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**Executive Board
Second Regular Session**

Rome, 22–26 October 2007

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 11

*For information**

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EMERGENCY OPERATIONS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR JOINTLY BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO

* 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.

Chief of the Technical Programme Support Service, ODO*: Mr P. Turnbull tel.: 066513-2482

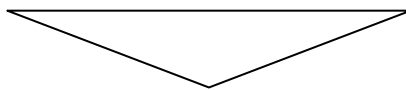
Programme Adviser, ODO: Ms. H. Tüttinghoff tel.: 066513-2483

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms C. Panlilio, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

* Office of the Director of Operations



DRAFT DECISION*



The Board takes note of “Emergency Operations Approved by the Executive Director or Jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO” (WFP/EB.2/2007/11-D).

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations document (document WFP/EB.2/2007/15) issued at the end of the session.



1. At its Third Regular Session of 2001, the Board asked to be regularly informed about emergency operations (EMOPs) approved either jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) or under the delegated authority of the Executive Director.
2. The first report on EMOPs approved in the previous semester was presented at the Board's Second Regular Session of 2002. Subsequently, this information has been provided twice a year.
3. This report covers EMOPs approved between 1 January and 30 June 2007. The next report, covering the second half of 2007, will be submitted to the Board's First Regular Session in February 2008.
4. All the EMOPs approved in the first semester of 2007 are shown in the attached tables. Table A lists EMOPs with a food commitment value of more than US\$3 million approved jointly by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO. Table B lists those with a food value of less than US\$3 million approved by the Senior Deputy Executive Director under the delegated authority of the Executive Director. Table C lists immediate-response EMOPs with an individual value of less than US\$500,000 approved by country directors under the authority delegated to them by the Executive Director.
5. During the period under review, eight EMOPs were approved: one by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO; three by the Senior Deputy Executive Director; and four immediate-response EMOPs by country directors. These operations represent a commitment of 21,256 mt of food, to assist 705,100 people, at a food cost of US\$9 million; operational and support costs to WFP were US\$14.3 million.
6. The Bolivia EMOP, jointly approved by the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO, aims to assist 90,000 people at a cost to WFP of US\$6.5 million.
7. The three EMOPs approved by the Senior Deputy Executive Director were for Ecuador, the Philippines and Syria to assist 535,100 people at a cost to WFP of US\$6.2 million.
8. WFP country directors approved immediate-response EMOPs in Syria, Yemen, Bolivia and Peru. These operations assisted 80,000 people at a cost to WFP of US\$1.6 million.

EMOPs APPROVED JOINTLY BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO

9. Bolivia EMOP 10616.0 "Humanitarian Assistance to Households Affected by Floods" covers the needs of 90,000 people from May 2007 to April 2008 at a cost to WFP of US\$6.5 million. In response to the impact of severe flooding, this EMOP aims to maintain the nutritional status of the affected population. Special attention is given to pregnant and lactating women and children under 5 who are at high risk of malnutrition. The operation also aims to preserve assets and restore livelihoods through activities supported by food for work and food for training. This EMOP was preceded by an immediate-response EMOP.



EMOPS APPROVED BY THE SENIOR DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

10. Ecuador EMOP 10558.0 “Integrated Approach for the Protection of Vulnerable Populations Affected by the Colombian Conflict on Ecuador’s Northern Border” covers the needs of 5,100 people at a cost to WFP of US\$560,000. This operation is part of an inter-agency project with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and WFP that addresses human security threats on the northern border of Ecuador. WFP assistance provides micronutrient-fortified food for vulnerable pregnant and lactating women and children under 5, rations for refugees and asylum seekers, kitchen and service equipment for schools and deworming pills for children in the school feeding programme. In collaboration with UNHCR, WFP has been assisting 7,500 refugees and asylum seekers from Colombia with family rations and has promoted economic self-sufficiency in refugee populations through Ecuador EMOP 10381.0.
11. Typhoon Durian (also called Reming) devastated the Bicol region of the Philippines leaving 800,000 people homeless, food-insecure and without adequate livelihoods. WFP initially responded through an immediate-response EMOP approved by the country director. This was followed by EMOP 10575.0 “Relief and Recovery Assistance to Victims of Typhoon Durian” approved by the Senior Deputy Executive Director to provide assistance for 500,000 people. The operation involves targeted food distributions for displaced people and food-for-work projects that meet urgent food needs while restoring shelter, agriculture and livelihoods.
12. In response to the influx of refugees into Syria from conflict in Iraq, WFP initially met the food needs of 7,000 vulnerable refugees through an immediate-response EMOP approved by the country director. This was followed by Syria EMOP 10604.0 “Assistance to Refugees from Iraq” approved on 9 March 2007, which was based on a rapid food needs assessment in early February 2007. The basic food provided by WFP is complemented with food provided by UNHCR to ensure the food security of 30,000 of the most vulnerable refugees.

IMMEDIATE-RESPONSE EMOPS APPROVED BY COUNTRY DIRECTORS

13. There were four immediate-response EMOPs approved by country directors: the Bolivia and Syria EMOPS are described above; the Peru EMOP responded to floods and the Yemen EMOP supported internally displaced people fleeing conflict in Sa’ada. The combined value of these four operations was US\$1.6 million.



EMOPS APPROVED DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY – 30 JUNE 2007

| Approving authority | Project number | Project title | Recipient country | Bureau | Food cost (US\$) | Total cost (US\$) | Tonnage (mt) | Beneficiaries | Approval date | Original duration (days) |
|--|----------------|--|-------------------|--------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| TABLE A: EMOPS APPROVED JOINTLY BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO | | | | | | | | | | |
| ED-DG | 10616.0 | Humanitarian Assistance to Households Affected by Floods | Bolivia | ODP | 4 324 844 | 6 505 320 | 10 187 | 90 000 | 08/05/2007 | 306 |
| Subtotal | | | | | 4 324 844 | 6 505 320 | 10 187 | 90 000 | | |
| TABLE B: EMOPS APPROVED UNDER THE DELEGATED AUTHORITY OF THE SENIOR DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | | | | | | | | | | |
| Senior DED | 10558.0 | Integrated Approach for the Protection of Vulnerable Populations Affected by the Colombian Conflict on Ecuador's Northern Border | Ecuador | ODP | 266 390 | 558 584 | 175 | 5 100 | 08/02/2007 | 563 |
| Senior DED | 10575.0 | Relief and Recovery Assistance to Victims of Typhoon Durian | Philippines | ODB | 2 501 600 | 4 050 768 | 5 788 | 500 000 | 14/02/2007 | 226 |
| Senior DED | 10604.0 | Assistance to Refugees from Iraq | Syria | ODC | 889 890 | 1 581 764 | 2 812 | 30 000 | 09/03/2007 | 292 |
| Subtotal | | | | | 3 657 880 | 6 191 116 | 8 775 | 535 100 | | |



EMOPS APPROVED DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY – 30 JUNE 2007

| Approving authority | Project number | Project title | Recipient country | Bureau | Food cost (US\$) | Total cost (US\$) | Tonnage (mt) | Beneficiaries | Approval date | Original duration (days) |
|---|----------------|--|-------------------|--------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| TABLE C: EMOPS APPROVED UNDER THE DELEGATED AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTRY DIRECTORS | | | | | | | | | | |
| CD | 10576.0 | Immediate-response - Emergency Food Assistance to Vulnerable Refugees Fleeing Iraq | Syria | ODC | 111 335 | 177 087 | 348 | 7 000 | 02/01/2007 | 160 |
| CD | 10585.0 | Immediate-response - Assistance to Flood Victims in Northeastern Peru | Peru | ODP | 277 380 | 497 471 | 559 | 23 000 | 31/01/2007 | 90 |
| CD | 10587.0 | Immediate-response - Assistance to Flood Victims in Bolivia | Bolivia | ODP | 273 867 | 456 216 | 698 | 30 000 | 08/02/2007 | 59 |
| CD | 10675.0 | Immediate-response - Assistance to IDPs in Sa'ada Governorate | Yemen | ODC | 319 758 | 443 072 | 689 | 20 000 | 29/05/2007 | 62 |
| Subtotal | | | | | 982 340 | 1 573 846 | 2 294 | 80 000 | | |
| Total | | | | | 8 965 064 | 14 270 282 | 21 256 | 705 100 | | |



ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

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|--------|--|
| ED | Executive Director |
| EMOP | emergency operation |
| DED | Deputy Executive Director |
| DG | Director-General |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| ODB | Asia Regional Bureau |
| ODC | Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe Regional Bureau |
| ODP | Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Bureau |
| UNHCR | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |