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**Executive Board
First Regular Session
Rome, 21 - 23 January 1997**

PROTRACTED REFUGEE AND DISPLACED PERSON PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Agenda item 9 c)



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PROJECT YEMEN 5771

(WIS No. YEM 0577100)

Food assistance for Somali refugees

Duration of project	Twelve months
Number of beneficiaries	8 000
Total food cost	600 770 dollars
Total cost to WFP	1 058 512 dollars

All monetary values are expressed in United States dollars.

For relevant statistical data, please consult the WFP country profile for Yemen, which is available on request.

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NOTE TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

This document is submitted for information to the Executive Board.

Pursuant to the decisions taken on the methods of work by the Executive Board at its First Regular Session of 1996, the documentation prepared by the Secretariat for the Board has been kept brief and decision-oriented. The meetings of the Executive Board are to be conducted in a business-like manner, with increased dialogue and exchanges between delegations and the Secretariat. Efforts to promote these guiding principles will continue to be pursued by the Secretariat.

The Secretariat therefore invites members of the Board who may have questions of a technical nature with regard to this document, to contact the WFP staff member(s) listed below, preferably well in advance of the Board's meeting. This procedure is designed to facilitate the Board's consideration of the document in the plenary.

The WFP focal points for this document are:

Regional Director M. Hammam tel.: 5228-2208

Desk Officer: L. Echeopar tel.: 5228-2326

Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 5228-2641).



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1. This protracted refugee and displaced person project (PRO), which is based on the joint local assessment mission carried out by WFP and UNHCR in February 1996, will provide assistance to 8,000 Somali refugees over a period of 12 months, from 1 May 1996 to 30 April 1997.
 2. WFP assistance for Somali refugees in Yemen started in January 1992, under emergency operation (EMOP) No. 4954. As the situation did not improve in Somalia, two extensions in time, to the end of April 1996, were approved by the Executive Director.
 3. Since the situation in Somalia is not expected to change significantly enough to allow for large-scale repatriation, the Government of the Republic of Yemen has requested WFP to continue its assistance for a further 12 months to meet the requirements of 8,000 Somali refugees, located at the camp of Al-Gaheen, in a semi-arid plain in the southern part of the country. Women and children account for 54 percent of the camp population.
 4. The objectives of this PRO are to:
 - a) ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of the Somali refugee population in Yemen are met, in particular their nutritional requirements; and
 - b) contribute to increasing the degree of self-reliance and empowerment of women, pending the achievement of a durable solution.

To this end, women are being encouraged to participate in the camp task force committees, including the task force on food distribution, and in benefit-sharing arrangements in productive and income-generating activities. To allow for efficient management and close monitoring of the operation, WFP will base one field monitor in Aden, within the UNHCR office. Special emphasis will be placed on the verification of beneficiary figures and on ensuring that there is effective improvement in the condition of the women refugees, and that this improvement is properly accounted for in the progress reports.

