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DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JULY–31 DECEMBER 1998)— CHAD 5672.00

Support to nutritional rehabilitation and education for vulnerable groups

Number of beneficiaries	41,256
Duration of project	Two years
Quantity of food assistance	1,412 tons

Cost (United States dollars)

Total cost to WFP	1,134,329
Total food cost	436,915
Total project cost	1,483,757

ABSTRACT

The population of the Kanem prefecture in Chad is estimated at 280,000. Situated to the north-west of the Sahelian zone, on the border with Niger, Kanem has been characterized by widespread poverty for the last 20 years. This poverty is due to the major droughts that have hit the Sahel since 1973. From a climatic point of view, the area has gradually become Sahelo-Saharan and is no longer able to guarantee the food security of the population. Reduced availability of food, illiteracy, weak institutional support and a lack of people's organization has led to a critical socio-health situation. The NGO Action contre la faim (ACF) has been active in Kanem since 1994 and has enabled the regular functioning of 18 health centres and one social centre in the region which conduct nutritional rehabilitation activities in favour of children suffering from malnutrition, as well as nutritional and health education activities for mothers.

The priority aim of the project is to slow down deterioration of the socio-health conditions of vulnerable groups in Kanem, in particular by increasing the rate of frequenting follow-up child growth services, currently only 14 percent. The project will be carried out by ACF, with complementary support from UNDP and the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO).

Over a period of two years (November 1998–October 2000), rehabilitation activities will have benefited 35,640 malnourished children, 1,180 expectant mothers and 836 nursing mothers, in addition to food assistance given to mothers accompanying severely malnourished children (3,600). Through educational sessions, consultations and follow-up, a total of 37,656 women—mothers of beneficiary children, expectant mothers and nursing mothers—will be trained in basic health and nutritional principles.

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).

