

Executive Board First Regular Session

Rome, 23-27 February 2004

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda item 1

For approval



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PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

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1. *Adoption of the Agenda*. Pursuant to Rule III of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board, the Executive Director hereby presents, **for approval**, the Provisional Annotated Agenda of the First Regular Session in 2004. During the session, the Board may, by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, amend the agenda by deletion, addition or modification of any item.

2. *Election of the Bureau and appointment of the Rapporteur*. In accordance with Rule IV of its Rules of Procedure, the Executive Board shall elect among the representatives of its members a President, a Vice-President and three other members (collectively designated as the Bureau), who shall hold office until their successors are elected. Each member of the Bureau shall be chosen from one of the Lists of States as defined in Appendix A to the General Regulations of WFP.

Pursuant to Rule XII, and in keeping with the established methods of work, the Board may also wish to appoint a Rapporteur from among the representatives.

3. *Current and future strategic issues.* Under this item, the Executive Director will provide, **for the Board's consideration**, an oral presentation on strategic issues facing the Programme.

4. Policy issues

a) Emergency needs assessments

At its Third Regular Session in 2003, the Executive Board discussed the importance of improving emergency needs assessments. This document describes how WFP conducts needs assessments in emergencies, reviews lessons learned, and outlines WFP's progress towards improving the quality, utility, transparency and credibility of its emergency needs assessments. The document focuses on efforts to refine methodologies, improve integration of vulnerability analysis and mapping data into emergency needs assessments, enhance market analysis capacities, train staff, strengthen partnerships and increase transparency and accountability. This document is submitted to the Board **for consideration.**

b) WFP policy on staff recruitment and geographical representation of Member States

Taking into account the observations and issues raised by members during the discussion of this topic at EB.A/2003, the Executive Director proposed, and the Board agreed, to submit at a future session a new document on the same topic. This document is submitted to the Board **for consideration.**

c) Humanitarian principles

At the Third Regular Session in 2003, the Board asked the Secretariat to clarify the humanitarian principles that guide WFP in its work. The Executive Director agreed to prepare a Statement of Humanitarian Principles for the Board's review at its First Regular Session in 2004. Drawing on international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions, important international efforts to standardize humanitarian principles and its own policies and experiences, this document proposes a Statement of Principles for the Board's approval and for incorporation in the Consolidated Framework of WFP Policies.



d) WFP report on follow-up to General Assembly resolution A/RES/56/201: Triennial Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development of the United Nations System

The First Regular Session in 2002 requested the Secretariat to produce an additional and more detailed report on the follow-up action required from the Secretariat and the Board pursuant to General Assembly Resolution. A/RES/56/201: Triennial Policy Review of Operational Activities for development of the United Nations system is submitted **for consideration**.

e) Update on WFP's response to HIV/AIDS*

As announced at the Third Regular Session in 2003, WFP officially became the ninth co-sponsor of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) on October 16, 2003. This report, **for information**, will update the Board on WFP's involvement in the United Nations system response to the pandemic.

f) <u>Information note on WFP's support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)*</u>

The Executive Board will have before it, **for information**, a note outlining priority areas of possible cooperation identified by NEPAD and WFP, together with the Memorandum of Understanding established between the two institutions on 19 November 2003.

5. Resource, financial and budgetary matters

a) Business process review (BPR): pilot financing paper

The report on BPR presents a proposal **for Board approval** of financing mechanism for BPR pilot projects and provides a summary update of all BPR work to date. BPR, which started in March 2003, addresses the inefficiencies evident in large unspent balances.

The Board will also have before it, **for information**, the comments and recommendations of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and the FAO Finance Committee.

b) Basis for calculation of indirect support costs (ISC) on ocean transport costs

This document describes the legislative requirement of the United States Government contributions to use vessels carrying the United States flag for the shipment of commodities donated by the United States and its practical implication on the cost of ocean transport of United States commodities. The document describes the agreement of the Executive Director with the United States Government for the exclusion of the premium portion of the ocean transport cost in the calculation of ISC and seeks the **Board's approval** for this decision of the Executive Director.



6. Evaluation reports

a) <u>Summary report of the thematic evaluation of the protracted relief and recovery operations (PRRO) category</u>

The PRRO category was introduced in 1998, replacing the former more restricting protracted relief operation (PRO) category for refugees and displaced persons. The new category places greater emphasis on rehabilitation and recovery. This thematic evaluation looks at the relevance and efficiency of the PRRO programming category, particularly the added value of transforming former PROs and emergency operations into PRROs. This document is submitted **for consideration**.

b) – <u>Information note on the review of the United Nations Joint Logistics Centre</u> (UNJLC) operations in Iraq*

At the request of the Surface Transport Service (OTL), a review of the Iraq UNJLC was undertaken in September 2003. This review will allow comparisons with the earlier review of the Afghanistan UNJLC and will identify lessons for future UNJLCs. This document is presented **for information**.

– <u>Information note on WFP assistance to internally displaced persons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)*</u>

The DRC evaluation was undertaken in March and April 2003. It focused on the effectiveness of WFP relief operations for 1.4 million displaced persons in the country and was based on geographical case studies that sought to capture the different realities in various parts of the country. A strongly participatory approach was adopted. This paper is presented **for information**.

Operational matters

7. Reports on operations

<u>Information note on special operations (SOs)*</u>

Following the recommendations contained in the Summary Report of the Thematic Evaluation of Special Operations (WFP/EB.3/2002/6/2) and the management response in the associated Information Note (WFP/EB.3/2002/INF/12), the Board encouraged further action. The purpose of this Information Note is (i) to inform Board Members of steps taken so far to follow up recommendations of the evaluation, (ii) to inform Board Members of the new working definition of SOs, which has been expanded to include inter-agency services, and (iii) to outline the next steps needed to further streamline the SO programme category. This note is presented **for information.**

8. Projects for Executive Board approval

a) <u>Development projects</u>

The Board will have before it, **for approval**, the following development projects exceeding the Executive Director's delegated authority:

- Benin 10308.0
- > The Gambia 10311.0



b) Protracted relief and recovery operations

The Board will have before it, **for approval**, the following PRROs exceeding the Executive Director's delegated authority:

- > Armenia 10053.1
- Cambodia 10305.0
- ➤ Indonesia 10069.1
- Nepal 10058.3
- ➤ Republic of the Congo 10312.0
- > Sudan 10122.1

9. Reports of the Executive Director on operational matters (1 July-31 December 2003)

Emergency operations approved by the Executive Director or the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO*

The Executive Board will have before it, **for information**, a document summarizing emergency operations approved by the Executive Director, or the Executive Director and the Director-General of FAO, under the authority delegated in sub-paragraph (b) of the Appendix to the General Rules.

10. Organizational and procedural matters

a) Biennial Programme of Work of the Executive Board (2004–2005)*

Further to decision 2003/EB.3/6 taken by the Board at its Third Regular Session in 2003, a revised Biennial Programme of Work (2004–2005) has been submitted to the Bureau for discussion and is hereby presented to the Board **for information.**

b) Policy on urban food security policy: operational guidelines*

During its discussion of the Urban Food Security Policy paper at the Annual Session in 2002, the Board requested that the Secretariat provide guidelines for implementing the policy at a future session. A paper containing those guidelines will be presented to the Executive Board **for information.**

c) Policy on foods derived from biotechnology: operational guidelines*

At its Annual Session in May 2003, the Board took note of the WFP policy on donations of foods derived from biotechnology as set out in documents WFP/EB.3/2002/4-C and WFP/EB.A/2003/5-B/Rev.1. The Secretariat was requested to submit to the Board, **for information**, the operational guidelines for implementation of the policy. This document takes into account comments on the draft operational guidelines provided by FAO, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization.

d) Information Note on WFP security upgrade programme*

At its Third Regular Session in 2003, the Executive Board authorized the Executive Director to allot up to US\$20 million from the PSA Equalization Account to cover one-time costs for security upgrades in WFP's offices (Decision 2003/EB.3/6 i)); the Secretariat expressed its intention to update the Board on this important topic at its First Regular Session in 2004. This document is submitted **for information.**



11. Summary of the work of the Third Regular Session of the Executive Board, 2003. In accordance with the Executive Board's decision at its Second Regular Session in 1996 on its methods of work, the Summary of the Work of the Third Regular Session of 2003 will be submitted for endorsement.

12. *Other business.* The following subject will be addressed under this item:

Report on the joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP

Representatives and the Executive Director may wish to raise further matters of interest to the Executive Board.

13. *Verification of adopted decisions and recommendations.* The Executive Board will have before it a draft document containing all decisions and recommendations taken at its current session, for verification of their accuracy.

^{*}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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