



General Conference  
thirteenth session  
Programme Commission  
Conferencia general  
décimotercera reunión  
Comisión del programa

Conférence générale  
treizième session  
Commission du programme  
Генеральная конференция  
тринадцатая сессия  
Программная комиссия

U N E S C O

PRG

20 October-19 November 1964

13 C/PRG/27  
PARIS, 18 September 1964  
Translated from the French

Item 15.5.6 of the Provisional Agenda

CO-OPERATION WITH THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

I. AIMS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

(1) The World Food Programme (WFP) was instituted in 1961 by a joint decision of the United Nations and FAO<sup>(1)</sup> in order to contribute to the economic and social development of Member States of the United Nations and of FAO through aid in the form of food. The plan came into operation on 1 January 1963 for an experimental period which will end on 31 December 1965.

(2) During this period, the WFP is striving to help as wide a range of undertakings as possible in a variety of countries, in order to make it clear to what extent and in what way food aid can be used through international channels to expedite economic and social development, and to what extent it can supplement capital investment.

(3) Current food-aid projects relate to programmes for the development of agriculture and animal husbandry, major public works, industrial development and programmes of educational development at all levels. The World Food Programme may also use up to 25% of its resources to provide emergency help to countries suffering from serious food shortages as a result of natural calamities.

II. RESOURCES

(4) The WFP's resources consist of commodities, services, and cash contributed by 67 Member States of the United Nations and FAO.

(5) By 30 June 1964, over 91 million dollars had been offered, of which 21% was in cash, and the remainder in services and commodities.<sup>(2)</sup> These include cereals and pulses, milk, eggs, dried or preserved fish and meat, oils and fats, sugar, coffee, cocoa, tea and feed grains.

III. OPERATION

(6) The WFP is managed by an intergovernmental committee of 24 members<sup>(3)</sup> which reports to the United Nations and to FAO. It has a Secretariat in Rome, headed by an Executive Director.

(1) Resolution 1714 (XVI) of the United Nations General Assembly dated 19 December 1961, and resolution 1/61 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, eleventh session (November 1961).

(2) Information up to 31 August 1964 will be given in an addendum.

(3) The membership of the Intergovernmental Committee is as follows: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, United Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

(7) Requests for assistance are submitted by governments to the Executive Director, who decides what action shall be taken in the case of requests not exceeding \$500,000 in amount. Requests involving larger amounts are referred to the Intergovernmental Committee.

(8) By 30 June 1964, the WFP Secretariat had received 135 requests for assistance, amounting in all to \$75,624,700.

(9) The Secretariat of the WFP works closely with those of the United Nations and FAO, as well as with the FAO Sub-Committee on surplus disposal. It has liaison officers for co-ordination with the International Labour Office and the World Health Organization. Since 1 November 1963, regular liaison has also been maintained between Unesco and the World Food Programme by a member of the Division for Relations with International Organizations.

#### IV. FUTURE OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

(10) At their sessions in the summer of 1965, the Economic and Social Council and the Council of FAO will consider the results achieved during the experimental period of the WFP. They will report to the United Nations General Assembly and to the General Conference of FAO, which will decide on the Programme's future.

(11) The Director-General's proposals concerning co-operation with the World Food Programme have been drawn up on the assumption that the Programme's activities will be carried on after 31 December 1965, with increased resources.

#### V. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME AND UNESCO

##### 1. Resolutions governing co-operation between the WFP and Unesco

(12) The Executive Board considered the problem of co-operation between the WFP and Unesco at its 67th session. It took note of the Director-General's proposals and requested him to continue co-operation with the World Food Programme (67 EX/33, Decision 6.6 - see Annex I).

(13) The United Nations General Assembly at its eighteenth session, adopted resolution 1933, highlighting the connexions between food deficiency, on the one hand, and adult illiteracy and absenteeism among schoolchildren, on the other, which requests the United Nations Secretary-General to study, in consultation with Unesco, the part that food aid might play in the development of education.

(14) The Secretary-General will present a report on this subject to the current session of the General Assembly. The Unesco Secretariat has had a share in the preparation of the report.

##### 2. Co-operation with the WFP during the experimental period

(15) Having regard to the part played by education in economic and social development, the Intergovernmental Committee and the Executive Director of the WFP had, by 30 June 1964, approved the granting of food aid for 1964 and 1965 to nine educational projects (see list in Annex II). The commodities to be supplied under these projects, delivered at the frontiers of the receiving countries, represent a total value of \$3,792,900. At the same date, ten other requests for assistance for educational programmes were being studied by the WFP Secretariat.(1)

(16) The Unesco Secretariat is taking part in the evaluation of the results achieved in the various projects.

(17) These experiments should make it possible to determine how far food aid can contribute to improving school attendance and school results, and how far it can facilitate adult education, with particular reference to literacy campaigns. They should also give an idea of the amount of expenditure that governments are liable to incur in making use of food aid (internal transport, administration, preparation of meals).

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(1) Information up to 31 August 1964 will be given in an addendum.

### 3. Long-term co-operation with the WFP

(18) On the basis of the decisions taken by the Executive Board at its 67th session, the Director-General proposes to initiate long-term co-operation with the World Food Programme, being guided by the following principles:

(a) The support of the World Food Programme will be sought in all cases where food aid, in accordance with the Programme's regulations, can supplement capital investment coming either from national resources or from bilateral or multilateral external aid. In considering WFP aid for educational development, special account will be taken of the aid programmes of the United Nations Special Fund, Technical Assistance and Unicef, and of loans from international and regional financing bodies.

(b) The support of the World Food Programme will be specially sought in two major sectors of educational development: the training of teachers and middle-grade administrative staff; and adult education, with particular reference to literacy campaigns.

#### (i) Training of teachers and middle-grade administrative staff

(19) In many developing countries, a widely scattered population and the fact that parents' resources are slender often make it necessary for boarding accommodation to be provided at secondary schools, primary teacher training colleges, and technical schools. The maintenance of such hostels puts a heavy burden on the governments concerned, so that it is not possible to set up enough of them. For the same reasons, those that do exist are sometimes working below their full capacity, judged by the number of teachers and the accommodation available, or are obliged to bring the school year to a close before the normal date.

(20) Aid from the World Food Programme over several years would certainly allow an appreciable increase in the number of students admitted to the existing hostels and would probably encourage governments to open new ones; in this way, such aid would help to speed up economic and social development, by doing away, in some measure, with the bottleneck often found in secondary education. It would also help to make secondary education more democratic.

(21) In cases where, for want of teachers or premises, an immediate increase in enrolments is impossible, there is a possibility that the World Food Programme, by relieving governments of a part of their expenditure on food, may enable the funds thus released to be used for setting up new establishments or the training of more teachers.

(22) Aid of this kind might also be considered for certain primary school meals services, so as to encourage regular attendance and improve scholastic results.

(23) It does not, however, seem possible to contemplate large-scale action in this field, as this would call for food resources very much exceeding the available surpluses and entail the creation of a large and expensive network of canteens by the governments concerned.

#### (ii) Adult education

(24) Adult literacy and vocational training programmes sometimes produce disappointing results, as a large proportion of the people concerned prove incapable of sustaining intellectual effort for a long enough time. Many adult education workers think that food aid, adapted to each particular situation, would help to improve results by facilitating such effort, and to increase the number of students.

(25) This is, however, a field that has been little explored. The experiments now being made with food aid on behalf of literacy campaigns should make it possible to judge how useful this aid is and what difficulties may arise in its administration.

### 4. Estimate of needs

(26) A survey has been undertaken by the Unesco Secretariat to determine the amount of food aid which may be requested, from 1966 onwards, for secondary education establishments. The results

will be communicated to the Secretariat of the World Food Programme, so that they may be taken into account when decisions are being made about the future of the Programme.

(27) A complementary survey will be undertaken as soon as possible to determine the approximate needs as regards food aid for adult education. This cannot be done until the General Assembly of the United Nations has taken a decision on the Literacy Programme.

5. Budget

(28) Co-operation with the World Food Programme does not necessitate the adoption of a special budget, as staff salaries and travelling expenses in connexion with such co-operation are reimbursed to Unesco by the WFP, which also retains responsibility for the administration of food aid. These provisions remain in force until 31 December 1965. They will probably be extended if the WFP is required to continue its activities beyond that date.

ANNEX I

Co-operation with the World Food Programme (document 67 EX/17)

The Executive Board,

Having taken note of document 67 EX/17 on co-operation between Unesco and the World Food Programme,

Bearing in mind resolution 1933 (XVIII) on food aid for literacy campaigns, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly,

Believing that co-operation between the World Food Programme and Unesco is likely to promote the development of education,

Requests the Director-General to continue co-operation with the World Food Programme,

Resolves to place on the agenda of the thirteenth session of the General Conference an item on: "Co-operation with the World Food Programme",

Requests the Director-General to submit to the Conference a report on co-operation with the World Food Programme.

ANNEX II

Requests for food aid for educational projects, approved by the  
World Food Programme up to 30 June 1964

Afghanistan	Kabul boarding schools
Bolivia	Training colleges for rural primary teachers
Brazil	School meals services in the Bom Jesus de Lapa district
British Guiana	School building
Colombia	School meals for primary schoolchildren in the department of Caldas
Mauritania	Hostels attached to secondary schools
Morocco	School meals services in the Tangier district
Morocco	Literacy campaign in nine provinces
Togo	School meals services in Central and Northern Togo

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CO-OPERATION WITH THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The information given in document 13 C/PRG/27 should be amended as follows to bring it up to date at 31 August 1964:

- Paragraph 5: No change in the amount of contributions
- Paragraph 8: Requests for assistance received by the WFP now number 132, amounting in all to \$78,084,900. It should be noted that five requests were withdrawn between 30 June and 31 August 1964.
- Paragraph 15: Ten educational projects have been approved (see Annex II, Rev.1), amounting in all to \$4,136,000. Nine requests are being studied.

A N N E X I I

REQUESTS FOR FOOD AID FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS,  
APPROVED BY THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME UP TO  
31 AUGUST 1964

Afghanistan	Kabul boarding schools
Bolivia	Training colleges for rural primary teachers
Brazil	School meals services in the Bom Jesus de Lapa district
British Guiana	School building
Colombia	School meals for primary schoolchildren in the department of Caldas
Guinea	Technical schools
Mauritania	Hostels attached to secondary schools
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Morocco	Literacy campaign in nine provinces
Togo	School meals services in Central and Northern Togo