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**Executive Board
Second Regular Session**

Rome, 8–11 November 2010

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 10

PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2010) — PHILIPPINES 200131

Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons, Returnees and other Food-Insecure Households in Conflict-Affected Areas of Central Mindanao

Number of beneficiaries	900,000
Duration of project	18 months (1 July 2010–31 December 2011)
Food tonnage	26,090 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	16,816,337
Total cost to WFP	27,346,986

*For information**



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.2/2010/10-C/8
24 September 2010
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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This document is submitted to the Executive Board for information

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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PROJECT ABSTRACT

1. The Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) is the poorest region in the Philippines. The high poverty levels in Central Mindanao are due, in large part, to over four decades of recurrent armed conflict that has uprooted communities and caused extensive damage to infrastructure. In 2008 and 2009, a major upsurge in armed conflict led to the displacement of 700,000 people and devastated livelihood assets.
2. Since mid-2009, although a fragile ceasefire has allowed significant numbers of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to return and resettle, 100,000 people remain displaced while sporadic conflict and political and religious tensions persist in the region.
3. According to the emergency food security assessments of 2009 and 2010, food insecurity among IDPs and returnees and acute undernutrition among children under 2 years still remain very high. The situation is exacerbated by disputes over land ownership, the unpredictability of climatic conditions and high indebtedness.
4. In addition, the global food crisis affected the Philippines severely and deepened food insecurity in Central Mindanao, particularly among 400,000 of the most vulnerable people who have yet to recover from the crisis.
5. The assessments, as well as a decentralized evaluation of emergency operation (EMOP) 104891 conducted in August 2009, have confirmed the need for continued assistance to conflict-affected and other food-insecure households in Central Mindanao with a main focus on early recovery.
6. Accordingly, WFP proposed a protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO), with the overall objective of supporting the Government in its efforts in peacebuilding and early recovery of IDP, returnee and other food-insecure households. The PRRO 200131 will contribute to the attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1, 4 and 5 and is in line with the WFP Strategic Objectives 1 and 3.
7. The specific objectives and activities of the PRRO include: 1 – Assistance to the most vulnerable IDPs and returnees by: i) improving food consumption through provision of food assistance to the most vulnerable; and ii) reducing malnutrition among children 6-24 months of age and pregnant and lactating women through supplementary feeding; and 2 – Restoring and rebuilding the lives and livelihoods of IDP, returnee and other food-insecure communities by: i) supporting the process of retaining and getting children back to school in targeted remote areas through emergency school feeding; ii) creating/rehabilitating productive assets through food for work; and iii) supporting skills training in targeted communities through food for training.
8. The PRRO will run for a period of 18 months starting 1 July 2010 and will support 900,000 food-insecure and vulnerable individuals through food assistance and capacity development activities.
9. WFP's food assistance will support complementary action with other major development partners in Mindanao in order to ensure an efficient and cost-effective delivery of services and maximize development outcomes.
10. As part of its hand-over strategy, WFP will work closely with the Government and other partners to support WFP-assisted IDP, returnee and other food-insecure populations in Central Mindanao to improve their access to government services and safety net programmes.