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Mundial  
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**Executive Board  
Third Regular Session**

**Rome, 19 - 22 October 1998**

# **REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON OPERATIONAL MATTERS**

**Agenda item 9**



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## **BASIC ACTIVITY WITHIN APPROVED COUNTRY PROGRAMME—GHANA 5995.00**

### **Assistance to girls' education in northern Savannah areas (Basic Activity 2)**

Total food cost	2,740,092 dollars
Total cost to WFP	4,683,251 dollars
Total cost to Government	858,668 dollars
Number of beneficiaries	97,200 girl students
Duration	Five years

All monetary values are expressed in United States dollars.

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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. Zejjari tel.: 066513-2201

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Should you have any questions regarding matters of dispatch of documentation for the Executive Board, please contact the Documentation and Meetings Clerk (tel.: 066513-2641).



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1. The Country Programme for Ghana was approved by the Executive Board at its Third Regular Session in October 1997. Assistance to girls' education in Ghana's Northern Savannah areas, covering a period of five years, is included in the Country Programme as Basic Activity No. 2. The girls' education component of the core programme is a new activity due to start in October 1998.
  2. This activity targets Ghana's Northern Savannah areas which have the highest levels of food insecurity and poverty and the lowest enrolment rate for girls. WFP assistance aims at supporting the Government's efforts for attaining universal basic education, by enhancing the participation of girls in the above-mentioned areas and thus contributing to developing the area's human resource potential.
  3. The provision of a monthly ration to girls will serve as an incentive for parents to enrol their daughters in school, encourage their regular attendance and retain them once enrolled. Food assistance will serve as an income transfer to the beneficiary households and will complement the family's food intake. Food assistance will also acquire added value during the dry season, when agricultural production is low and the drop-out rate for girls is highest.
  4. During the five years of the activity's duration, WFP will supply 8,748 tons of food commodities (cereals and vegetable oil) to 97,200 girls, for an average of 19,440 girls a year. Food assistance will be distributed as take-home rations to girls attending at least 85 percent of the classes in the selected schools in the three areas. An initial training will be provided to educational officials, including girl-child officers, who will be involved in the project. Training will be conducted by the WFP country office in collaboration with Catholic Relief Services, which has experience in this area.

