Talking Points for EB Protection Policy Presentation

Slide 1: Overview of policy preparation process

WFP has a new policy on protection and accountability It fits under the UN foundational pillars



- A bottom-up process over 18 months: A wide range of stakeholders participated in the development of this policy (affected populations, authorities, WFP staff, donors, and partners—including the Global Protection Cluster and the IASC Results Group 1 (centrality of protection).
- Field missions undertaken in Bangladesh/Cox's Bazaar, El Salvador, Central African Republic, South Sudan and Sri Lanka.
- Brown bag luncheons with donors and, of course, informal consultations with the EB.

Consultation Timeline for the Protection and Accountability Policy		
Year	Day, Month	Description
2019	Throughout	Missions to Cox's Bazaar (Bangladesh), El Salvador, South Sudan, CAR, Sri Lanka to
	the year	engage with affected populations, the country office and strategic partners, including
		cooperating partners and authorities
	16 July	Informal consultation with donors on the Protection and Accountability Policy
	3 October	Brown Bag Lunch with donors – Walk the Protection Talk – an update on the Protection
		and Accountability Policy and supporting documents and initiatives
2020	3 February	Informal Board Meeting – Update on the Protection and Accountability Policy
	12 May	Technical Workshop (Chatham House rules) on the content of the protection policy.
		WFP representatives presented on different focus areas followed by Q&A of
		participants.
	June onwards	Consultations with the Global Protection Cluster and IASC Results Group 1 on the
		Centrality of Protection, both of which comprise key UN and INGO Protection actors
		(e.g., UNHCR, NRC, DRC)
	25 June	Brown Bag Lunch with donors – the centrality of protection within WFP
	24 July	Informal consultation with donors
	27 October	Informal consultation on accountability framework and for budget clarification

Slide 2: What has changed from the old policy?

We will work with local people to understand who is most in danger and why



- Theory of change: If WFP and its partners are able to better understand the risks faced by affected populations by engaging those populations *themselves*, *then*, we are better equipped to identify the people and groups most at risk and design programmes that meet needs and reduce risk in line with UN foundational pillars (human rights, development, peace & security, disability inclusion).
- Emphasis on context analysis: A solid context analysis should birth a country strategic plan. To have a solid understanding of the context, and how it is evolving and potential sources of conflict or exclusion, we must put people at the centre of our thought and decision-making processes. This will allow WFP to tap into existing knowledge, skills, and agency among those we serve to build a holistic approach to ensuring people are safe when they receive food assistance from us.
- Evidence-based decision making is imperative to understanding barriers to inclusion in safe programming. Data not only for a context analysis, vulnerability assessment mapping but for all analysis and monitoring must be disaggregated by sex, age and disability.

Slide 3: Moving from protection mainstreaming to centrality of protection

We will work with local people to understand how they can be safe when they get food assistance from us



- Centrality of protection: The policy also presents a shift towards the centrality of protection and accountability across a range of critical functions to ensure the safety, appropriateness and dignity of food and nutrition assistance. This requires: The inclusion of affected populations in decision making to ensure the relevance and acceptability of programming and their ability to voice concerns and opinions through community/complaints and feedback mechanisms (CFMs) that may not specifically be programme related.
- Coherent framework for action/moving beyond programme space: The centrality of protection requires broadening our understanding of protection beyond programming. We must look at decision-making processes and systematically challenge our assumptions in "status quo" areas such as supply chain, security, human resource development, communications, and enterprise risk management.

Slide 4: Partnerships with others



Working with others to keep people safe

- **New partnerships:** WFP must look to new partnerships to foster this new way of working. Partnerships with academic institutions, NGOs local actors and collective initiatives will help operationalise the policy.
- For example, in 2020 WFP signed a partnership with **Trinity College of Dublin** aims to develop an evidence base for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in WFP's food security programming. Or with **NRC** in Central African Republic to strengthen WFP capacities for strengthened context analysis skills to identify protection risks. Or our knowledge partnership with the **Conflict Sensitivity Resource Facility** in South Sudan that has helped us better understand the evolution of conflict dynamics and use of violence in that country.
- We will use our current leadership role in clusters and operational platforms (Logistics, ETC, Food, Common Cash Statement) to advance protection thinking and action and enable others to crowd in investments that will collectively reduce risk to affected populations.

Slide 5: Accountability for Policy Implementation

We will make accountability for policy implementation a priority



- **Communicating the new policy** at the GMM, CD Meetings and other gatherings of senior WFP management to highlight the relevance to the organization and identify the avenues of support available to our country offices.
- WFP will also explicitly incorporate protection and accountability into its **suite of enterprise risk management tools** (e.g., Executive Director assurance statement, Corporate Risk Register, annual performance plan) to ensure accountability for policy implementation.
- Protection and accountability policy will **inform the development of the new Strategic** Plan, the CRF and accompanying management performance indicators.
- **Protection considerations will be incorporated into CSPs** and CDs and their management teams will have the responsibility to ensure this happens.
- We will provide **annual updates to the EB** on the implementation of the policy.
- And, finally, we commit to providing **implementation plan with an estimated budget for consideration by the Board no later than its 2021 annual session** (notional estimates of costs).

Slide 6: Partnership with the EB to make this policy successful

We must work with many actors to achieve successful protection outcomes

- We are very excited about the new policy and also know that over the next five years, its implementation will both showcase successes and challenges.
- We look forward to continuing to work closely with the EB and your representatives at regional and country levels to make this policy a collective success.
- Thank you.....