

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي



Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

World
Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

**Executive Board
Third Regular Session**

Rome, 23 - 26 October 2000

PROJECTS FOR EXECUTIVE BOARD APPROVAL

Agenda item 8

For approval

E

Distribution: GENERAL

WFP/EB.3/2000/8-C

6 October 2000

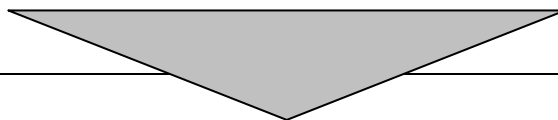
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

BUDGET INCREASE TO PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION— NEPAL 6151.00

Assistance to Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal

This document is printed in a limited number of copies. Executive Board documents are available on WFP's WEB site (http://www.wfp.org/eb_public/EB_Home.html).

Note to the Executive Board



This document is submitted for approval by 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 points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Director, Asia and Eastern Europe Region, (OAE)	Mr J. Powell	tel.: 066513-2209
--	--------------	-------------------

Development Adviser, OAE	Ms A. Asrat	tel.: 066513-2260
--------------------------	-------------	-------------------

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Supervisor, Meeting Servicing and Distribution nit (tel.: 066513-2328).



BACKGROUND

1. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) Nepal 6151.00—Assistance to Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal – was approved by the Board at its Third Regular Session of 1999, for US\$7,012,283. Bhutanese refugees, mainly of Nepali ethnic origin, began entering eastern Nepal towards the end of 1990. By 1993, over 80,000 refugees were already in Nepal and had been granted *prima facie* refugee status. Since then, new arrivals have been limited to a few individual cases each year. By March 2000, there were 97,940 refugees registered in the seven camps. WFP assistance to Bhutanese refugees to date totals US\$59 million, whereas the overall direct assistance is estimated at roughly twice this amount, including contributions by UNHCR and NGOs.
2. The high degree of self-organization achieved by refugees over the years has contributed to making this operation increasingly efficient and cost-effective. Women's participation in the camp management structure has improved dramatically, especially during the last two years. Women's organizations currently manage most of the United Nations and NGO resources for supplementary activities in income generation and social services. The May 2000 joint WFP/UNHCR assessment mission reported that the overall situation of the refugees, as well as their general health and nutritional status, continue to be adequate and stable. However, the level of food and non-food assistance has recently decreased, now reaching the bare minimum. Refugees are still heavily dependent on external assistance, partly because the host Government continues to enforce a policy of non-integration.
3. After a long political stalemate and eight mostly inconclusive rounds of talks at the ministerial level, the visit by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to both countries in early May 2000 has revived the bilateral negotiation process. Following this visit and recognizing UNHCR's technical and advisory role, both Governments committed officially to proceeding with the refugee verification exercise in camps and eventually initiating repatriation or undertaking other durable solutions by the end of 2000.
4. A coordinated approach aimed at facilitating the foreseen repatriation and/or integration will be considered. It will draw upon the current political willingness to achieve a durable solution for this long-standing refugee problem. However, a high level of flexibility needs to be built into the operation, taking into account the need to clarify many variables before a definite plan of action and time frame can be formulated and agreed upon by all parties involved.

RATIONALE FOR THE INCREASE

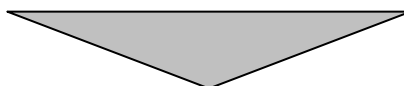
5. During the critical period of the first semester of 2001, there will be an additional food and financial requirement in order to bridge the current phase with the PRRO expansion to begin in July 2001. Submission of the expansion phase to the Executive Board is scheduled for the First Regular Session of 2001, in February. WFP's continued food assistance is intended to contribute not only to the basic sustenance of the refugees population through general food distribution, but also to that of nutritionally vulnerable groups through targeted supplementary feeding programmes. Within this overall goal, WFP's additional support for complementary income-generation, vocational training and home-gardening activities is expected to further strengthen the refugees' coping mechanisms and skills in anticipation of their return to a non-refugee situation.
6. The six-month budget revision will cover 9,323 tons of food, valued at US\$ 2,996,730, to be distributed until the final phase of the PRRO commences in July 2001. The total budget increase is estimated at US\$3,614,495, representing all costs. Food pledged under the present budget revision but not yet utilized by the end of June 2001 will be de-



earmarked and transferred, with the consent of donors, to the expansion phase covering the period 1 July 2001 to 31 December 2002.

7. The proposed budget increase to PRRO 6151.00 is recommended to the Executive Board for approval. The expansion of the PRRO and the budget revision will permit the continuation of assistance to 97,940 Bhutanese refugees for the period January to June 2001. Details are provided in Annexes I and II.

Draft Decision



The Board approves the budget increase of US\$3,614,495 to PRRO Nepal 6151.00—
Assistance to Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal (WFP/EB.3/2000/8-C).



COST BREAKDOWN								
	Existing PRRO	Revised PRRO	Difference	Existing Cost	Revised Cost	Existing Total value	Revised Total Value	Difference
	(tons)			(US\$)				
WFP COSTS								
A. Direct operational costs								
Commodity								
Rice (parboiled)	14 441	21 641	7 200	280	280	4 043 480	6 059 480	2 016 000
Pulses	2 113	3 172	1 059	400	400	845 200	1 268 800	423 600
Vegetable oil	895	1 342	447	840	840	751 800	1 127 280	375 480
Blended food	112	235	123	350	350	39 200	82 250	43 050
Sugar	725	1 087	362	330	330	239 250	358 710	119 460
Iodized salt	264	396	132	145	145	38 280	57 420	19 140
Total commodities	18 550	27 873	9 323	2 345	2 345	5 957 210	8 953 940	2 996 730
Transport costs						77 700	123 358	45 658
LTSH a) or b)								
a) Landslide transport						92 750	139 365	46 615
b) ITSH						129 850	195 111	65 261
Subtotal direct operational costs						222 600	334 476	111 876
B. Direct support costs (see Annex II for details)								
Total direct costs						290 000	488 700	198 700
C. Indirect support costs (7.8 percent of total direct costs)*								
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS						7 012 383	10 626 878	3 614 495

* ISC in the original budget was calculated on 7.1 percent basis while 7.8 percent is applied for the revision.

This is a notional food basket used for budgeting and approval purposes. The precise mix and actual quantities of commodities to be supplied to the project, as in all WFP-assisted projects, may vary over time depending on the availability of commodities to WFP and domestically within the recipient country.



ANNEX IIDIRECT SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS (*dollars*)**Staff**

International	73 000
United Nations Volunteers	22 500
International Consultants and SSA	---
National Professional Officers	9 500
Local staff and temporaries	43 500
Overtime	1 000
Subtotal	149 500

Technical support services and training

Project preparation	---
Technical advisory services	20 000
Project monitoring and evaluation	---
Training	---
Subtotal	20 000

Travel and DSA

Blanket travel	5 000
In-country travel	2 000
Subtotal	7 000

Office expenses

Rental of facility	2 000
Utilities	1 200
Communications	6 000
Office supplies	3 000
Equipment repair and maintenance	2 000
Subtotal	14 200

Vehicle operation

Fuel and maintenance	6 000
Subtotal	6 000

Other

Miscellaneous & Contingencies	2 000
Subtotal	2 000

TOTAL DIRECT SUPPORT COSTS	198 700
-----------------------------------	----------------

