



World Food Programme
Programme Alimentaire Mondial
Programa Mundial de Alimentos
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

Executive Board

First regular session
Rome, 21 January 2025
and
Rome, 18–19 February 2025

Distribution: General

Agenda item 10

Date: 19 February 2025

WFP/EB.1/2025/10-A

Original: English

Reports of the Executive Board sessions

Executive Board documents are available on WFP's website (<https://executiveboard.wfp.org>).

Decisions and recommendations of the 2025 first regular session of the Executive Board

Executive Board Bureau

President:	H.E. Ms Elissa Golberg (Canada)
Alternate:	H.E. Mr Andreas Von Brandt (Germany)
Vice-President:	Ms Berioska Morrison González (Dominican Republic)
Alternate:	Mr Vicente Amaral Bezerra (Brazil)
Member:	H.E. Mr Fredrick Lusambili Matwang'a (Kenya)
Alternate:	H.E. Ms Patricia Chisanga Kondolo (Zambia)
Member:	Dr. Balaji Jujjavarapu (India)
Alternate:	Ms Manar Sabah Mohammad Al-Sabah (Kuwait)
Member:	Mr Roman Diatka (Czechia)
Alternate:	H.E. Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó (Hungary)
Rapporteur:	Mr Roman Diatka (Czechia)

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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.

Adoption of the agenda

The Board adopted the agenda.

18 February 2025

Election of the Bureau and appointment of the Rapporteur

In accordance with its rules of procedure the Board elected Her Excellency Elissa Golberg (Canada, List D) President for a one-year term. H.E. Mr Andreas Von Brandt (Germany, List D) was elected Alternate.

The Board elected Ms Berioska Morrison González (Dominican Republic, List C) Vice-President. Mr Vicente Amaral Bezerra (Brazil, List C) 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. Mr Fredrick Lusambili Matwang'a (Kenya, List A); Dr. Balaji Jujjavarapu (India, List B); and Mr Roman Diatka (Czechia, List E). Elected as Alternate was H.E. Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó (Hungary, List E).

In accordance with rule XII of its rules of procedure, the Board appointed Mr Roman Diatka (Czechia, List E) as Rapporteur for its 2025 first regular session.

21 January 2025

Election for vacant positions in the Bureau

The Board elected as Alternates Her Excellency Patricia Chisanga Kondolo (Zambia, List A) and Ms Manar Sabah Mohammad Al-Sabah (Kuwait, List B).

18 February 2025

Current and future strategic issues

2025/EB.1/1 Opening remarks by the Executive Director, including on overview of current and future opportunities and challenges for WFP

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.

18 February 2025

Policy issues

2025/EB.1/2 Policy cycle framework

The Board approved the policy cycle framework (WFP/EB.1/2025/6-A).

18 February 2025

Oversight functions

2025/EB.1/3 Summary report on the evaluation of WFP's environmental policy and management response

The Board took note of the summary report on the evaluation of WFP's environmental policy (WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/1) and management response (WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/1/Add.1).

19 February 2025

2025/EB.1/4 Summary report on the evaluation of WFP's emergency preparedness policy and management response

The Board took note of the summary report on the evaluation of WFP's emergency preparedness policy (WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/2) and management response (WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/2/Add.1).

19 February 2025

2025/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.1/2025/7-C/Rev.1) and endorsed the responses to the Joint Inspection Unit's recommendations to the legislative bodies included in the annexes to the document which focus on efficiency, transparency, and accountability, taking also into account the considerations raised by the Board during its discussion.

19 February 2025

Other business**2025/EB.1/6 Final report of the Executive Board working group on the governance review**

Having considered the final report of the Executive Board working group on the governance review set out in document WFP/EB.1/2025/11-A, the Executive Board:

- i) *approved* the costed implementation plan for the following recommendations from the report of the Joint Inspection Unit: *Review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women* (JIU/REP/2023/7) as set out in annex I of this document and *called for* their immediate implementation, as follows:
 - 1) recommendation 6: the Board *decided* to revisit this recommendation following the completion of the review of report JIU/REP/2023/7 by the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women to ensure alignment with decisions taken in New York. The Board *requested* the Executive Board Secretariat to inform the Executive Board Bureau when the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women have completed their review so that the Board may determine the next steps as it deems necessary.
 - 2) recommendation 7: the Board *recognized* that its rules of procedures and working methods are robust and that proposals to support more engaged participation by all Board members and more efficient and effective discussions and decisions have been addressed in the independent consultant's report and presented in the working group's first and second interim reports (WFP/EB.A/2024/12-A/Rev.1 and WFP/EB.2/2024/11-A), under recommendations 1 (revisiting the format and agenda of Board sessions), 2 (rationalizing Board documents to facilitate strategic discussions and decisions), 8 (redesigning the induction session for new Board members), 11 (revisiting and improving the consensus building process and platforms), 12 (roles and responsibilities, tenure and the ways of working of the Bureau) and 13 (redesigning the induction session for new Bureau members). The Board further *advised* that informal Board meetings on items to be subsequently submitted to the Board for decision be chaired by Bureau members and that other informal meetings on matters that do not require a Board decision be facilitated by the Secretariat. If no Bureau member is available to chair informal meetings leading to Board decisions, the Board advises that the Bureau should designate another Board member or member of the Secretariat to facilitate the meeting.

- 3) recommendation 8: the Board *recognized* that WFP largely meets the benchmarks set out by the Joint Inspection Unit on the reflection of the roles and responsibilities of the Boards in the charters, frameworks and terms of reference of the independent and advisory functions and committees, including in relation to reporting lines, access to the Board and consultations on human and financial resources to ensure independence. The Board further *advised* that the independence of the WFP Ethics Office and the Office of the Ombudsperson and Mediation Service be maintained and that their terms of reference be updated at the next opportunity to reflect current practice on Board reporting and engagement.
- ii) *noted* that no further action was necessary on recommendations 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10 from report JIU/REP/2023/7, based on the working group's advice as follows:
- 4) recommendation 1: provisions already exist in WFP General Regulation VI 2(a)(v), which states that the Board should "recommend new policy initiatives to the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and, through them, respectively, to the General Assembly and the FAO Conference as necessary."
 - 5) recommendation 2: the powers and functions of the WFP Executive Board are already set out in Article VI of WFP's General Regulations. The General Regulations are complemented by the Rules of Procedure of the Board, which provide the operational and functional framework for the activities of the Board. The development of a delegates' handbook under sub-recommendation 8.2 in the working group's first interim report (WFP/EB.A/2024/12-A/Rev.1) will also help to address this recommendation.
 - 6) recommendation 3: this recommendation has been addressed in the working group's first interim report (WFP/EB.A/2024/12-A/Rev.1) under sub-recommendation 8.2 on the development of a delegates' handbook and its second interim report (WFP/EB.2/2024/11-A) under sub-recommendation 12.4, on which the Board advised that the general roles and responsibilities of list convenors be included in the handbook for Bureau members to be developed under sub-recommendation 13.2 (WFP/EB.A/2024/12-A/Rev.1).
 - 7) recommendation 5: WFP aligns with the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) benchmarks because its independent oversight bodies – including the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee – already have a dual reporting line to the Executive Board and the Executive Director, which was recognized as good governance practice by the JIU in its report. JIU benchmark V.B1(c) on unrestricted access to the independent oversight committee has been addressed under sub-recommendation 5.6 in the working group's second interim report (WFP/EB.2/2024/11-A), which recommended the introduction of regular, direct interactions between the Board and the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee by inviting Board members to attend the committee's regular debrief meetings.
 - 8) recommendation 9: WFP's risk management practices are robust and are in alignment with the JIU benchmarks on the reflection of the roles and responsibilities of the Board for risk management in the organizational policies on risk management.
 - 9) recommendation 10: this recommendation is not applicable to WFP.

- iii) *recommended* that an assessment be conducted upon the conclusion of the review of report JIU/REP/2023/7 by the Executive Boards of the New York-based funds and programmes. The assessment will be an opportunity for the Board to review the progress of implementation of the Board-approved governance recommendations set out in the working group's first and second interim reports and final report. It will also be an opportunity for the Board to consider the outcomes of the review undertaken in New York and ensure alignment with decisions stemming from that review where appropriate, as well as revisiting any outstanding JIU recommendations (including recommendation 6).
- iv) *requested* the Executive Board Secretariat to provide regular updates to the Board on the implementation of all governance review recommendations, including those set out in the working group's first and second interim reports and this final report.

19 February 2025

Reports of the Executive Board sessions

2025/EB.1/7 Summary of the work of the 2024 second regular session of the Executive Board

The Board approved the draft summary of the work of its 2024 second regular session, the final version of which will be embodied in document WFP/EB.2/2024/11.

19 February 2025

ANNEX I

Agenda¹

Part I (21 January 2025)

1. **Adoption of the agenda** (*for decision*)
2. **Election of the Bureau and appointment of the Rapporteur** (*for decision*)

Part II (18-20 February 2025)

3. **Adoption of the agenda** (*for decision*)²
4. **Election for vacant positions in the Bureau**
5. **Opening remarks by the Executive Director, including an overview of current and future opportunities and challenges for WFP**
6. **Policy issues**
 - a) Policy cycle framework (*for decision*)
 - b) Update on the implementation of the Changing Lives Transformation Fund (*for information*)*
 - c) Oral update on the implementation of the gender policy (*for information*)*
 - d) Oral update on disability inclusion (*for information*)*
7. **Oversight functions**
 - a) Evaluation reports (*for decision*)
 1. Summary report on the evaluation of WFP's environmental policy and management response
 2. Summary report on the evaluation of WFP's emergency preparedness policy and management response
 - b) Summary evaluation reports on country strategic plans and management responses (*for decision*)
 1. Iraq (2018–2024) — ITEM POSTPONED TO THE 2025 ANNUAL SESSION
 - c) Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit relevant to the work of WFP (*for decision*)

¹ The agenda for the 2025 first regular session is the first to implement the decisions already made by the Board at its 2024 annual and second regular sessions as part of the governance review. It presents for the first time the split first regular session, with Part I dedicated only to the election of the Bureau and Part II dedicated to the remaining items on the agenda of that session.

² This agenda item would only be needed if the agenda has been revised since its approval during Part I of the first regular session.

* Items marked with an asterisk are to be presented for information only but will nevertheless be discussed during the session.

8. Operational matters

- a) Country strategic plans/interim country strategic plans (*for decision*)
 1. Iraq (2025–2029) — ITEM POSTPONED TO THE 2025 ANNUAL SESSION
 2. Rwanda (2025–2029) — ITEM POSTPONED TO THE 2025 ANNUAL SESSION
- b) Revisions of country strategic plans and corresponding budget increases approved by the Board by vote by correspondence (*for information*)
 1. Sierra Leone (2020–2024)
 2. Togo (2022–2026)
- c) Crisis response revision of country strategic plans and corresponding budget increases approved by the Executive Director or by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO, following comments by Member States (*for information*)
 1. Sudan (2019–2024)
- d) Oral global overview of humanitarian needs and operational concerns and priorities (*for information*)*
- e) Oral update on the global assurance project (*for information*)*
- f) Oral report on the field visit of the WFP Executive Board (*for information*)*
- g) Revisions of country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans, and corresponding budget increases or decreases, approved under delegations of authority (1 July–31 December 2024) (*for information*)

9. Organizational and administrative matters

- a) Biennial programme of work of the Executive Board (2025–2026) (*for information*)

10. Reports of the Executive Board sessions (for decision)

- a) Verification of adopted decisions and recommendations of the 2025 first regular session
- b) Summary of the work of the 2024 second regular session of the Executive Board

11. Other business

- a) Final report of the Executive Board working group on the governance review (*for decision*)

ANNEX II

List of documents

Adoption of the agenda

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|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Provisional agenda | WFP/EB.1/2025/1/1/Rev.3 |
| | Annotated provisional agenda | WFP/EB.1/2025/1/2/Rev.2 |

Policy issues

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|------|--|--------------------|
| 6 a) | Policy cycle framework | WFP/EB.1/2025/6-A/ |
| 6 b) | Update on the implementation of the Changing Lives Transformation Fund | WFP/EB.1/2025/6-B |

Oversight function

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|------|---|---------------------------|
| 7 a) | Summary report on the evaluation of WFP's environmental policy | WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/1 |
| | Management response to the recommendations in the summary report on the evaluation of WFP's environmental policy | WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/1/Add.1 |
| | Summary report on the evaluation of WFP's emergency preparedness policy | WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/2 |
| | Management response to the recommendations in the summary report on the evaluation of WFP's emergency preparedness policy | WFP/EB.1/2025/7-A/2/Add.1 |
| 7 c) | Reports by the Joint Inspection Unit relevant to the work of WFP | WFP/EB.1/2025/7-C/Rev.1 |

Operational matters

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| 8 b) | Revision of the Sierra Leone country strategic plan (2020–2024) and corresponding budget increase | WFP/EB.1/2025/8-B/1 |
| | Revision of the Togo country strategic plan (2022–2026) and corresponding budget increase | WFP/EB.1/2025/8-B/2 |
| 8 c) | Crisis response revision of the Sudan country strategic plan (2019–2024) and corresponding budget increase | WFP/EB.1/2025/8-C/1 |
| 8 g) | Revisions of country strategic plans and interim country strategic plans, and corresponding budget increases or decreases, approved under delegations of authority (1 July–31 December 2024) | WFP/EB.1/2025/8-G |

Organizational and administrative matters

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|------|---|-------------------|
| 9 a) | Biennial programme of work of the Executive Board (2025–2026) | WFP/EB.1/2025/9-A |
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Reports of the Executive Board sessions

- | | | |
|-------|--|---------------------|
| 10 a) | Decisions and recommendations of the 2025 first regular session of the Executive Board | WFP/EB.1/2025/10-A |
| 10 b) | Summary of the work of the 2025 first regular session of the Executive Board | WFP/EB.1/2025/10-B* |

Other business

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| 11 a) | Final report of the Executive Board working group on the governance review: Recommendations from other governance initiatives and next steps | WFP/EB.1/2025/11-A |
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Information notes

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|---|---------------------------|
| Provisional list of participants | WFP/EB.1/2025/INF/1 |
| Provisional timetable | WFP/EB.1/2025/INF/2/Rev.1 |
| Report by the Executive Director on recent senior staff movements | WFP/EB.1/2025/INF/3 |

* To be issued after approval by the Executive Board at its annual session in June 2025.