executive Board requested that future annual reports of the Executive Director provide a more analytical and policy-oriented view of the work of the Programme, following the same style and format as the 1995 Annual Report; and that WFP, in its reporting, look to the future and review the key policy, resource, operational and financial issues the Programme is likely to face.
2. WFP is proposing to respond by submitting two documents each year to the Executive Board: in odd-numbered years, WFP would issue the Annual Report and the Strategic and Financial Plan; in even-numbered years, WFP would produce the Annual Report and an "Issues Paper".
 - The *Annual Report* of the Executive Director would remain a report on each year's activities. It would be brief, business-like and targeted to the Executive Board members. It would draw the Board's attention to the key issues faced by WFP during the year, leaving a more substantive analysis to the documents mentioned below.
 - The *Strategic and Financial Plan*, prepared every two years, spells out the operational and organizational priorities of WFP for the four-year planning period and forecasts the availability of resources and income to WFP during the same period. On alternate years, when no Strategic and Financial Plan is to be presented to the Board, an *Issues Paper* would be prepared. This document would briefly review a small number of key emerging issues which may merit discussion by the Board, but which would not necessarily require the preparation of separate documents. This would enable the Executive Board to have the policy discussion it had requested.
3. The structure of this Annual Report differs slightly from previous years. It consists of a general overview of the main events of 1996, which is followed by a report on WFP's progress towards the strategic objectives set out in the Strategic and Financial Plan 1996-1999, thus providing an explicit linkage between the Annual Report and the Strategic and Financial Plan.
4. In accordance with WFP General Regulation 18 (b), the Annual Report is submitted to the Executive Board for consideration and approval.

