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**Executive Board  
Second Regular Session**

**Rome, 7–11 November 2005**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Agenda item 9

*For information\**



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## DEVELOPMENT PROJECT APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2005) — DJIBOUTI 10385.0

### Promote Health and Education for Vulnerable Groups

Number of beneficiaries	36,000
Duration of project	30 months (1 July 2005–31 December 2007)
WFP food tonnage	8,250 mt
<b>Cost (United States dollars)</b>	
WFP food cost	2,548,694
Total cost to WFP	4,849,308

\* In accordance with the Executive Board's decisions on governance, approved at the Annual and Third Regular Sessions of 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 for information to the Executive Board.**

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

\* East and Central Africa Regional Bureau.



1. Djibouti, a disaster-prone low-income, food-deficit country (LIFDC) is ranked 154<sup>th</sup> out of 177 countries in the 2004 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Report. Djibouti permanently covers its food consumption gaps with large-scale imports and food aid. The gross enrolment rate in schools is significantly low – 47 percent. Gender disparity remains critical at the primary level, with parity indices for girls to boys estimated at 0.77 in towns and 0.50 in rural areas. The level of poverty continues to have negative social and economic repercussions on health, education, hygiene and nutrition. The population is estimated at 500,000, of whom an estimated 74 percent live in poverty. Infant mortality is 103 per 1,000 live births and child mortality is 124 per 1,000 live births, both very high rates; maternal mortality is estimated at 546 per 100,000 live births.
2. Djibouti's large population of poor and food-insecure people includes nomads affected by drought and chronically vulnerable groups such as people affected and infected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) patients and pregnant and lactating women. Under this project, 36,000 beneficiaries will receive food assistance; about 11,000 vulnerable people, including malnourished children under 5, will be assisted through support to social institutions. The school feeding activity will target an average of 3,800 girls and 7,100 boys at 51 primary schools in six districts. Food-for-work and food-for-training activities will target about 14,100 beneficiaries in food-insecure areas, assisted by asset-creation and income-generation activities and rehabilitation of rural infrastructure.
3. Regarding the strategy to synchronize development interventions within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2003–2007, the WFP project presents a programme of activities for 2005–2007 that ensures harmonization of the programme cycle with other United Nations agencies. The project design is based on Strategic Priorities 2, 3 and 4, and has direct links to Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1–7. The project is also based on the government's national development priorities as identified in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) and on recommendations made by the portfolio evaluation mission in April 2004, led by East and Central Africa Regional Bureau (ODK).
4. The project's objectives are to: (i) strengthen households' ability to create and preserve assets that enable them to confront food insecurity and reduce food crises; (ii) enable poor households to invest in human capital through education and training, while reducing gender disparity; (iii) contribute to the reduction of malnutrition and under-5 mortality; and (iv) support the fight against HIV/AIDS and TB.
5. Implementing and coordinating partners include the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Women's Promotion, the National Union of Djiboutian Women (UNFD), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNDP and community-based organizations (CBOs).
6. The total food requirement under this development project is 8,250 mt valued at US\$2.5 million; the total cost to WFP is US\$4.8 million.

