

Executive Board Third Regular Session

Rome, 22-26 October 2001

INFORMATION NOTES

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE— SUDAN PRO 04168.5 AND PRRO 06189.0 (WIS nos. 4168.05 and 6189.00)

This document should be read in conjunction with the document "Summary Report of the Evaluation of Sudan PRO 04168.5 and PRRO 06189.0" (WFP/EB.3/2001/6/3).

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RE	COMMENDATION	ACTION OFFICER/ UNIT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE			
Implementation environment						
>	UNHCR and WFP should update the number of beneficiaries in the refugee camps through a joint census; the new master list should be shared between UNHCR, WFP and the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees (COR).	WFP and UNHCR country offices	Joint UNHCR-WFP-COR meetings were held to agree on implementation procedures and the time frame for an exchange of ration cards. Such an exercise would provide the basic information to run a project effectively within a shorter period. The first phase of this activity started on 25 August 2001 at Girba refugee camp, where 9,426 individuals (1,886 families) were verified against an original figure of 10,211 individuals.			
Со	Coordination and Partnership Arrangements					
>	UNHCR/COR should consider abolishing the practice of requesting refugees to pay food distribution (porters, scoopers) and water supply service fees.	UNHCR country office and COR	WFP and UNHCR are seeking the best way to abolish the practice of refugees paying for food distribution, and discussing a proposal that WFP provide food-for-work for scoopers while UNHCR provide food transport costs from EDPs to FDPs. WFP is currently paying for unloading at EDPs.			
>	With UNHCR funding, new temporary ration cards should be issued immediately in camps without repatriation under the reaffirmed tripartite agreement between Eritrea, the Sudan and UNHCR, until September 2001; in other camps, this should be done after the first repatriation.	UNHCR country office	Exchange of cards started in August at Girba as a pilot project and will continue in camps where repatriation is temporarily suspended and where access is possible during the rains. Other camps will be catered for in Phase II, after the rainy season.			
>	Finalize and sign as soon as possible the Letter of Understanding (LOU) between WFP and COR on warehouse management and repairs and maintenance.	WFP country office and COR	A draft LOU has been submitted to COR; WFP is awaiting a response.			
>	Examine the possibility of transferring responsibility from UNHCR to WFP for transport of all basic food commodities from EDPs and for final distribution.	WFP Headquarters (OHA), WFP country office, UNHCR Headquarters and country office	The Programme is hoping to transfer from UNHCR to WFP responsibility for transport and final distribution of all basic food commodities through the current review of the WFP-UNHCR memorandum of understanding (MOU). This process is expected to take some time, however, because a number of issues are being raised and there is a need for extensive negotiations with UNHCR.			
			WFP senior managers in Khartoum will discuss this matter with WFP Headquarters in Rome.			



RECOMMENDATION		ACTION OFFICER/ UNIT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
\(\rightarrow\)	Conclude a tripartite WFP-UNHCR-COR agreement on distribution modalities and responsibilities for reporting on distribution and use of food commodities.	WFP and UNHCR country offices and COR	A draft tripartite agreement defining the roles of the three parties in enabling smooth implementation of the refugee food programme in the Sudan is yet to be agreed on by stakeholders. The existing bipartite agreement between WFP and COR needs to be reinforced by the tripartite agreement.
>	WFP and UNHCR should undertake a new socio- economic survey through an international consultancy.	WFP and UNHCR country offices	During the recent Joint Food Assessment Mission (JFAM), a consultant socio-economist assisted in drafting the terms of reference to ensure that basic socio-economic data to run a programme effectively was available. The JFAM took place from 25 June to 8 July 2001.
>	WFP and UNHCR should institutionalize regular exchanges of policy papers and agreements with the Government at the Khartoum level.	WFP and UNHCR country offices	Exchange of information is currently taking place: draft documents are circulated to partner agencies for comment before completion.
>	Resume joint WFP-UNHCR camp visits.	WFP and UNHCR country and sub offices	Joint WFP-UNHCR camp visits have been resumed.
>	Upgrade and fill the WFP post of head of sub-office, Showak as soon as possible.	WFP country office	A head of the sub-office has been identified and is awaiting completion of procedures.
>	WFP should prepare an expansion phase of PRRO 06189.0 that should take into account the possibility that actual repatriation rates may differ from UNHCR planning figures.	WFP country office	This document is being compiled; a contingency plan has been incorporated with two scenarios for implementation.
>	A joint WFP-UNHCR-COR food needs assessment should be conducted at an early date.	WFP and UNHCR country offices and COR	A JFAM was conducted from 25 June to 8 July 2001.
\(\rightarrow\)	Define an approach to care for vulnerable Eritreans who will stay beyond the coming cessation clause.	WFP and UNHCR country offices and COR	Once a cessation clause is effected, UNHCR will determine the number of vulnerable Eritreans who will continue to be of concern to UNHCR. The next step will be to inform WFP of the size of this group for continued food assistance pending a solution. Those screened out by UNHCR will cease to be of concern to either UNHCR or WFP.



RE	COMMENDATION	ACTION OFFICER/ UNIT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE		
Project Implementation					
>	Increase to at least 15 percent the compensation rate for cereal losses during milling and for feeding that is paid by refugees.	WFP country office, regional office and Headquarters	The current full cereal ration of 500 g per person per day includes 10-percent compensation for milling losses. Because refugees would not pay fees as recommended by the evaluation mission, it is not advisable to increase the ration.		
>	Continue training refugee women in improving the utilization of peas.	WFP country office	This programme continues; 3,200 refugee women have been trained since the evaluation mission.		
A	Harmonize as far as possible all WFP and UNHCR assistance to refugees to prevent utilization of food aid as compensation for lack of other assistance.	WFP and UNHCR country offices	The proposed tripartite agreement will highlight the roles of the three stakeholders, which will help to identify areas requiring action. Under normal circumstances, a well-balanced food basket coupled with adequate supply of non-food items would halt the exchange of food for other items.		
>	Conduct an extensive food economy survey in all the camps to identify vulnerable refugees so that targeting can be justified.	WFP and UNHCR country offices	The recent JFAM examined refugee vulnerability and identified indicators for targeting.		
>	The responsible organizations should ensure that essential drugs are made available to refugees at all times.	UNHCR country office and COR	UNHCR procures essential drugs internationally and locally. An international procurement of drugs amounting to US\$150,000 has already been put in place. Last year's order is currently available for use in the refugee camps.		
A	Examine the effects on the health of refugees consuming water of significant salinity and those drinking untreated water as a result of interruptions to camp water supplies.	UNHCR country office	There are no noticeable health hazards from consumption of water reported as significantly saline. The COR has been entrusted with treatment of refugees' water; a budget has been provided.		
>	Increase the supplementary feeding ration (SFP) closer to the agreed range of 1,000-1,200 kcal in accordance with UNHCR/WFP guidelines.	WFP country office	The SFP ration has been revised to 1,017 kcal; implementation will be effective as of September 2001.		
>	Determine the nutritional status of nursing mothers through their body-mass index or mid-upper-arm circumference to decide on the need for continued provision of SFP.	UNHCR country office	UNHCR and its partners continue to determine nutritional status to assist with continued provision of SFP.		
>	Increase the food ration during the remaining months of PRRO 06189.0 to the level of the previous PRO 04168.5, to prevent rising malnutrition rates.	WFP country office	This recommendation was implemented as of June 2001.		

ACTION OFFICER/



RE	COMMENDATION	ACTION OFFICER/ UNIT	MANAGEMENT RESPONSE			
>	Monitor the nutritional status of older children and women in camps where no full rations are provided.	UNHCR country office	UNHCR and its partners continue to monitor the nutritional status of women and children.			
>	Continuously monitor beneficiaries' length of stay in the SFP and changes in admission rates in order to assess the effectiveness of the feeding programme and detect any deterioration in nutritional status.	UNHCR country office	This is a continuous process undertaken by UNHCR in all refugee camps in the Sudan.			
>	Examine food-for-work project possibilities (e.g. environmental rehabilitation) under the new PRRO 6189.01.	WFP country office	Discussions are under way with UNHCR to see how best to collaborate in this area.			
Мо	Monitoring					
>	Use height and weight data of children under 5 for monthly assessments of the nutritional status in all camps to detect changes, take timely and appropriate action and prevent duplication of data collection.	UNHCR and WFP country offices	WFP and UNHCR will start to use the available data to address this issue.			
>	WFP and UNHCR should jointly undertake nutrition monitoring. Information should be shared and followed up by coordinated action.	UNHCR and WFP country offices	Information is gathered from NGOs implementing SFP in the camps and shared with both agencies.			
Tar	Targeting					
\(\rightarrow\)	To ensure that the most needy families are reached through targeting, consultation should take place with all parties to discuss the underlying rationale and assess the acceptability and consequences of this food-distribution system.	WFP and UNHCR country offices and COR	The issue of vulnerability was reviewed during the JFAM, with the community playing a key role in determining indicators of vulnerability. Based on findings, two scenarios were developed for targeting the most vulnerable within each camp and distributing food.			
Des	Design					
>	Apply the logframe approach to elaboration of the new PRRO 6189.01 document, in order to provide clear implementation guidance and facilitate monitoring and evaluation.	WFP country office	The logframe has been used in developing the draft of the new project document.			