

Executive Board

First regular session Rome, 22–24 February 2021

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recommendations

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Decisions and recommendations of the 2021 first regular session of the Executive Board

Executive Board Bureau		
President:	H.E. Luis Fernando Carranza Cifuentes (Guatemala)	
Alternate:	Mr Benito Santiago Jiménez Sauma (Mexico)	
Vice-President:	Dr. Bommakanti Rajender (India)	
Alternate:	Ms KANG Hyo Joo (Republic of Korea)	
Member:	H.E. Youssef Balla (Morocco)	
Alternate:	H.E. Seydou Cissé (Côte d'ivoire)	
Member:	Her Excellency Marie-Therese Sarch (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	
Alternate:	Ms Jette Michelsen (Denmark)	
Member:	H.E. Victor L. Vasiliev (Russian Federation)	
Alternate:	H.E. Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó (Hungary)	
Rapporteur:	H.E. Mario Arvelo Caamaño (Dominican Republic)	

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Decisions and recommendations

The decisions and recommendations in the current report will be implemented by the Secretariat in the light of the Board's deliberations, from which the main comments will be reflected in the summary of the work of the session.

The Board hereby decided that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and consistent with WFP Executive Board Rule of Procedure I.4, it would hold its first regular session of 2021 by digital means from 22 to 24 February 2021.

22 February 2021

Adoption of the agenda

The Board adopted the agenda.

22 February 2021

Election of the Bureau and appointment of the Rapporteur

In accordance with its rules of procedure the Board elected H.E. Luis Fernando Carranza Cifuentes (Guatemala, List C) President for a one-year term. Mr Benito Santiago Jiménez Sauma (Mexico, List C) was elected Alternate.

The Board elected Dr. Bommakanti Rajender (India, List B) Vice-President. Ms KANG Hyo Joo (Republic of Korea, List B) was elected Alternate.

The Board elected as members of the Bureau, representing the other three WFP electoral lists, for a one-year term, H.E. Youssef Balla (Morocco, List A); Her Excellency Marie-Therese Sarch (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, List D); and H.E. Victor L. Vasiliev (Russian Federation, List E). Elected as Alternates were H.E. Seydou Cissé (Côte d'Ivoire, List A); Ms Jette Michelsen (Denmark, List D); and H.E. Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó (Hungary, List E).

In accordance with rule XII of its rules of procedure, the Board appointed H.E. Mario Arvelo Caamaño (Dominican Republic, List C) as Rapporteur for its 2021 first regular session.

22 February 2021

Current and future strategic issues

2021/EB.1/1 Opening remarks by the Executive Director

The Board took note of the opening remarks by the Executive Director. The main points of the Executive Director and the Board's comments would be reflected in the summary of the work of the session.

22 February 2021

Policy issues

2021/EB.1/2 Update on WFP's implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/279 (repositioning the United Nations development system)

The Board took note of the update on WFP's implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/279 (repositioning the United Nations development system) (WFP/EB.1/2021/4-B).

23 February 2021

Resource, financial and budgetary matters

2021/EB.1/3 Update on the bottom up strategic budgeting exercise

The Board took note of the update on the bottom up strategic budgeting exercise (WFP/EB.1/2021/5-A/1).

The Board also took note of the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions of the United Nations (WFP/EB.1/2021/5(A,B)/2) and the Finance Committee of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (WFP/EB.1/2021/5(A,B)/3).

23 February 2021

2021/EB.1/4 Update on operational requirements and funding forecast for 2021

The Board took note of the update on operational requirements and funding forecast for 2021 (WFP/EB.1/2021/5-B/1).

The Board also took note of the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions of the United Nations (WFP/EB.1/2021/5(A,B)/2) and the Finance Committee of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (WFP/EB.1/2021/5(A,B)/3).

23 February 2021

Administrative and managerial matters

2021/EB.1/5 Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit relevant to the work of WFP

The Board took note of the information and recommendations in the document entitled "Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit relevant to the work of WFP" (WFP/EB.1/2021/9-A/Rev.1) and endorsed the responses to the Joint Inspection Unit's recommendations to the legislative bodies included in the annexes to the document.

23 February 2021

Latin America and the Caribbean portfolio

2021/EB.1/6 Country strategic plan – Colombia (2021–2024)

The Board approved the Colombia country strategic plan (2021–2024) (WFP/EB.1/2021/7-A/1) at a total cost to WFP of USD 654,322,693.

23 February 2021

Asia and the Pacific portfolio

2021/EB.1/7 Summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Bangladesh (2017–2020) and management response

The Board took note of the summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Bangladesh (2017–2020) (WFP/EB.1/2021/6-A) and management response (WFP/EB.1/2021/6-A/Add.1) and encouraged further action on the recommendations set out in the report, taking into account the considerations raised by the Board during its discussion.

24 February 2021

Other business

2021/EB.1/8 Appointment of five members from the Electoral Lists of the Executive Board to the selection panel for the appointment of Audit Committee members

The Board approved the establishment of a selection panel in relation to the appointment of Audit Committee members. The Board also approved the appointment to the panel of the following members:

- Ms Lamia Ben Redouane, Alternate Permanent Representative of Algeria, as representative of List A.
- Mr Bommakanti Rajender, Alternate Permanent Representative of India, as representative of List B
- Ms Liudmila Kuzmicheva, Alternate Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic, as representative of List C
- Ms Elizabeth Petrovski, Alternate Permanent Representative of the United States of America, as representative of List D
- Mr Denis Cherednichenko, Alternate Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation, as representative of List E

The Board requested the selection panel to convene and to report its recommendations to the Executive Board in accordance with the terms of reference of the Audit Committee.

24 February 2021

2021/EB.1/9 Extension of the term of one Audit Committee member for one year

The Board:

- i) noted the recommendation of the Audit Committee to extend the term of Mr Suresh Kana (South Africa) beyond his second term as an Audit Committee member for the reasons detailed in the document entitled "Extension of the term of one Audit Committee member for one year" (WFP/EB.1/2021/11-B);
- ii) further noted that paragraph 22 of the Audit Committee terms of reference places a maximum two-term limit for Audit Committee membership; and
- iii) decided, on an exceptional basis, to approve the extension of Mr Suresh Kana's term for an additional year, from 15 November 2021 to 14 November 2022.

24 February 2021

2021/EB.1/10 Oral update on preparations for the 2021 United Nations food systems

The Executive Board took note of the oral update on preparations for the 2021 United Nations food systems summit, encouraged WFP to continue its involvement in the summit preparatory process and looked forward to a regular exchange with WFP management in the coming months leading to the summit, and particularly in the framework of the pre-summit which will take place in Rome, on the progress achieved with regard to Action Track Five for which WFP is the United Nations anchor agency.

The Board invited WFP to collaborate with the other Rome-based agencies – FAO and IFAD – and with the other specialized agencies of the United Nations system with a view to elaborate common strategies, in particular as part of the effort to break down silos within the United Nations system.

The Board invited WFP to set up informal consultations with the membership to discuss WFP's substantial input to the pre-summit and to the summit, especially related to Action Track 5, and discuss the results of these consultations in the next session of the Executive Board in June 2021.

24 February 2021

Summary of the work of the Executive Board

2021/EB.1/11 Summary of the work of the 2020 second regular session of the Executive Board

The Board approved the draft summary of the work of its 2020 second regular session, the final version of which would be embodied in document WFP/EB.2/2020/12.

24 February 2021

ANNEX I

Agenda

- 1. **Adoption of the agenda** (for approval)
- 2. Election of the Bureau and appointment of the Rapporteur
- 3. Opening remarks by the Executive Director
- 4. Policy issues
 - a) WFP People Policy (for approval) ITEM POSTPONED TO THE 2021 ANNUAL SESSION
 - b) Update on WFP's implementation of United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/279 (repositioning the United Nations development system) (for information)*
- 5. Resource, financial and budgetary matters
 - a) Update on the bottom up strategic budgeting exercise (for consideration)
 - b) Update on operational requirements and funding forecast for 2021 (for consideration)
- 6. **Evaluation reports** (for consideration)
 - a) Summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Bangladesh (2017–2020) and management response

7. **Operational matters**

- a) Country strategic plans (for approval)
 - 1. Colombia (2021-2024)
 - 2. Cuba (2021–2024) ITEM POSTPONED TO THE 2021 ANNUAL SESSION
- b) Reports of the Executive Director on operational matters (*for information*)
 - 1. Revisions of country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans and corresponding budget increases approved by the Executive Director or jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO (1 July–31 December 2020)
 - 2. Limited emergency operations and immediate response activities approved by the Executive Director or jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO (1 July–31 December 2020)
- 8. Organizational and procedural matters
 - a) Biennial programme of work of the Executive Board (2021–2022) (for information)
- 9. Administrative and managerial matters
 - a) Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit relevant to the work of WFP (for consideration)
- 10. Summary of the work of the 2020 second regular session of the Executive Board (for approval)

^{*} To be discussed at the session.

11. Other business

a) Appointment of five members from the Electoral Lists of the Executive Board to the selection panel for the appointment of Audit Committee members (*for approval*)

- b) Extension of the term of one Audit Committee member for one year (for approval)
- c) Oral update on preparations for the 2021 United Nations food systems summit (for consideration)
- d) Oral global overview on humanitarian needs and operational concerns and priorities (for information)*
- e) Oral update on WFP's support to the implementation of the CFS food systems and nutrition guidelines (*for information*)*

12. Verification of adopted decisions and recommendations

ANNEX II

List of documents

Adoption of the agenda

1 Provisional agenda WFP/EB.1/2021/1/1/Rev.5
Annotated provisional agenda WFP/EB.1/2021/1/2/Rev.5

Policy issues

4 b) Update on WFP's implementation of United Nations General Assembly WFP/EB.1/2021/4-B resolution 72/279 (repositioning the United Nations development system)

Resource, financial and budgetary matters

Update on the bottom up strategic budgeting exercise

WFP/EB.1/2021/5-A/1

Update on operational requirements and funding forecast for 2021

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)

Report of the FAO Finance Committee

WFP/EB.1/2021/5(A,B)/3

Evaluation reports

Summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Bangladesh (2017–2020)
 Management response to the recommendations in the summary report on the evaluation of the country strategic plan for Bangladesh (2017–

Operational matters

2020)

7 a) Country strategic plans

1) Colombia (2021–2024) WFP/EB.1/2021/7-A/1

7 b) Revisions of country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans WFP/EB.1/2021/7-B/1 and corresponding budget increases approved by the Executive Director or jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO

(1 July - 31 December 2020)

7 b) Limited emergency operations and immediate response activities WFP/EB.1/2021/7-B/2/Rev.1 approved by the Executive Director or jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO (1 July–31 December 2020)

Organizational and procedural matters

8 a) Biennial programme of work of the Executive Board (2021–2022) WFP/EB.1/2021/8-A

Administrative and managerial matters

9 a) Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit relevant to the work of WFP WFP/EB.1/2021/9-A/Rev.1

Other business

11 a) Appointment of five members from the Electoral Lists of the Executive WFP/EB.1/2021/11-A/Rev.1 Board to the selection panel for the appointment of Audit Committee

members

11 b) Extension of the term of one Audit Committee member for one year WFP/EB.1/2021/11-B

Verification of adopted decisions and recommendations

12 Decisions and recommendations of the first regular session of the WFP/EB.1/2021/12

Executive Board, 2021

Summary of the work of the first regular session of the Executive WFP/EB.1/2021/13*

Board, 2021

Information notes

Provisional list of participants WFP/EB.1/2021/INF/1

Provisional timetable WFP/EB.1/2021/INF/2/Rev.2

Report by the Executive Director on recent senior staff movements WFP/EB.1/2021/INF/3

^{*}To be issued after approval by the Executive Board at its annual session in June 2021.