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Agenda item 10

*For information**



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PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2008) — SWAZILAND 10602.0

Assistance to People Affected by Food Insecurity and HIV and AIDS

Number of beneficiaries	201,000 per year
Duration of project	36 months (1 May 2008–30 April 2011)
WFP food tonnage	47,052 mt
Cost (United States dollars)	
WFP food cost	19,280,494
Total cost to WFP	38,549,685

* 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. The Kingdom of Swaziland is prone to disasters and is facing humanitarian crisis arising from the combined effects of HIV and AIDS, poverty and recurrent drought. About 26 percent of the adult population are HIV-positive – the highest prevalence rate in the world – which results in a negative rate of population growth.
2. Swaziland is a lower/middle-income country: in 2005, per capita gross domestic product (GDP) was US\$4,824. But 48 percent of the population live on less than US\$1 per day, of whom 63 percent are women. Real GDP growth rates declined from 7 percent in the 1980s to 2.1 percent in 2006. In the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Index, Swaziland fell from 137th in 2004 to 141st in 2005, largely because of a drop in life expectancy at birth from 57 years in 1997 to 31.4 years in 2004; this is the second-lowest rate in the world.
3. Protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10602.0 for Swaziland was approved on 30 April 2008 to run from May 2008 to April 2011, reaching 201,000 beneficiaries each year.
4. The goal of the operation is to improve food security, livelihoods and the productive capacity of the most vulnerable households affected by HIV, poverty and natural disasters. In line with the Strategic Objectives 2–5 of the Strategic Plan (2006–2009) and Millennium Development Goals 1–6, the objectives are to:
 - i) improve household access to food and the ability to manage shocks (Strategic Objective 2);
 - ii) increase access to care and support for people living with HIV and tuberculosis (TB), and improve adherence to treatment (Strategic Objective 3);
 - iii) support access to basic education and community-based care and support for orphans and other vulnerable children (Strategic Objectives 3 and 4); and
 - iv) enhance the capacity of government institutions, community-based organizations and cooperating partners for needs assessment, disaster preparedness and mitigation, and the management of food assistance programmes (Strategic Objective 5).
5. The activities of the PRRO include:
 - i) relief food assistance during lean seasons for asset-poor households;
 - ii) school feeding during lean seasons for primary schools that report an increase in drop-out rates and decreased attendance;
 - iii) support for patients in food-insecure areas undergoing treatment for HIV or TB and for beneficiaries of prevention of mother-to-child transmission programmes;
 - iv) food assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in community-based social centres to complement other basic social services;
 - v) community-level support for vulnerable households affected by HIV; and
 - vi) food for assets, food for training, food for work and food for agriculture to support innovative approaches to livelihoods.
6. The operation will prioritize the enhancement of partnerships with the Government and non-governmental organizations. WFP will work with partners to develop and implement a technical support plan to improve national capacity for needs assessment, disaster preparedness and response and management of food assistance programmes.