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**Executive Board  
Third Regular Session**

**Rome, 23 - 26 October 2000**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

**Agenda item 9**

***For information***



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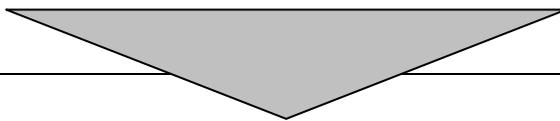
## PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY– 30 JUNE 2000)—YEMEN 6090.01

### Food Assistance for Refugees in Yemen

Number of beneficiaries	20,000 (planning figure)
Female:	10,140
Male:	9,860
Duration of project	Twelve months (1 April 2000–31 March 2001)
<b>Cost (United States dollars)</b>	
Total cost to WFP	1,564,588
Total food cost	792,900

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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 Liaison Officer, Middle East      Mr P. Turnbull      tel.: 066513-2800  
and North Africa Region (OMN):

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. Civil strife in Somalia, dating back to 1991, has caused a massive exodus of refugees to neighbouring countries. In spite of ongoing efforts to support repatriation, arrivals of Somali refugees continue to outnumber departures. UNHCR estimates the overall refugee population in Yemen to be about 47,000, of whom 45,000 are of Somali origin (1999 data). Most are self-reliant, but part of the refugee population resides in a camp. WFP has been providing food assistance to refugees in Yemen since 1992. There are no signs that conditions in Somalia will allow a large-scale repatriation in the near future. Yemen is a least developed country (LDC) and also a low-income, food-deficit country (LIFDC).
2. Pending the achievement of a durable solution for the refugees, the specific objectives of this operation are to: a) provide basic food needs to refugees in the camp and the transit centre; b) maintain a minimum nutritional standard among vulnerable refugees; c) promote and support educational and skills training activities for refugees; and d) support the rehabilitation and maintenance programme of camp facilities and roads.
3. UNHCR is responsible for food distribution within the camp and transit centre, carrying out monthly distributions through national and international NGOs. UNHCR's implementing partners manage the camp, providing shelter, water, sanitation and health facilities. WFP distributes the basic food commodities for care and maintenance in the form of monthly rations. UNHCR provides supplementary food. WFP also provides food incentives to the camp population through school feeding, health centre feeding, food for training and food for work. For refugees living in urban centres, WFP assists vulnerable groups through school feeding and take-home rations distributed from health centres.
4. Beneficiaries in the camp communicate with WFP and UNHCR and its implementing partners through two committees: the Elders' Committee and the Women's Committee, which supervises the food distribution. WFP has a sub-office in Aden that monitors projects in southern Yemen, including this PRRO. The Government provides a campsite for the refugees. Since 1994, refugees have been located at al-Gaheen (Abyan Governorate). However, a new camp in a more favourable environment and with improved facilities is under construction in al-Kharaz (Lahej Governorate). It is anticipated that the camp refugee population will be progressively transferred to the new camp during 2001.
5. WFP's gross requirements for the PRRO are 5,170 tons of food (1,110 tons of carry-over stocks plus 4,060 tons of new commitment), valued at approximately US\$ 2.1 million; the net requirement is valued at US\$ 1.6 million. The cost to UNHCR is around US\$ 2.9 million.

