

برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي



Programme
Alimentaire
Mondial

World
Food
Programme

Programa
Mundial
de Alimentos

**Executive Board
Second Regular Session**

Rome, 2–3 June 2003

INFORMATION NOTES



Distribution: GENERAL
WFP/EB.2/2003/INF/6
30 April 2003
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COUNTRY PROGRAMME APPROVAL PROCEDURE

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>).

BACKGROUND

1. In October 2002, WFP's Executive Board approved the harmonized procedure for country programme approval (WFP/EB.3/2002/4-B), whereby draft country programmes will be presented to only one Executive Board session per year — the Second Regular Session, in June — and later, at the Third Regular Session, approved on a “no-objection” basis, i.e. discussed prior to approval only if five Board members request it in writing.
2. One of the key proposals is to have country programme approval take place at the Third Regular Session of the Executive Board, in October of the same year that the draft country programme is presented, for consideration, rather than at the First Regular Session of the following year. This is crucial because WFP's WINGS system activates budgets only after Executive Board approval, so approval in February at the First Regular Session would delay implementation of the programmes' activities.
3. To prepare for activation of budgets, it is suggested that WINGS register budgets after discussion and endorsement of the draft country programmes. This would facilitate programming of resources and assist pipeline planning and management.
4. The country programme approval procedure was approved by the Bureau of the Board at its meeting of 27 March 2003. The Bureau recommended that the present document, which outlines those procedures, be presented to the Board *for information*.

PROCEDURE FOR NO-OBJECTION APPROVAL OF COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENTS

5. The points below indicate the steps involved in the country programme approval process, taking into account the time required for country offices to revise and finalize documents and for the Secretariat to deal with editing and translating them.
 - i) Draft country programme documents for consideration by the Executive Board will be presented every year at the Second Regular Session, in June.
 - ii) By mid-July, country offices will finalize the country programme documents for approval. The Secretariat will post them on WFP's website by early August.
 - iii) Country programme budgets will be registered in WINGS immediately after the Second Regular Session, in June, so that the Programming Service (ODP) can programme resources and prepare to call commodities forward.
 - iv) The finalized country programme documents will be taken up for discussion at the Third Regular Session only if five Board members request it in writing by 20 September. Requests must be addressed to the Secretary of the Executive Board, with a copy to the Board's President.
 - v) A draft decision listing the country programmes to be approved on a no-objection basis will be prepared for adoption by the Board at its Third Regular Session.



6. A suggested text for this draft decision is:

According to the procedure established by the Bureau of the Board in March 2003, and since no discussion was requested by members of the Board, the following country programmes were approved on a no-objection basis:

Country (Name)	Programme cycle (Start date/end date)	Total value/tonnage (US\$/mt)
---------------------------	--	--

