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**Executive Board  
Third Regular Session**

**Rome, 19 - 22 October 1999**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

**Agenda item 8**

***For information***



Distribution: GENERAL

**WFP/EB.3/99/8-D/2**

20 August 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

## PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY 30 JUNE 1999) YEMEN 6090.00

### Food Assistance for Refugees in Yemen

Number of beneficiaries	15,000 (planning population)
Duration of project	Twelve months (January–December 1999)

#### Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	2,000,000 (1,700,000 net of carry-over)
Total food cost	1,000,000 (867,000 net of carry-over)
Estimated total cost	3,900,000 (including UNHCR costs)

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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 points indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

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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).



1. Civil strife in Somalia since 1991 has led to a massive exodus of refugees to neighbouring countries. UNHCR has registered over 60,000 refugees, mainly Somalis, in Yemen. Most of these are self-reliant, but around 14,000 are currently living 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) with a per capita annual income of under US\$300; it is also a low-income, food-deficit country (LIFDC).
2. The specific objectives of the protracted refugee and recovery operation (PRRO), pending the achievement of a durable solution for the refugees, are to: a) ensure that the basic humanitarian food requirements are met for the nutrition of refugees (mainly Somalis) in camps and transit centres in Yemen; b) encourage the children of Somali refugees to attend school by providing meals in schools; c) contribute to meeting the food needs of the most vulnerable groups of Somali refugees in slum areas through food distributions in a mother and child health care centre and at school; d) increase the vocational training of women and men in the camp through food incentives; and e) support camp construction and maintenance activities through food for work.
3. WFP provides basic food and UNHCR-supplied supplementary food. UNHCR is responsible for food distribution within the camp, implementing distribution through a local NGO, Partner in Development. 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 and UNHCR undertake a census of the camp population every six months; 53 percent of the adult population are women. UNHCR's implementing partner manages the camp, providing shelter, water, sanitation and health facilities. This includes food distributions and income-generating activities. WFP has recently established a sub-office in Aden which monitors projects in southern Yemen, including this PRRO. The Government provides a camp site for the refugees. Currently, there is only one camp, located at Al Gaheen (Abyan Governorate); this is regarded as a temporary site and a new camp is being prepared at Al-Kharaz (Lahej Governorate).
4. WFP's gross requirements for the PRRO are 3,836 tons of food (386 tons of carry-over stocks plus 3,450 tons of new commitments), valued at US\$2 million; the annual cost to UNHCR is around US\$1.9 million.

