Executive Board Bureau

President: H.E. Béatrice Damiba (Burkina Faso)
Vice-President: Mr. Nils Arne Kastberg (Sweden)
Member: H.E. Juan Nuiry Sánchez (Cuba)
Member: Mr. Atul Sinha (India)
Member: Ms. Mariann Kovács (Hungary)

Rapporteur: Ms. Ginette Saint-Cyr (Canada)

* Please note that only the numbers of the decisions and recommendations have been changed to specify the Session to which they refer. No modifications have been made to the text.

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Agenda
The Executive Board adopted the agenda as proposed in document WFP/EB.2/96/1. It decided to discuss the agenda items according to the following sequence: 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 5, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 (see Annex I).

22 May 1996

Appointment of the Rapporteur
The Board appointed Ms. Ginette Saint-Cyr (Canada) as Rapporteur of the Second Regular Session and the Annual Session.

22 May 1996

1996/EB.2/1 Methods of work of the Executive Board
The Board wished to develop new methods of work as it deemed necessary and useful, with a view to codifying them in new Rules of Procedures after a suitable period of application.

The Board adopted, on that basis, the following methods of work:

a) Avoid all pro forma statements. To that end, it was proposed that the item entitled “Statements” be deleted from Board agendas. If a special guest is invited to address the Board, he/she should make a contribution to a specific agenda item.

b) Avoid prepared speeches from members of the Board. The Board should adopt an open dialogue that encourages a free exchange of ideas.

c) Following the discussion of an item, agree on the decision or recommendation the Board adopts in regard to that item. The decision and/or recommendation may contain a brief commentary of a background nature.

d) At the end of the session, a paper containing all decisions and/or recommendations be provided to the Board’s members, who will verify its accuracy on the understanding that the debate is not to be reopened. The title of the relevant agenda item will be changed to read: “Verification of the adopted decisions and recommendations”.

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e) A brief summary of the work at the meeting will be sent by the President to all members of the Board. The document will be prepared by the Rapporteur and discussed by the members of the Bureau, who will ensure the report is balanced and faithfully reflects the spirit of the debate. Bureau members are responsible for consulting with their respective regional groups. This document will be endorsed by the Board at its first subsequent session.

f) Each document to include the names of the officers responsible, to facilitate any clarification needed in advance of the session, thus allowing the Board to focus discussions on strategic issues and adoption of decisions and/or recommendations.

g) Country Directors, Regional Bureau Managers and national experts discussing projects/programmes to limit their interventions to clarifying statements and providing additional information that may not have been available at the time of preparation of the relevant documentation.

h) The Board agreed to the seating of the observer delegation of the Commission of the European Community (CEC) at the Executive Board table, on the understanding that this would be a provisional arrangement, that all observer delegations be enabled to have proper access to Executive Board Room facilities, and that this decision would not modify the observer status of the CEC delegation.

22 May 1996

1996/EB.2/2 Evaluation of protracted refugee and displaced person projects

The Executive Board took note of the evaluation reports on the following protracted refugee and displaced person projects contained in the report by the Executive Director:

a) Mozambique 4164 (Exp.4) - Displaced persons affected by food shortages and civil strife in Mozambique (document WFP/EB.2/96/6-A/Add.2); and

b) Bangladesh 5329 - Evaluation of WFP assistance to refugees from Myanmar in Bangladesh and for their reinstallation in Myanmar (document WFP/EB.2/96/6-A/Add.1).

The Board recommended that the Secretariat integrate the recommendations and lessons learned in its future work in situations of refugees and internally displaced persons.

22 May 1996
1996/EB.2/3  Evaluation work plan 1996-97

The Executive Board, having considered WFP’s evaluation work plan for the 1996-97 biennium (document WFP/EB.2/96/6-B), endorsed its general thrust.

22 May 1996

1996/EB.2/4  Country Strategy Outlines - General discussion

The Board decided that Country Strategy Outlines (CSOs) be submitted at its sessions to enable it to provide guidance and recommendations on their envisaged strategies. It also decided the following:

a) that the Secretariat should provide at each regular session a list of planned CSOs and Country Programmes (CPs); and

b) that CSOs and CPs should be prepared only for those countries whose anticipated level of assistance warranted such a programming effort.

22 May 1996

1996/EB.2/5  Country Strategy Outline - Mauritania

The Board took note of the CSO proposed for Mauritania (document WFP/EB.2/96/7/Add.2) and requested the Secretariat to take into account its comments and suggestions in the formulation of the CP.

22 May 1996

1996/EB.2/6  Country Strategy Outline - Mozambique

The Board took note of the CSO proposed for Mozambique (document WFP/EB.2/96/7/Add.3) and requested the Secretariat to take into account its comments and suggestions in the formulation of the CP.

22 May 1996

1996/EB.2/7  Country Strategy Outline - Colombia

The Board took note of the CSO for Colombia (document WFP/EB.2/96/7/Add.1). It recommended that the Secretariat not proceed with the formulation of a CP, but rather implement the ongoing programme along the lines of the CSO.

22 May 1996

1996/EB.2/8  Country Programmes

The Board provided the following preliminary recommendations on the subject of the format of CPs:
a) Such documents should provide evidence of joint programming by the United Nations system agencies, host governments and bilateral donors.

b) They should include a longer-term perspective of the Programme, and propose options and alternatives.

c) They should demonstrate an integrated approach, taking into account Country Strategy Notes (CSNs), government plans and other agency programmes.

23 May 1996

1996/EB.2/9 Country Programme - Pakistan

The Board decided to defer consideration of the Pakistan Country Programme to its Third Regular Session in October 1996.

23 May 1996

1996/EB.2/10 Development project proposals for Executive Board approval - Introduction

In its discussions of the development projects before it for approval, the Board decided the following, which should apply to all proposed development projects:

a) Project documents should contain basic data on the economic and social conditions of beneficiary countries.

b) At the beginning of each session at which development projects are presented for approval, the Secretariat should provide a situation report including the outstanding balance of WFP commitments, the total requirements of the new development projects being presented, and the amount of resources available for development projects overall. A table summarizing such information should clearly show the differences between the availability and the commitment of resources and highlight any possible shortfalls. This situation report also needed to reflect the total level of commitments as well as projected resource allocations for LIFDCs and non-LIFDCs.

c) With regard to school feeding projects, the Board recommended that WFP and the Government should jointly develop a plan for the gradual take-over of project activities by the national authorities to ensure their sustainability. To further ensure such sustainability, the Board recommended that these projects involve government, relevant United Nations agencies and local communities to a maximum extent. The Board considered that a balance was required between support to school feeding, on the one hand, and the strengthening of household food security, on the other.

23 May 1996
1996/EB.2/11 Development project proposal for Executive Board approval - Cape Verde 2394 (Exp.5)

The Board approved development project Cape Verde 2394 (Exp.5) - Assistance to a school canteen programme (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-A/Add.2). It recommended the following:

a) The monitoring and evaluation system should be strengthened.

b) Joint programming with other United Nations agencies should be reinforced.

c) Local fresh fish consumption should be encouraged in order to avoid importing canned fish.

d) The Government should gradually assume a larger share of the ITSH costs.

e) WFP and the Government should jointly develop a plan for the gradual take-over of project activities by the national authorities to ensure their sustainability.

23 May 1996

1996/EB.2/12 Development project proposal for Executive Board approval - Niger 2445 (Exp.4)

The Board approved development project Niger 2445 (Exp.4) - Food aid to primary schools in nomad and transhumant areas (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-A/Add.5). It recommended the following:

a) WFP and the national authorities should jointly develop quantifiable targets to monitor project achievements, particularly the attendance of girls.

b) Local and sub-regional food purchases and processing should be encouraged.

c) WFP and the Government should take specific measures to enhance the enrolment of girls.

d) WFP and the Government should jointly develop a plan for the gradual take-over of project activities by the national authorities to ensure their sustainability.

23 May 1996

1996/EB.2/13 Development project proposal for Executive Board approval - China 5652

The Board approved development project China 5652 - Northeast Sichuan integrated agricultural development project (WFP/IFAD) (document WFP/EB.2/5-A/Add.3). It recommended the following:
a) WFP and the Government should jointly establish, in consultation with IFAD, a strategy and a plan for a gradual increase of the investments in project activities by the national authorities with a view to long-term sustainability.

b) The best possible use should be made of technical support provided by the partners in this project.

23 May 1996

1996/EB.2/14 Development project proposal for Executive Board approval - Viet Nam 5322

The Board approved development project Viet Nam 5322 - Smallholder forestry development in five provinces of northeast Viet Nam (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-A/Add.6). It recommended that WFP adjust its deliveries to the prevailing resource position of the Programme.

23 May 1996

1996/EB.2/15 Development project proposal for Executive Board approval - Cuba 5686

The Board approved development project Cuba 5686 - Agricultural production for food security in Granma province (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-A/Add.4). It recommended the following:

a) A strong, independent monitoring system, including a key monitoring role for WFP, was needed.

b) Peasant farm communities should participate fully through appropriate training and an equitable access to project credit funds.

c) A realistic assessment should be made of the project’s absorptive capacity, taking into account, in addition, WFP’s overall resource availabilities.

23 May 1996

1996/EB.2/16 Budget increases for projects approved earlier, for Executive Board approval - Sudan 531 (Exp.2)

The Board approved the proposed increase in the budget of development project Sudan 531 (Exp.2) - Assistance to primary and secondary boarding-schools (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-B/Add.3).

24 May 1996
1996/EB.2/17  Budget increases for projects approved earlier, for Executive Board approval - Haiti 4111

The Board approved the proposed increase in the budget of development project Haiti 4111 - WFP support for school canteens in north and north-east Haiti (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-B/Add.1). It agreed to a one-year extension in time of the project until October 1998. Strengthening of WFP management oversight was recommended.

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/18  Budget increases for projects approved earlier, for Executive Board approval - Morocco 2288 (Exp.4)

The Board took note of an Information Note on project Morocco 2288 (Exp.4) - Plan for WFP phase-out from school feeding programme (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-B/Add.2).

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/19  Projects approved by the Executive Director - Senegal 5655

The Board took note of the approval of development project Senegal 5655 - Community nutrition (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-C/Add.1) by the Executive Director. It recommended the following:

a) WFP should control the quality of blended food produced by community groups.

b) Sustainability of the project should be ensured to allow for continuation of project activities after donors’ phase-out.

c) An alternative to monetization for the financing of local commodity purchases should be explored.

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/20  Budget increases approved by the Executive Director, 1 July - 31 December 1995

The Board took note of the information provided in the report on budget increases approved by the Executive Director (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-D).

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/21  Progress reports on approved projects

The Board took note of the progress reports on the following approved projects submitted by the Executive Director:
China 3923 - Soil and water conservation works in Luliang prefecture, Shanxi province (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-E/Add.1)

Colombia 2740 (Exp.1) - Support to socio-economic activities and environmental protection in indigenous communities (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-E/Add.2)

Guatemala 2581 (Exp.1) - Promotion and establishment of women’s associative enterprises in rural areas (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-E/Add.3)

Peru 4512 - Integrated support for the peri-urban sector in Peru (document WFP/EB.2/96/5-E/Add.4)

Specifically, with regard to project Guatemala 2581 (Exp.1), the Board requested to be informed at an appropriate future session on issues concerning the sustainability of the project and on the provision of timely and adequate technical and financial support of the recipient government to strengthen the implementation of the project.

Referring to project Peru 4512, the Board felt that an evaluation to assess its achievements should facilitate the establishment of a mechanism to permit its continuation after the termination of WFP assistance.

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/22 Losses of commodities after delivery to recipient countries

The Board took note of the report on losses of commodities after delivery to recipient countries for the period 1 October 1994 - 30 September 1995 (document WFP/EB.2/96/9) and congratulated the Secretariat on the comprehensive and informative document. The Board recommended that WFP continue to be vigilant and make every effort to minimize the incidence of losses. It also stressed the importance of continued collaboration on commodity management issues between WFP, recipient governments and other implementing partners.

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/23 Protracted refugee and displaced person projects approved by the Executive Director during the period 1 July - 31 December 1995

The Executive Board took note of the approval by the Executive Director, under her delegated authority, of three projects (document WFP/EB.2/96/4-A):

a) Burkina Faso 5702 - Assistance to Tuareg refugees in Burkina Faso (document WFP/EB.2/96/4-A/Add.1);
The Board recommended that the possibility of a regional approach be explored in responding to the needs of Tuareg refugees in Burkina Faso and Mauritania - currently covered under two separate operations.

b) Cambodia 5483 (Exp.1) - 1995 programme for rehabilitation in Cambodia (document WFP/EB.2/96/4-A/Add.2);

The Board noted with satisfaction ongoing activities in support of the rehabilitation process. It was informed that a longer-term 18-month operation would be submitted for its approval in October 1996.

c) Sri Lanka 5346 (Exp.2) - Assistance to displaced persons (document WFP/EB.2/96/4-A/Add.3)

The Board recommended that consideration of the provision of further assistance to displaced persons in the north and east of Sri Lanka be preceded by an assessment mission.

The Board also recommended that new projects approved by the Executive Director between the end of the reporting period and the time of the Executive Board’s session be announced in the Secretariat’s introductory statement.

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/24 Budget increases for protracted refugee and displaced person projects approved by the Executive Director within her delegated authority during the period 1 July - 31 December 1995

The Executive Board took note of the approval of budget increases for the protracted refugee and displaced person projects contained in the report by the Executive Director (document WFP/EB.2/96/4-B):

a) Kenya 4961 (Exp.1) - Somali, Ethiopian and Sudanese refugees

b) Sudan 4168 (Exp.3) - Eritrean refugees

c) Uganda 4171 (Exp.4) - Sudanese refugees

d) Algeria 4155 (Exp.5) - Western Saharan refugees

e) Iran 4161 (Exp.3) - Iraqi refugees

f) Mauritania 5413 (Exp.1) - Malian refugees

The Board recommended that budget increases under existing operations approved by the Executive Director between the end of the reporting period and the time of the Executive Board’s session be announced in the Secretariat’s introductory statement.

24 May 1996
1996/EB.2/25  Emergency operations

The Board took note of the review of emergency activities in 1995 and commended the Secretariat for its performance as reflected in document WFP/EB.2/96/3, recognizing, in particular, its strategic approach to emergencies. It emphasized the importance of continuing activities aimed at preventing and preparing for crises.

The Board encouraged the Secretariat to further strengthen activities for improving emergency management, including food pipeline management and communications/transport systems. The importance of evaluation of emergency operations and incorporating lessons learned in operations design processes was also emphasized.

It urged the Secretariat to continue its work on Memoranda of Understanding at present under negotiation with various partners, with a view to early finalization.

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/26  Configuration of the Executive Board Room for the Annual Session

In response to the Executive Director's presentation of several options of seating arrangements and the number of seats to be provided for members and observers, the Board decided the following:

a) to maintain the round-table arrangement for both regular and annual sessions;

b) to increase the room capacity for the observers; and

c) to maintain the current modalities of registration of delegates.

24 May 1996

1996/EB.2/27  World Food Summit

The Board recommended that the WFP Secretariat continue its commendable efforts in contributing to the preparation of the World Food Summit. It also recommended that WFP be active in the follow-up to the World Food Summit.

24 May 1996


The Board took note of the Government of Kenya's formal communication that official food aid for direct distribution would be exempt from import duty and ad valorem tax, on a shipment-by-shipment basis, and of the up-to-date information provided on that subject during its debate.
It called on the Government to process requests for the import of food aid promptly. The Board recommended that project implementation could proceed once the Government, representatives of major food aid donors to Kenya and WFP officials had agreed that the condition established by the CFA at its Fortieth Session had been met.

24 May 1996
ANNEX I

AGENDA

 Adoption of the agenda (provisional agenda item 1)
 Appointment of the Rapporteur(s) (provisional agenda item 2)
 Evaluation and terminal reports (provisional agenda item 6)
  a) Evaluations of protracted refugee and displaced person projects
  b) Evaluation work plan 1996-97

 Country Strategy Outlines (provisional agenda item 7)

 Country Programmes (provisional agenda item 8)

 Development projects (provisional agenda item 5)
  a) Development project proposals for Executive Board approval
  b) Budget increases for projects approved earlier, for Executive Board approval
  c) Reports submitted by the Executive Director - Projects approved by the 
     Executive Director, 1 July - 31 December 1995
  d) Reports submitted by the Executive Director - Budget increases approved by 
     the Executive Director, 1 July - 31 December 1995
  e) Reports submitted by the Executive Director - Progress reports on approved 
     projects

 Emergency operations (provisional agenda item 3)

 Protracted refugee and displaced person projects (provisional agenda item 4)
  a) Projects approved by the Executive Director, 1 July - 31 December 1995
  b) Budget increases approved by the Executive Director, 1 July - 
     31 December 1995

 Commodity losses (provisional agenda item 9)

 Other business (provisional agenda item 10)

 Verification of the adopted decisions and recommendations (provisional agenda item 11)
# ANNEX II

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<td>- Mauritania</td>
<td>7/Add.2 + Corr.1 (French only)</td>
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<td>Country Programme Pakistan</td>
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<td>Losses of commodities</td>
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**Other documents**

- Information for participants: INF/1
- Note for participants: INF/1/Add.1
- Provisional timetable: INF/2
- Revised check list of documents: INF/3/Rev.1
- Annual Progress Report: INF/4
- Revised list of participants: INF/5/Rev.1
- Offices and telephone numbers: INF/6
- Methods of work of the Executive Board: INF/7
- Information note on project Sudan 4168 (Exp.4): INF/8
- Information note on project Kenya 2502 (Exp.3): INF/9
- Update on outstanding balance of commitments for ongoing development projects: INF/10
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Members of the Executive Board

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Angola: H.E. A.A. Ervedosa Abreu*; Mr. P.A. Kanga*; Mr. J.A. Martins
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Turkey: Mr. A.K. Bedestenc* 
Yemen: Mr. A. Al-Hawri*
Zimbabwe: Mr. G. Hlatshwayo*
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     Mr. G. Landart; Mr. M. Bamba
ILO: Mr. W. Schiefelbusch
UNESCO: Ms. U. Meir; Ms. A. Bouyat
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IFAD: Mr. P. Young
UNHCR: Mr. A. Ramirez

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