

# World Food Programme

## Biography

**Ramiro Lopes da Silva**  
Deputy Executive Director, ad interim  
Supply Chain and Emergencies



Ramiro Armando de Oliveira Lopes da Silva has been appointed to lead ad interim the newly formed Supply Chain and Emergencies Department at the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). With over 35 years of humanitarian operational experience, Ramiro was an Assistant Executive Director of WFP from March 2010 until his retirement in December 2017. He returned in 2021 as the WFP Executive Director's Special Envoy for the Northern Ethiopia Crises.

Mr. Lopes da Silva was also the United Nations Assistant Secretary General and Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq from 2002 to 2004, subsequently becoming in 2004, Senior Advisor to the United Nations Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs. Prior to these appointments, Mr. Lopes da Silva served as WFP's Director of Emergencies and Deputy Chief Operating Officer.

Mr. Lopes da Silva began his career with WFP in 1985 as Food Aid Logistics Coordinator during the Great Horn of Africa and Sahel drought emergency. Since then, he has held senior management roles in operations in many countries, including Ethiopia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Angola, Sudan and Haiti.

He has held other senior positions in WFP including Director of Transport and Logistics from 1998 to 2002. During the period 2001-2002, he was also appointed as Special Envoy of the WFP Executive Director for the Afghanistan Crisis. In 2004, he was appointed Regional Director for the newly established Bureau in Sudan, until he returned to Rome as Director of the Transport and Procurement Division from 2006 to 2010, before his assignment as WFP's Assistant Executive Director.

Before joining WFP, Mr. Lopes da Silva worked for the Mozambique Port and Railways (CFM) from 1975 to 1983. While he started as a Port Equipment Maintenance Engineer, by 1978 he was the Director General of the CFM-South with 17,000 workers reporting to him and managing a budget of over US\$100 million. A Portuguese national, Mr. Lopes da Silva was born in Beira, Mozambique. He has a Masters in Electrical Engineering from the University of Mozambique. He is married and has five children.