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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2009)— BOLIVIA 108360

Recovery of Food-Insecure Households Affected by Consecutive Natural Disasters

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Number of beneficiaries | 200,000 |
| Duration of project | 24 months (June 2009–May 2011) |
| WFP food tonnage | 10,947 mt |
| Cost (United States dollars) | |
| WFP food cost | 8,768,944 |
| Total cost to WFP | 12,258,557 |

* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions, 2000, items for information should not be discussed unless a Board member specifically requests it, well in advance of the meeting, and the Chair accepts the request on the grounds that it is a proper use of the Board's time.

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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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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ABSTRACT

1. Bolivia is influenced by the El Niño and La Niña climatic phenomena that cyclically impact the region. In recent years, three major natural disasters caused deaths, injuries and displacement, along with massive damage to housing, infrastructure and agriculture, devastating the livelihoods of 700,000 people. The harshest impact was on small farmers and indigenous people who depend on subsistence production. In 2008, sharp food price increases caused an additional shock to people already struggling to meet their daily food and nutrient needs.
2. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 108360 will address the needs of rural households that have become increasingly food-insecure as a result of at least two consecutive years of natural disasters and have been unable to recover their livelihoods. It will target indigenous groups, affected subsistence farmers and landless agricultural labourers.
3. The PRRO responds to a government request to support recovery actions and is in line with national social protection and recovery strategies, including the Plan to Eradicate the Extreme Poverty, the Zero Undernutrition National Programme and the National Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Plan 2008–2010. It was designed through a participatory approach involving the affected families, the Government, United Nations agencies and cooperating partners.
4. The objectives of the operation are to:
 - support the recovery and re-establishment of livelihoods and food and nutrition security of the most food-insecure households (Strategic Objective 3);
 - support and strengthen resilience to shocks of the most food-insecure communities through safety nets and asset creation (Strategic Objective 2);
 - improve the nutritional and health status of targeted pregnant and lactating women, and children aged 2 to 6 (Strategic Objective 4);
 - retain primary schoolchildren in schools (Strategic Objective 4); and
 - strengthen government capacity to prepare for, assess and respond to emergencies (Strategic Objective 2).
5. The four components are:
 - i) **Livelihoods recovery and protection.** Food-for-work and food-for-training activities will be implemented to support the restoration of livelihoods and strengthen resilience to shocks and adaptation to climate change in the disaster-affected areas.
 - ii) **Education and basic nutrition and health.** A mother-and-child health and nutrition component will contribute to improved nutritional and health status of targeted pregnant and lactating women and children aged 2 to 6 years. School feeding activities will lower the risk of children, especially girls, being taken out of school.
 - iii) **Capacity development for emergency preparedness and response.** WFP will provide technical support to the Government to assess needs, and implement and monitor emergency food assistance. This will help ensure a timely and effective response to shocks and adequate preparation for emergencies that create food crises.

- iv) **Relief response to victims of new shocks.** WFP will preposition stocks to facilitate rapid response in case of natural disasters, which often overwhelm the response capacities of the Government, particularly at the local level.
6. The strategy includes a gradual hand-over to the Government's social development programmes. The findings from the emergency food security assessment conducted in January 2009 provided the basis for the project design and geographical targeting and constitute the baseline for measuring outcomes.