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Documentation of the Work of the World Food Programme

Conference A
World Food Programme (WFP)

Committee Staff

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<tr>
<td>Director</td>
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Agenda

I. Improving Emergency Response Capacities to Safeguard Food Security
II. Responding to Food Insecurity in Syria
III. Improving Frameworks for the Supply of Food Aid

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

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<td>WFP/1/1</td>
<td>Improving Emergency Response Capacities to Safeguard Food Security</td>
<td>Adopted without a vote</td>
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The World Food Programme held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I. Improving Emergency Response Capacities to Safeguard Food Security
II. Responding to Food Insecurity in Syria
III. Improving Frameworks for the Supply of Food Aid

The session was attended by 29 Member States and one Observer.

The committee adopted the agenda in the order of I, II, III, beginning the discussion on the topic of “Improving Emergency Response Capacities to Safeguard Food Security.” On Monday, the Dais received five working papers that discussed a variety of topics including early warning systems, technology-sharing, and supporting women in securitization, regional organizations, and public and private partnerships to fight food insecurity. By Tuesday, the committee merged five working papers into two, focusing on a variety of sub-topics including strengthening the coordination between the Rome-based agencies, protecting vulnerable populations, and technology-sharing. Overall, delegates worked hard, driven by the principles of diplomacy, inclusion, and respect.

On Wednesday, one draft resolution was approved by the Dais which incorporated three friendly amendments. The resolution was adopted unanimously by the body and it addressed food security concerns during each of the three phases of emergency: emergency, rehabilitation and development. The committee was determined to build consensus and successfully reached the goal to adopt a unique and cohesive resolution.
The World Food Programme,

Affirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), stating in Article 25 that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food,

Highlighting Article 11 of the International Covenant of Economic Social and Cultural Rights (1966) stating that the right to food is a basic human right and noting the importance of this commitment,

Reiterating General Assembly resolution 72/215 (2017), “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” that established the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and more specifically SDG 2, Zero Hunger, and working to achieve it through SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goals, by improving and strengthening the World Food Programme (WFP) inter-agency work between the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and collaboration to develop long-term solutions for emergency disasters,

Alarmed by the urgent need of aid due to the increase of emergency responses in territories suffering from armed conflict and natural disasters’ consequences according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) 2018 Global Humanitarian Overview,

Welcoming Member States’ cultural and social differences, and understanding the importance of implementing emergency response capacities that fit each Member State’s unique needs while supporting each specific community rather than creating generalized solutions according to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Emergency Field Operations Pocketbook,

Highlighting the shift of WFP from a food aid to a food assistance programme implemented within the Strategic Plan (2017-2021) assuring the link between the strategic objectives and the strategic results within the WFP’s Country Strategic Plans (CSPs),

Calling attention to the 70 million people that were estimated to need emergency food assistance in 2017, according to the 2017 Economic and Social Council report of the Secretary-General 2017/58 on “Strengthening of the Coordination of Emergency Humanitarian Assistance,”

Noting the 2017 Annual Performance Report of WFP which indicates the increase of a 55% of emergencies situations since 2015 augmenting food insecure scenarios,

Recalling the valuable and continued partnership between WFP and the Building Blocks Project,

Observing the lack of legislation in the use of blockchain technologies especially humanitarian aid and the existence of legislative initiatives such as the Japanese Virtual Currency Exchange Associations (JVCEA),

Further recalling the ReliefWeb valuable work for humanitarian affairs such as the Humanitarian Impact of Drones report,

Recognizing the Global Report on Food Crises issued by the Food Security Information Network (2018), which states that 124 million individuals across 51 countries still suffer from critical food insecurity,

Stressing the importance of transparency and accountability between private sector partners and recipient nations,
1. **Affirms** the importance of strengthening partnerships between regional organizations and the Rome-Based Agencies (WFP, FAO, and IFAD) to promote the self-sufficiency of Member States by:
   a. Improving the synchronized and long-term approach with WFP and IFAD to safeguard food security after an emergency to promote not only immediate and initial aid but also the redevelopment of agriculture in affected areas through assessment by IFAD during disaster relief by WFP;
   
   b. Implementing programs to train local farmers, with the aim of promoting social integration through education for citizens facing food insecurity in order to improve agricultural resilience and recovery, akin to the existing program facilitated by the FAO and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development which is a government organization which assists with international aid by combining their strengths with global organizations;
   
   c. Inviting Member States to work through the WFP partnership with IFAD to transition to new production systems that are less dependent on fossil fuels, such as chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and that are more integrated and in line with the natural resource base upon which they depend in order to mitigate food insecurity due to climate-related natural disasters;
   
   d. Providing farmers with training, seeds, hydroponics resources’ system and livestock to let them restore their livelihoods as well as learn how to better manage potential future shocks due to natural disasters or human-caused crisis;

2. **Further invites** regional and humanitarian organizations to work with WFP as it leads agency of the Logistics Cluster and co-leads the Food Security Cluster of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) to ensure food aid and assistance is reaching vulnerable communities by issuing humanitarian waivers to these organizations to allow food aid in order to:
   a. Promote the engagement of international agencies with local and non-governmental organizations, to strengthen the collaborative initiative by utilizing regional organizations with regard to resources and funding;
   
   b. Respect state sovereignty while encompassing regional defenses of natural emergencies and food insecurities by relating each Member State with their current regulations and harnessing more food security and more diligence towards ending world hunger;
   
   c. Reduce costs by avoiding duplication of humanitarian efforts while evaluating the most efficient way to reach vulnerable regions which may have damaged infrastructure;

3. **Confirms** the need for alternative measures to be taken place from the status quo to ensure better funding and sustainability from regions that may not formulate as strong of an economy as others:
   a. Addressing the use of cash-based transfers as the primary use of the WFP for temporary economic aid to acquire short-term solutions;
   
   b. Confirming the use of voucher transfers, both paper and electronic, is more efficient for Member States with weaker economic sustainability;
   
   c. Approving the alternative change of the current use of cash-based transfers to the voucher-based to improve the efficiency of the use of resources by the WFP;

4. **Recommends** adopting the international Conference of the Global Food Security, Food Safety and Sustainability, led by OCHA every 3 years with the objective of establishing a 9-year goal for every participating Member States that will:
a. Involves Member States, scientists, university researchers, farmers organizations and national agricultural extension services in the aim to:

i. Share knowledge between scientists and university researchers by presenting new research that can be implemented by Member States in their CSPs through WFP;

ii. Provide farmer organizations and national agricultural extension services with practical formations, based on R4 Resilience Program, adapted to their regional challenges, such as climate shocks, in order to build a more resilient food structure;

b. Share knowledge and expertise between Member States in partnership with the private sector, on innovative ways to counter the effects of the changing climate in specific regions;

c. Implement the establishment of educational programs such as the one developed by the Nepalese government, the District Education Office, and WFP, in order to teach vulnerable populations ways of preparing meals that contain the maximum amount of nutrients with few resources and therefore:

i. Recommends universities to open free/reduced-cost courses to vulnerable groups to allow them to learn the skills needed;

ii. Motivates local government to promote and encourage boys and girls to attend school;

5. Encourages the WFP to propose the R4 Resilience Program as an additional strategy that can be implemented within CSPs to reduce the financial risks of climate issues for small-scale farmers by using the following measures:

a. Invites the private sector and other international institutions to partner with the WFP to support the program;

b. Encourages other member states to follow the example of the KFW development bank to invest in the Rural Resilience Program;

c. Improve access to microcredit for smallholder farmers to boost local production;

d. Requires WFP Innovation Accelerator to develop an association between early warning systems (EWSs) and the provision of climate-shock insurances to small scale farmers to reduce the climate related risk in agricultural production and therefore ensure long term food security;

e. Recommends that Member States partner with WFP in the context of programs such as the Food Basket carried out during emergencies which improves the nutritional status of women who are dependent on food aid through the provision of a collection of the main food groups;

6. Promotes the uniformization of the maps produced with the Global Information System (GIS) for mapping and Collect data with GIS providing geographic information on at risk territories of man-made or natural disaster to help foresee future challenges for food security in order to:

a. Engage the GeoNode initiative of WFP to:

i. Allow EWS to benefit from data that will tailor the warning systems to diverse geographic and social contexts through partnerships with;

ii. Allow access to a template created conjointly with ReliefMap of the maps that are to be uploaded to the GeoNode platform;

iii. Encourage Member States to invite Universities to provide resources such as research centers, experts and infrastructures on their territory to get involved in the mapping and collect data on the geographic aspects of territories to gather insight on
local geographic contexts to achieve the final goal of uploading all the maps on the common GeoNode platform, assisting humanitarian organisms to predict possible droughts through the data gathered;

b. Deploying groups of experts in possibly affected zones or those in which an anomaly may occur, to analyze and provide pictures to the Missing Maps Initiative to further enhance their capacities;

7. **Prioritizes** the development of EWSs technologies by focusing on the Corporate Alert System by WFP in the development of this platform by:

   a. Connecting the regional bureau, country offices to the WFP’s functional bodies to evaluate the current operations and necessitate a new response;

   b. Facilitating an efficient cross-functionality between regional stakeholders;

   c. Enhancing the involvement of expertise, such as but not limited to National Scientific Foundation (NSA), Institute of Education Science (IES) in order to:

      i. Strengthen the cooperation with universities and include more scholars and researchers for developing efficient and innovative EWSs adapted to different regional realities;

      ii. Raise awareness on the importance of EWSs by providing students with regional educational laboratory program highlighting the WFP mandate to develop capacity and resilience building through food assistance;

8. **Further encourages** Member States to implement the Farmers Alert System Tracker (FAST) Initiative, allowing farmers to better prepare and safeguard their equipment by signing up to this system and receiving on-time urgent information about possible disasters in their nearby area by:

   a. Partnering with regional weather to further provide data and information;

   b. Providing guidance and weather information to telecommunications companies, such as Celltech, to create the SMS network for the FAST initiative;

9. **Further recommends** Member States to collaborate in the expansion of the usage of Blockchain in humanitarian aid assistance, such as the Building Blocks Project initiative guided by the WFP that will allow a secure and efficient method of sharing information and tracking of aid deliveries throughout the world by:

   a. Gathering information focusing on the transfer of wealth reducing fees on transactions;

   b. Utilizing a private blockchain network managed by the WFP through the Member States, modeled on the Building Blocks Project but kept private for security reasons, thereby replacing the transfer through conventional methods of transactions;

   c. Reducing tracking costs in a decentralized manner and possible losses of information of humanitarian aid deliveries;

   d. Collaborating with Virtual Currency Exchange Association such as the JVCEA, to seek experts in the legislative regulations in the use of blockchain technologies particularly in humanitarian affairs;

10. **Endorses** the blockchain-based geographic tracked schools project of WFP, which provides the location, needs and tools that schools need;
11. **Strongly supports** the Innovation Accelerator initiative and invites this initiative to further develop the following key components of efficient emergency responses:

   a. Involving the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to partner with the WFP to implement a crop and vegetation surveillance system, to gather data with the help of drones, to respond adequately to emergency situations safeguarding food security;

   b. Encouraging the creation and regulation of a framework, based on the Humanitarian Impact of Drones report of the ReliefWeb, for the usage of drones solely for humanitarian aid, especially in hard to reach areas not accessible by conventional transports, overcoming barriers in conflict zones, and reducing the risk for casualties of staff member;

   c. Developing hydroponics, speed breeding tools and greenhouse farming as well as seawater desalination techniques, rainwater collecting mechanisms and fortified foods such as zinc supplemented rice;

12. **Invites** Member States to improve awareness regarding existing campaigns about food insecurity, such as the ShareTheMeal application to:

   a. Use social media to spread awareness and partner with streaming apps so they can also share this message;

   b. Use the means of WFP to create partnerships, such as the Advocate and Call to Action of WFP;

13. **Emphasizes** the maintenance of transparency between private sector actors and recipient countries in order to prevent exploitative measures by:

   a. Encouraging internal monitoring systems within private sector actors that promote global governance, as a means to not only facilitate transparency, but also bolster the global legitimacy and standing of participating organizations;

   b. Utilizing regional advocacy groups to pressure private actors to act transparently when appropriating funds and conducting projects with recipient nations;

   c. Promoting a channel for governments to report potentially damaging private sector actions;

   d. Incorporating the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) by investing in private projects in order to appeal to the interests of private corporations by mitigating the costs to them, while also protecting the recipient nation from exploitation;

   e. Additionally, states with small economies that donate to CERF are able to explain to their constituents that they are financing underfunded emergencies or small-scale disasters through CERF rather than directly;

14. **Suggests** setting up a new portal under the administration and on the website of WFP to establish new partnerships for food assistance and aiming at realizing projects with resources of the private sector through:

   a. Using the informational resources provided by CSPs and the Zero Hunger Strategic Review provided by the respective countries;

   b. Informing private entities about available and possible projects or investments regarding food assistance;
c. Establishing contact between private entities and, if requested, the respective governments to negotiate possible projects and investments, while the WFP serves as a moderator between the parties;

15. **Recommends** a more local approach that would better meet the needs of the local communities by:

a. Cooperating with local governments in order to understand the specific environmental context of the region, and to better deliver a tailored emergency response food aid;

b. Establishing a minimum quota of local firms and markets that WFP would have to respect for its stockpile system;

c. Recommending Member States to support and resettle the Community Based Participatory Planning (CBBP) in the framework of the Joint Resilience Projects after their three year terms in order to respond to food emergency as quickly as possible by:
   i. Creating specific assets for each vulnerable community so they can anticipate disasters;
   ii. Providing easy-to-use tools to help vulnerable communities being self-reliant in case of emergency;

16. **Encourages** the spreading of the School Garden Initiative to help restore agriculture rapidly after man-made or natural catastrophes by utilizing available public spaces and involve women and children to achieve the following goals:

a. Allow local communities to have a guide for steps to take to achieve food autonomy while specifically encouraging women’s autonomy in a case of crisis such as environmental disasters or man-made crises;

b. Involve women and children in the learning of basics of agriculture as a step to achieving resilience thus giving them autonomy and the role of leadership;

c. Provide incentives to volunteer farmers to come to local school and provide sustainable farming knowledge;

d. Promote the implementation of the Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) in order to provide the necessary nutrients to improve and enhance the quality of food being delivered;

e. Mitigate the burden women bear in the nutritional intake of their families by giving a decisional and leadership role in the crisis impacted area;

17. **Requests** the WFP to implement a community empowerment campaign in collaboration with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), focusing on the inclusion of vulnerable populations, emphasizing SDGs 2.2 about ending all forms of malnutrition, specifically in women and children, before 2030 and SDG 2.3 about doubling the agricultural productivity and the income of small-scale food producers by:

a. Giving the resources for capacity building through best practices recommendation guide, and creating a foundation by allowing local NGOs to provide seeds based on regional crops in the event of an emergency;

b. Creating jobs for local populations ultimately replenishing local economies and equipping communities in the case of inflation in food prices;
18. **Calls for** a partnership between WFP and as many as possible of the 650 private partners in food production for emergencies to use a portion of the partners stockpile to create a system for basic food supplies, such as wheat, flour and rice, that will immunize aid to market fluctuations by:

a. Cooperating with the private sector, such as regional food suppliers, in exchange for a guaranteed purchase of their products from the WFP;

b. Creating a physical space to preserve and store the food supplies in order to prolong the shelf life and quality of the products;

c. Creating partnerships with private financial institutions that would prevent the market fluctuations in order to anticipate the inflation;

d. Purchasing food and nutritional goods when the price is low, and later distributing these goods when the price inflates;

19. **Encourages** the use of food produced by local farmers by having them being the main source of supply for the school feeding programmes following the guidelines of the High-Level Task Force on Global Food Nutrition Security, which emphasizes the fact that:

a. School feeding programmes have a proven potential for the eradication of hunger all while having a positive impact on the development of rural economies, as it has been demonstrated by the success of the Brazilian National School Feeding Programme (PNAE);

b. School feeding programmes generate multidimensional benefits such as access to fresh food, good health and nutrition, the implementation of environmentally friendly agriculture and generating income for smallholder farmers;

20. **Encourages** prioritizing vulnerable groups as the main recipient of regional food aid, as they are most suitable for distributing emergency supplies in their communities in an inclusive manner to the most vulnerable groups, such as children, the disabled and the elderly and so that they may also contribute to their own and their families’ food emergency rehabilitation, by:

a. Implementing a gender-responsive food distribution system for emergencies, such as has been suggested by the United Nations Girls’ Education Initiative (UNGEI) and also put into works by WFP in Haiti and the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

b. Encouraging NGOs such as World Vision organization to add more women in their workforce of delivery of food assistance;

21. **Approves** the improvement of WFP’s partnership with the private sector, taking example of the Stop Hunger Association, which provides employment for vulnerable groups in the agricultural sector to safeguard food security in order to:

a. Support food self-sufficiency in rural areas by the means of community gardens, school feeding and food vouchers;

b. Provide cooking and nutrition workshops to vulnerable groups and give them the tools to cook not also at home, for their community in exchange of incomes and employment;

22. **Suggests** that Member States negotiate emergency response and assistance agreements with their respective neighbors and share their agreements with WFP for the purpose of updating CSPs and improving collaboration during emergency situations by:
a. Outlining how governmental and private resources of neighboring states should be used when responding to emergencies and encouraging each partner to share their specific expertise;

b. Recognizing that a state’s private sector might be weakened during a crisis and agreeing to enhance the participation of foreign private businesses in responding to emergencies by facilitating their access to affected regions;

23. **Confirms** the need for alternative measures to be taken place from the status quo to ensure better funding and sustainability from regions that may not formulate as strong of an economy as others:

   a. Addressing the use of cash-based transfers as the primary use of WFP for temporary economic aid to acquire short-term solutions in emergency situations;

   b. Confirming the use of voucher transfers, both paper and electronic, is also effective for Member States with weaker economic sustainability since it can be reinstated in the economies of the Member States suffering from natural disasters;

   c. Considering an alternative of the current use of cash-based transfers to the voucher-based to improve the efficiency of the use of resources provided by WFP by elaborating an immediate funding system to engage with Member States in both cash-based and voucher-based transfers;

24. **Recommends** a more local approach that would better meet the needs of the local communities by:

   a. Cooperating with local governments in order to understand the specific environmental context of the region, and to better deliver a tailored emergency response food aid;

   b. Establishing a minimum quota of local firms and markets that WFP would have to respect for its stockpile system;

25. **Endorses** the establishment of educational programs such as the one developed by the Nepalese government, the District Education Office, and WFP in order to teach vulnerable populations ways of preparing meals that contain the maximum amount of nutrients with few resources and therefore:

   a. Recommends universities to open free/reduced-cost courses to vulnerable groups to facilitate practical education skills promoting a more active contribution to society;

   b. Motivates local governments to promote cooking’s course at schools by financial support and increasing available resources.