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Programme  
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Mundial  
de Alimentos

Executive Board  
Second Regular Session

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## REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

### Agenda item 6



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## DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 1998)— MALI 5942.00

### Support to health sectorial policy

Number of beneficiaries	25,484
Duration of project	Twelve months
Quantity of food assistance	1,928 tons

#### Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	1,767,561
Total food cost	559,676

### ABSTRACT

Mali is one of the world's poorest countries. It ranks 171st out of 174 on UNDP's Human Development Index, and has particularly unfavourable social indicators, notably in the health and nutrition sectors. In the framework of the implementation of the Country Programme, WFP intends to contribute to improving the health and nutritional status of populations in the north of the country suffering from a structural food deficit.

This project constitutes a pilot phase for intervention in the framework of the Country Programme. It will permit the collection of data, and testing of strategies and performance indicators with a view to fine-tuning. It comprises three components aimed at encouraging women of child-bearing age to frequent health centres, at improving health coverage through mobilization of communities for the construction of health centres, and at rehabilitation of towns, health centres and the Gao Hospital.

It is envisaged that more than 2.3 million food rations will be distributed during the 12 months of the project, of which more than 2.2 million to some 25,000 women and their families who frequent health centres or who belong to households at risk. The remaining rations will be distributed in the form of food for work to labourers on building or rehabilitation sites.

The project falls within the framework of implementation of the Ten-year Plan and the Five-year Programme for Health and Social Development drawn up by the Government of Mali with the active participation of the people concerned and partners, many of which support implementation of the project.

## NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

### **This document is submitted for information to the Executive Board.**

Pursuant to the decisions taken on the methods of work by the Executive Board at its First Regular Session of 1996, the documentation prepared by the Secretariat for the Board has been kept brief and decision-oriented. The meetings of the Executive Board are to be conducted in a business-like manner, with increased dialogue and exchanges between delegations and the Secretariat. Efforts to promote these guiding principles will continue to be pursued by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat therefore invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document, to contact the WFP staff member(s) listed below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting. This procedure is designed to facilitate the Board's consideration of the document in the plenary.

The WFP focal points for this document are:

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Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 066513-2641).

