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de Alimentos

**Executive Board  
Third Regular Session**

**Rome, 23 - 26 October 2000**

# REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS

## Agenda item 9

### *For information*



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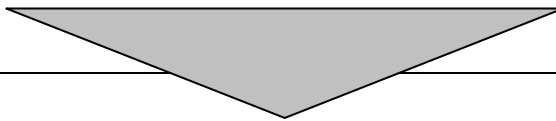
## PROTRACTED RELIEF AND RECOVERY OPERATION APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (1 JANUARY–30 JUNE 2000)— PALESTINIAN TERRITORY (GAZA STRIP AND WEST BANK) 6214.00

### Support to Special Hardship Cases

<b>Number of beneficiaries</b>	<b>104,000</b>
<b>Females:</b>	<b>54,000</b>
<b>Males:</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>Duration of project</b>	Twelve months (1 May 2000–30 April 2001)
<b>Cost (United States dollars)</b>	
WFP food cost	2,726,020
Total cost to WFP	4,752,325

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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 point indicated below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting.

Senior Liaison Officer, Middle East    Mr P. Turnbull    tel.: 066513-2800  
and North Africa Region (OMN):

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Supervisor, Meeting Servicing and Distribution Unit (tel.: 066513-2328).



1. The Palestinian Territory (Gaza Strip and the West Bank) is classified by the United Nations “as if” a least developed country (LDC). Around a quarter of the population live below the poverty line. The protracted economic crisis is severely affecting the most vulnerable groups: households headed by women, the disabled, the elderly and people living in institutions. These groups are food-insecure because of their weak purchasing power and limited coping mechanisms. There is a large population of poor and food-insecure people of the Palestinian Territory who need relief assistance; they can be identified through the Ministry of Social Affairs (MSA). Although the MSA has an infrastructure capable of reaching the poorest, its resources are insufficient to ensure food security for these groups. Most of the institutions for disadvantaged groups are run by NGOs but their funding has fallen sharply. External support is required in the transition period. WFP food assistance has already proved to be an effective means of maintaining the food security status of the poorest people in the Territory.
2. The objective of this protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) is to ensure that basic humanitarian food needs are met for the support of special hardship cases in the Palestinian Territory, who are unable to subsist in the context of the prevailing unstable economic and political environment. The key components of the PRRO are: targeted food distributions to special hardship cases in Gaza Strip and West Bank (100,000 people) implemented through the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Palestinian Authority; and food distributions implemented through selected NGO-operated institutions for the handicapped, orphans and abandoned children (4,000 people). Of the 104,000 people targeted around 52 percent are female and 48 percent male.
3. WFP will be responsible for transport and delivery of its food commodities to the distribution centres of MSA and to the institutions run by the NGOs. As the Palestinian Territory is treated “as if an LDC”, it qualifies for the full internal transport, storage and handling (ITSH) subsidy.
4. The continuation of WFP assistance to special hardship cases was included in WFP’s Strategy Outline, which was endorsed by the Executive Board in 1999. The United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories provides overall guidance and facilitates coordination among United Nations programmes in the Palestinian Territory.

