



**World Food  
Programme**

**Memorandum**

**Request for IRA Allocation for Preparedness Activities**

To: Denise Brown  
Director, OSE

Date: 4 January 2018

From: Matthew Dee  
Regional Director a.i, RBC

Subject: Request for Extension in Time for Libya IR-PREP 201112

**PART 1: INFORMATION NOTE**

1. WFP's operation in Libya is classified as a Level 2 Emergency under which Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200776 – "Assistance to people affected by the crisis in Libya" was launched in November 2014 for a period of two years. In January 2016, EMOP 200925 was launched to continue providing life-saving access to food for vulnerable populations. The EMOP has since undergone four budget revisions. The fourth budget revision was for an extension in time from January to March 2018 that allows for the continuation of food assistance to the targeted population of 123,000 people comprising mainly of women and children living in regions most affected by the ongoing conflict.
2. Following the escalation of violence in July 2014, the United Nations evacuated international staff of United Nations agencies to Tunis. Due to the lack of humanitarian access as a result of insecurity, United Nations agencies including WFP have operated remotely in Libya through third parties and maintaining only a minimal presence through local staff.
3. On 5 October 2017, WFP senior management approved Libya IR-PREP EP 201112 to fund WFP's relocation from Tunis to Libya in line with the overall United Nations redeployment plan and the recommendations of the 2017 inter-agency Strategic Assessment Mission (SAM). The project duration was proposed from 5 October 2017 to 4 January 2018 to enable WFP to undertake a Rapid Food Security Assessment, procurement of security and communication equipment, armored vehicles and personal protective equipment, and to organize a Safe and Secure

cc:  
Regional Director, RBC  
Chief, OMEP  
Director, OSZ  
Chief, RMBP  
Chief, RMBB

Approaches to Field Environments (SSAFE) training for Tunis-based staff for rapid deployment and participation in the ongoing United Nations temporary rotation presence in Libya.

4. The procurement of armored vehicles and personal protective equipment has taken more time than planned due to lack of available stocks. In the absence of these prerequisite MOSS compliance items, the second phase of WFP's reentry into Libya would be hindered.
5. The interview and data collection phases of the Rapid Food Security Assessment have been carried out. However, more time is needed to analyze the data and inform the budget revision of the EMOP for the period from April to December 2018, providing food assistance to vulnerable internally displaced persons (IDP), refugees and returnees in Libya.

**IRA AMOUNT REQUESTED (INCL. ISC): USD 886,816**

**DURATION OF THE ACTIVITY:** 05 October 2017 – 4 April 2018

**EXTENSION PERIOD:** Three months (5 January – 4 April 2018)

**JUSTIFICATION:**

6. The Libya Country Office is seeking an exceptional extension in time of the Libya IR-PREP 201112 for three months to finalize the United Nations Minimum Operating Security Standards (MOSS) compliance actions, prerequisite for WFP's reentry into Libya. The extension will enable WFP Libya to recruit Libya-based local staff and engage third party contractors to scale up WFP's physical presence inside Libya and finalize the rapid food security assessment to determine the food needs of the most affected people by the ongoing conflict.
7. WFP will gradually relocate its Libya Country Office in four phases. During the initial phase, WFP Tunis-based international staff (including a newly recruited Security Officer) will actively participate in the Temporary Rotation Presence in Libya for a duration of up to one week at a time. Fourteen national staff (including armored vehicle drivers and security personnel) will be recruited, under third-party contracts where needed. This phase will comprise operational planning and actions/expenditures required for a gradual return to Libya, including establishing the legal basis for WFP's presence (e.g. Basic Agreement). The four phases are summarized as below:

- Phase 1 (October 2017 to March 2018) is entirely a preparatory stage and is dependent on several pre-conditions including the lifting of the evacuation status, WFP MOSS compliance in Libya, independent capacity to move inside Libya and financial capacity.
  - Phase 2 (April to September 2018) will commence when the preconditions in phase one are met and Tripoli is declared a duty station for international staff. Tunis-based international staff will begin to undertake longer missions (over one week) inside Libya. WFP staff will use office space located in the United Nations compound known as OEA, which will also be used for accommodation of international staff. The Tunis-based Country Office will continue to function with a full complement of staff, however will begin a scaling-back process.
  - Phase 3 (October to December 2018) will come into effect when WFP decides on a more permanent presence in Libya. This will likely commence following general elections and significantly improved security conditions. During this phase, international staff based in Tripoli may begin to follow a regular rest and recuperation (R&R) cycle (e.g. four weeks), and the Tunis-based Country Office will be downsized to a minimal support office. All national staff contracts will shift to WFP contracts, and a recommendation on longer-term presence will be made based on an assessment of needs, programmatic opportunities, and prospects for financial support to WFP's programme.
  - Phase 4 (January 2019 onward) will be triggered by WFP's decision to maintain a longer-term operational presence in Libya. International staff remaining in Tunis (if any) will be permanently relocated to Libya and the Tunis office will be closed. In Tripoli, WFP international staff will shift their residence from OEA to another MOSS-compliant site. The WFP office will expand to a second MOSS-compliant site, possibly at Palm City or co-locating with another United Nations agency.
8. The benefits of WFP's physical presence in Libya will include the following:
- Better access to beneficiaries, including better ability to carry out needs assessments;
  - Coordination with United Nations and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners who are present in Libya;
  - Direct access to Government/local authorities and existing and potential local partners;
  - Direct WFP monitoring and quality control (including supply chain operations and existing third-party monitoring (TPM));
  - Improved partner accountability and performance; and
  - Higher WFP visibility inside Libya, with positive impact on WFP's credibility with donors and resource mobilization

## **PART 2: DETAILED BUDGET**

### **Summary of Budget Estimate (in USD):**

- RFSA: 183,000
- 2 AVs: 558,000
- Security & IT equipment: 53,800
- SSAFE training incl. travel: 34,000

**TOTAL (excl. ISC): 828,800**