

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي



Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

World
Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

**Executive Board
Annual Session**

Rome, 12–16 June 2006

REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 11

*For information**



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.A/2006/11-D
12 May 2006
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT ON THE USE OF THE IMMEDIATE RESPONSE ACCOUNT (1 JANUARY–31 DECEMBER 2005)



* 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.

This document is printed in a limited number of copies. Executive Board documents are available on WFP's WEB site (<http://www.wfp.org/eb>).

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.

Director, ODM*:	Mr T. Due	tel.: 066513-2008
Chief, ODMP**:	Ms T. Toyota	tel.: 066513-2501

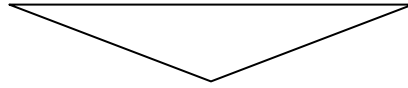
Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact Ms C. Panlilio, Administrative Assistant, Conference Servicing Unit (tel.: 066513-2645).

* OMD: Programming Management Division

** ODMP: Programming Service



DRAFT DECISION*



The Board takes note of the information in “Report on the Use of the Immediate Response Account (1 January-31 December 2005)” (WFP/EB.A/2006/11-D).

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the Decisions and Recommendations (document WFP/EB.A/2006/16) issued at the end of the session.



INTRODUCTION

1. The Immediate Response Account (IRA) was established in December 1991 by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA) with an original target level of US\$30 million. This level was later increased in 1995 to US\$35 million by the CFA, and to US\$70 million in 2004 at the Board's Second Regular Session. The IRA is a multilateral fund facility that enables WFP to provide immediate food aid including logistical and other non-food costs in an emergency situation. Since its inception, the IRA has repeatedly proved its value as one of the most effective relief response mechanisms.
2. In considering the document "Review of the Immediate Response Account (IRA)" (WFP/EB.3/2004/12-A), the Board requested the Secretariat to submit a formal annual information paper on the use of the IRA.
3. The purpose of this document is to provide information on the use of the IRA during 2005.
4. The Secretariat will continue to periodically update Board members on the use of the IRA through the publication *Estimated Food Needs and Shortfalls for WFP Operational Activities*, commonly referred to as the *Yellow Pages*, which is issued three times a year concurrently with each Board session.

Facts about the IRA

Allocations from the IRA fund are made as loans to eligible operations in anticipation of receiving donor contributions. If no such donations are received, as sometimes occurs in life-threatening situations, the loan is deemed to be a permanent, non-reimbursable grant from the IRA.

The IRA serves as both a replenishable and a revolving fund. "Revolving" means that funds allocated from the IRA to an operation may subsequently be reimbursed to the IRA account with donor contributions received for that operation. Contributions that are used to revolve the IRA are accounted for and reported under the operation to which the donor pledged them.

Donor contributions made directly to the IRA facility replenish the Fund.

In-kind contributions or contributions with donor conditions such as bag markings restrict the possibility of revolving the IRA.

USE OF THE IRA, 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2005

5. The significance of the IRA as one of WFP's effective mechanisms in responding swiftly to emerging and rapidly increasing humanitarian needs was once again demonstrated in 2005. As a result of multiple crises throughout the year, IRA allocations reached a record high of US\$103.7 million, nearly double the 2003 level, giving WFP the flexibility to respond in a timely manner to 35 operations.



6. During 2005, in addition to addressing complex emergencies such as the earthquakes in Pakistan, hurricane Stan in Central America and the drought and locust devastation in Niger, IRA funds were used to provide urgently needed food to millions of people affected by the greater Darfur crisis, the Togolese refugee crisis that occurred in several West African countries, the drought and locust infestation in Mali and by hurricanes and floods which affected Cuba, Guyana and Pakistan. The fund was also used to assist with needs relating to the Indian Ocean Tsunami. The recent evaluation of the Niger operation highlighted the critical role of the IRA in supporting WFP's emergency response.
7. Through the prompt utilization of IRA funds, 22 relief operations including seven special operations (SOs) benefited from IRA allocations. Country Directors approved 13 immediate response emergency operations (EMOPs) for which funds were made available within 48 hours.
8. In line with the Board's endorsement of the scope and expanded use of the IRA, the effectiveness of this fund was also realized in the important role played in averting pipeline breaks during the year in the protracted relief and recovery operations for Kenya, Ivory Coast and Central America. IRA funds were also instrumental in WFP's emergency preparedness efforts. Needs assessments in Kyrgyzstan, Panama and the Sahel were funded through the IRA; food and non-food items were purchased and pre-positioned in West Africa in advance of a potential eruption of violence.

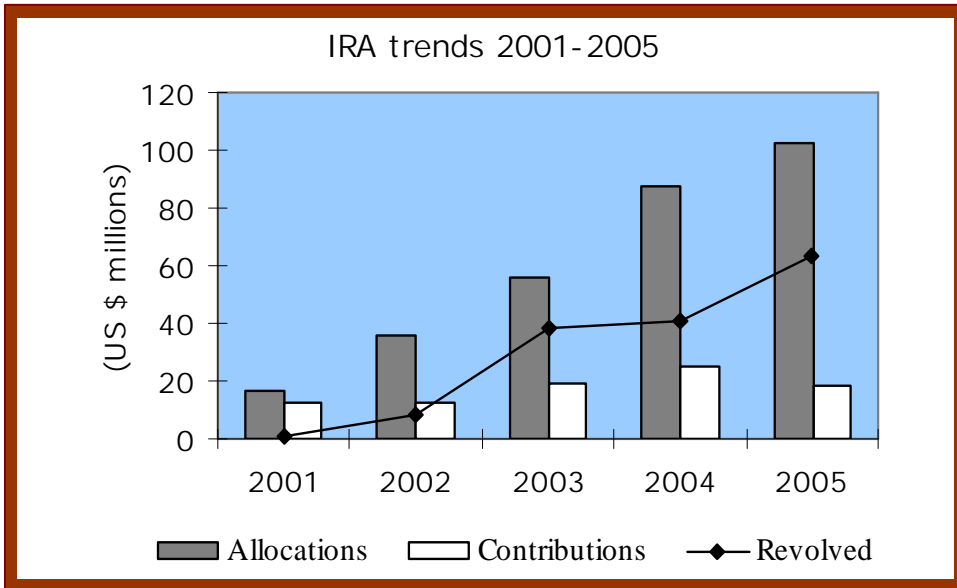
IRA MOVEMENTS, 2002–2005 AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005				
	2002	2003	2004*	2005
New Contributions	12.5	19.4	25.1	18.7
Allocations	36.0	56.2	87.2	103.7
Revolved funds	8.5	38.7	41.0	63.4

* Excluding US\$20 million approved by the Executive Board in 2003.

9. The US\$103.7 million of approved allocations in 2005 is a 19 percent increase over 2004. A large portion of funds advanced to address immediate needs in emergency situations was revolved back into the IRA once donors had contributed to the operations. The amount revolved into the account in 2005 totalled US\$63.4 million, a 15 percent increase over 2004. It is mainly thanks to this revolving of the IRA that WFP was able to continue to advance substantial amounts to other operations in need of funds.
10. In October 2004, the Board approved an increase in the IRA target level from US\$35 million to US\$70 million per year in recognition of the effectiveness of the IRA mechanism. However, donor contributions to the IRA decreased from US\$25.1 million in 2004 to US\$18.7 million in 2005, resulting in an average cash balance of under US\$30 million — the lowest cash balance since 2002.



- 11. As a critical component of WFP’s efforts to respond to four concurrent emergencies and to secure the replenishment of the IRA, WFP will concentrate its efforts to increase the cash balance to the target of US\$70 million through increased advocacy and faster and increased revolving of the account by country offices, and by encouraging donors to ease restrictions on bag markings. Advances to emergency operations often secure locally or regionally purchased commodities for immediate — often the first — distribution to beneficiaries.



ANNEX I

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE IRA (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005)									
(Figures in US\$)									
Donors	1997	1998	1999	2000*	2001	2002	2003	2004*	2005
Argentina	-	-	-	-	6 793	-	-	-	-
Australia	4 431	666 290	-	721 418	162 574	-	-	-	22 362
Austria	-	-	13 430	-	73 580	-	-	-	-
Belgium	-	-	997 873	322 827	-	132 358	-	-	-
Canada	2 186 014	-	8 400 000	2 187 874	1 998 105	1 863 354	4 141 083	4 529 355	4 838 710
Cuba	-	-	-	-	23 272	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 630	4 629	-
Denmark	739 262	1 078 582	713 267	910 273	969 602	-	-	-	1 000 000
Finland	402 542	548 948	541 419	423 351	40 927	490 364	8 607	-	588 235
France	-	-	-	100 984	714 029	-	-	1 694 960	410 619
Germany	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15 555	-
Holy See	-	-	-	-	-	10 000	-	-	-
Iceland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18 469	-
Ireland	98 124	-	-	296 700	386 257	462 021	1 681 797	977 252	1 222 194
Italy	41 937	19 200	-	-	12 502	-	583 009	-	-
Japan	927 025	937 009	700 000	1 217 943	700 000	400 000	1 857 197	9 274 925	504 689
Korea, Rep. of	1 280	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 129
Netherlands	4 026 377	4 800 000	3 900 000	4 532 079	3 661 694	2 992 958	3 549 061	4 146 341	5 680 317
New Zealand	-	-	-	-	-	-	86 207	-	-
Norway	1 768 707	1 978 892	1 901 141	1 686 608	2 297 864	1 989 390	2 141 964	2 404 855	2 785 648
South Africa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 409	-
Spain	-	-	-	532 831	8 468	-	-	-	-
Sweden	2 471 553	2 000 000	3 000 000	2 287 398	107 370	2 419 315	2 421 320	1 473	-
Switzerland	796 474	1 118 135	1 713 479	1 180 368	908 528	1 236 216	2 875 592	2 021 263	1 590 858
Thailand	-	-	-	10 582	-	-	-	-	1 436
United Kingdom	132 257	-	-	1 589	283 436	493 790	-	-	-
United States of America	4 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000	1 500 000	-	50 000	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	50 454	37 581	-	1 500	-	-
TOTAL	17 595 983	15 147 056	23 880 609	17 963 280	12 392 582	12 539 766	19 351 967	25 090 486	18 651 197

* Excluding US\$7.5 million approved by the Board in 2000 and US\$20 million approved by the Board in 2003.



ANNEX II

2005 IRA ALLOCATIONS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005)				
Recipient	Operation	Title	Date of Approval	Approved Allocation (US\$)
IRA Allocations				
Asia Regional	EMOP 10405.0	Assistance to Victims of the Tsunami	1 January 2005	500 000
Asia Regional	SO 10406.0	Logistics Augmentation in Support of WFP Indian Ocean Tsunami EMOP 10405.0	1 January 2005	5 000 000
Asia Regional	SO 10407.0	WFP Air Support of Humanitarian Relief Operations in Response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami	1 January 2005	5 000 000
Asia Regional	SO 10408.0	Establishment of a United Nations Joint Logistics Centre Including an Air Coordination Centre Providing Logistics & Movement Coordination and Augmentation to Humanitarian Agencies Working in Response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami EMOP 10405.0	1 January 2005	500 000
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Food Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur	28 January 2005	11 000 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and Locust Invasion in 2004	4 February 2005	1 400 000
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Food Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur	17 February 2005	9 000 000
Chad	SO 10338.0	WFP Humanitarian Air Services in Support of EMOP 10327.0	18 February 2005	290 500
Libya	SO 10417.1	Augmentation of Libya Logistic Corridors of Sudan EMOP 10339.1 and Chad 10327.1	28 February 2005	2 000 000
Chad	EMOP 10327.1	Emergency Assistance to Sudanese Refugees in North-Eastern Chad	22 March 2005	5 000 000
Mali	EMOP 10400.0	Assistance to Population Affected by Drought and Locust Invasion	22 March 2005	2 000 000
Chad	SO 10338.1	WFP Humanitarian Air Services in Support of EMOP 10327.1	5 May 2005	1 200 000
Korea, DPR	EMOP 10141.3	Emergency Food Assistance to Vulnerable Groups	9 June 2005	6 000 000
Colombia	EMOP 10366.0	Assistance to Persons Displaced by Violence	20 June 2005	335 000
Cuba	EMOP 10423.0	Prolonged Drought in the Eastern Region	20 June 2005	1 247 100
Kenya	PRRO 10258.1	Food Assistance for Somali and Sudanese Refugees	8 July 2005	2 000 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and Locust Invasion in 2004	20 July 2005	6 857 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and Locust Invasion in 2004	25 July 2005	500 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and Locust Invasion in 2004	1 August 2005	10 000 000



2005 IRA ALLOCATIONS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005)				
Recipient	Operation	Title	Date of Approval	Approved Allocation (US\$)
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and Locust Invasion in 2004	6 August 2005	2 000 000
Mali	EMOP 10400.0	Assistance to Population Affected by Drought and Locust Invasion	10 August 2005	2 300 000
Congo, D.R.	SO 10466.0	Establishment of a United Nations Joint Logistics Centre	22 August 2005	500 000
Niger	SO 10481.0	WFP Humanitarian Air Services in Niger in Support of EMOP 10398.0	25 August 2005	200 000
Côte d'Ivoire Regional Crisis	PRRO 10372.0	Côte d'Ivoire Crisis and Regional Impact	10 October 2005	5 800 000
Pakistan	EMOP 10491.0	Assistance to Earthquake Affected Persons	14 October 2005	14 000 000
Guatemala	EMOP 10497.0	Assistance to the Food Insecure Population Affected by Hurricane Stan	11 November 2005	2 000 000
Central America Regional	PRRO 10212.0	Targeted Food Assistance for People Affected by Shocks and for Recovery of Livelihoods	24 November 2005	499 781
Chad	SO 10338.1	WFP Humanitarian Air Services in Chad in Support of EMOP 10327.1	11 December 2005	800 000
Subtotal				97 929 381
Immediate Response EMOPs Approved Under Country/Regional Directors' Delegated Authority				
India	EMOP 10413.0	Assistance to Victims of Tsunami	24 January 2005	292 913
Guyana	EMOP 10415.0	Floods in the Demeraha/Mahica (Region Four) of the East Coast	26 January 2005	387 392
Pakistan	EMOP 10420.0	Emergency Assistance to Flood & Snow Affected Households in Balochistan	27 February 2005	500 000
Cameroon	EMOP 10434.0	Emergency Food Aid to Affected Population in the North	28 April 2005	467 825
Benin	EMOP 10455.0	Assistance to Togolese Refugees in Benin	5 May 2005	500 000
Ghana	EMOP 10456.0	Assistance to Togolese Refugees in Ghana	5 May 2005	450 045
Togo	EMOP 10467.0	Assistance to Displaced Persons in Togo	1 June 2005	439 532
Ghana	EMOP 10471.0	Assistance to Drought-Affected Population	1 July 2005	496 931
Cuba	EMOP 10473.0	Hurricane Denis	14 July 2005	492 264
Pakistan	EMOP 10472.0	Assistance to Flood-Affected People	14 July 2005	223 367
Benin	EMOP 10485.0	Assistance to Population affected by Food Crisis	12 September 2005	79 150
Guatemala	EMOP 10492.0	Assistance to Population affected by Food Crisis	10 October 2005	482 760
Pakistan	EMOP 10490.0	Earthquake Immediate Response	10 October 2005	498 955
Subtotal				5 311 134



2005 IRA ALLOCATIONS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005)				
Recipient	Operation	Title	Date of Approval	Approved Allocation (US\$)
Preparedness Activities				
Kyrgyzstan	10458.0	Emergency Preparedness Activities (Humanitarian Needs Assessment)	6 May 2005	4 573
Sahel	104770	Emergency Preparedness Activities (Needs Assessment and Monitoring Activities)	21 July 2005	130 000
Côte d'Ivoire	104990	Emergency Preparedness Activities (Enhancement of Preparedness Capacities to Respond to Potential Crisis)	25 October 2005	199 734
Panama	105010	Emergency Preparedness Activities (Vulnerability/Food Security Assessment)	2 December 2005	141 600
Subtotal				475 907
Total				103 716 422



ANNEX III

2005 IRA REVOLVEMENTS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005)

Recipient	Operation	Title	Date of Revolvement	Amount (US\$)
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Food Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur	11 January 2005	6 785 749
Regional	EMOP 10405.0	Assistance to Tsunami Victims across the Indian Ocean Region	18 January 2005	415 000
Regional	SO 10406.0	Logistics Augmentation Support of WFP Tsunami EMOP 10405.0	26 January 2005	5 000 000
Asia Regional	SO 10407.0	WFP Air Support of Humanitarian Relief Operations (Tsunami)	26 January 2005	5 000 000
Indonesia-Sri Lanka	SO 10408.0	Assistance to Tsunami Victims	26 January 2005	500 000
Thailand	EMOP 10403.0	Assistance to Victims of Tsunami	9 February 2005	491 558
Maldives	EMOP 10404.0	Assistance to Victims of Tsunami	9 February 2005	376 640
India	EMOP 10413.0	Assistance to Victims of Tsunami	9 February 2005	292 913
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur Region	25 February 2005	11 862 164
Iraq	EMOP 10360.0	Assistance to Primary School Children and Vulnerable Groups	17 March 2005	2 018 063
Sri Lanka	EMOP 10401.0	Assistance to Victims of Tsunami	23 March 2005	482 015
Indonesia	EMOP 10402.0	Assistance to People Affected by the Earthquake	24 March 2005	498 877
Chad	SO 10390.0	Logistics Augmentation in Support to EMOP 10327.0	30 March 2005	500 000
Haiti	EMOP 10347.0	Support to Victims of Civil Unrest and Natural Disasters	11 April 2005	428 060
Uganda	PRRO 10121.0	Assistance for Relief and Recovery Refugees, IDPs in Uganda	14 April 2005	300 000
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur Region	27 April 2005	329 888
Chad	EMOP 10327.0	Assistance to Sudanese Refugees in North-Eastern Part of Chad	11 May 2005	415 503
Pakistan	EMOP10420.0	Assistance to Floods Affectees in Balochistan	8 June 2005	305 246
W.Sahel Regional	EMOP 10249.0	Drought in Western Sahel	22 July 2005	228 536
Sudan	EMOP 10048.2	Food Assistance to Population Affected by War and Drought	22 July 2005	1 024 270
Sudan	EMOP 10339.0	Food Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur	22 July 2005	6 087
Uganda	PRRO 10121.0	Assistance for Relief and Recovery Refugees, IDPs in Uganda	22 July 2005	129 822
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	4 August 2005	315 572



2005 IRA REVOLVEMENTS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005)

Recipient	Operation	Title	Date of Revolvement	Amount (US\$)
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur Region	10 August 2005	4 505 751
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur Region	10 August 2005	3 452 358
DPRK	EMOP 10141.3	Assistance to Vulnerable Groups in DPRK	10 August 2005	279 720
Chad	EMOP 10327.1	Assistance to Sudanese Refugees in North-Eastern Part of Chad	10 August 2005	175 470
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	23 August 2005	266 876
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	25 August 2005	1 516 318
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	25 August 2005	823 610
Cuba	EMOP 10473.0	Hurricane Denis	29 August 2005	81 300
Iraq	EMOP 10360.0	Assistance to Primary School Children and Vulnerable Groups	31 August 2005	1 356 343
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	20 September 2005	25 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	21 September 2005	10 633
Chad	EMOP 10327.1	Assistance to Sudanese Refugees in North-Eastern Part of Chad	22 September 2005	1 485 784
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	29 September 2005	32 680
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	29 September 2005	50 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	29 September 2005	365 854
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	30 September 2005	100 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	30 September 2005	401 122
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	5 October 2005	48 367
Chad	EMOP 10327.1	Assistance to Sudanese Refugees in North-Eastern Part of Chad	6 October 2005	365 853
Mali	EMOP 10400.0	Assistance to Population Affected by Locust Infestation and Drought (1st advance)	10 October 2005	348 000
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	17 October 2005	1 682 692
Sudan	EMOP 10339.1	Assistance to Population Affected by War in Greater Darfur Region	25 October 2005	3 868 322
Mali	EMOP 10400.0	Assistance to Population Affected by Locust Infestation and Drought (1st advance)	27 October 2005	19 409



2005 IRA REVOLVEMENTS (AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005)

Recipient	Operation	Title	Date of Revolvement	Amount (US\$)
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	28 October 2005	14 839
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	28 October 2005	36 188
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	3 November 2005	361 882
Niger	EMOP 10398.0	Assistance to Population Affected by the Drought and the Locust Infestations in 2004	10 November 2005	203 293
Mali	EMOP 10400.0	Assistance to Population Affected by Locust Infestation and Drought (1st advance)	22 November 2005	602 344
Niger	SO 10481.0	WFP Humanitarian Air Services in Niger in Support of EMOP 10398.0	25 November 2005	3 365
Pakistan	EMOP 10491.0	Assistance to Earthquake Affected Persons	28 November 2005	1 680 000
Pakistan	EMOP 10491.0	Assistance to Earthquake Affected Persons	28 November 2005	300 000
D.R. Congo	SO 10466.0	Establishment of a United Nations Joint Logistics Centre in the Democratic Republic of Congo	6 December 2005	400 000
Mali	EMOP 10400.0	Assistance to Population Affected by Locust Infestation and Drought (1st advance)	14 December 2005	242 131
Mali	EMOP 10400.0	Assistance to Population Affected by Locust Infestation and Drought (1st advance)	20 December 2005	602 637
Total				63 414 104