

Executive Board Annual Session

Rome, 18 - 21 May 1998

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda item 1



Distribution: GENERAL WFP/EB.A/98/1 23 March 1998 ORIGINAL ENGLISH

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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- 1. Adoption of the agenda. The Executive Director hereby presents the annotated provisional agenda, which is based on the programme of work of the Executive Board for 1998, approved at the Third Regular Session of 1997. The Executive Board may amend the provisional annotated agenda by deleting, adding or modifying any item.
- 2. Appointment of the Rapporteur. In accordance with the rules of procedure and methods of work adopted by the Board in 1996, the Executive Board may wish to appoint from among its members one Rapporteur for its Annual Session.

3. Annual reports

a) Annual report of the Executive Director

In accordance with WFP General Rule VII.2 (Reporting), the Executive Director will submit under this item her annual report for 1997, which has been prepared in consultation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of FAO.

This report identifies the highlights of activities in 1997, related policy issues, and progress made in achieving strategic objectives and implementing policy guidance. It also reports on emergency relief activities, hitherto covered in the Report on emergency relief activities.

b) Annual report of the Executive Board to ECOSOC and the FAO Council on its activities in 1997.

In accordance with WFP General Regulations (Article VI, paragraph 3) and with paragraph 29 of Annex I to United Nations General Assembly resolution 48/162, the Board is required to report annually to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and to the Council of FAO. To assist the Board in this task, the Executive Director is submitting a draft report on the activities of the Board in 1997, which may form the basis of the Board's report.

The Board may wish to review this report and, if in agreement, adopt it for onward transmission to ECOSOC and the FAO Council.

4. Policy issues

a) From crisis to recovery

The Board will have before it, for consideration and approval, a paper which reviews the lessons of experience in managing the transition from relief to development; highlights the need to formulate a recovery strategy to assist in bridging the gap between relief and development, and addresses specific measures which WFP could take to support a smooth recovery process.

b) Emerging issues relevant to WFP

In May 1996 the Executive Board identified the need to have an exchange of views on emerging issues in a forward-looking manner, even though these issues might not necessarily require a Board decision or a conventional policy paper. In May 1997, during its Annual Session, the Board agreed that the Strategic and Financial Plan provided an occasion for such discussion, and that on alternate years the Secretariat would identify relevant issues and put forward a brief paper for consideration.



5. Evaluations

Evaluation reports: Work Plan for 1998-99

Under this item, the Board will have before it, for information, WFP's 1998-99 Evaluation Work Plan outlining the Secretariat's approach in the conduct of evaluations during the biennium. The orientation of the proposed work plan will continue to be based on the overall strategic priorities of WFP, with a special focus on gender issues and - in line with the trend in the utilization of WFP's resources - on emergency operations.

- 6. Report on post-delivery losses (period October 1996-September 1997). The Board may wish to consider a report on losses of commodities incurred after delivery to recipient countries.
- 7. **Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit**. The Board will have before it, for information, a brief summary of four reports issued by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) during 1997 which are relevant to the work of WFP. The paper describes WFP's position in relation to the findings and recommendations of the JIU reports.
- 8. Administrative and managerial matters
 - a) Composition of WFP international staff personnel statistics report as at 31 January 1998

The Board will have before it, for information, a list of all international professional and higher category staff with fixed-term or continuing contracts by organizational unit at headquarters and for each country office. In addition, statistics are provided on nationality and gender by grade level, as well as representation of economically developed and developing countries.

b) Local purchases of food and non-food items

The Board will have before it, for information, a paper providing data on local, regional and triangular purchases, specifying constraints and opportunities for food and non-food item procurement.

- 9. *Other business*. Representatives and the Executive Director may wish to raise further matters of interest to the Executive Board.
- 10. *Verification of adopted decisions and recommendations*. The Executive Board will have before it a draft document containing all decisions taken and/or recommendations made at its Annual Session for verification of their accuracy.



