

Southern Regional Model United Nations XXII
Addressing the global financial crisis:
Restoring economic stability through international solidarity
November 17-19, 2011. Atlanta, GA
Email: wfp@srmun.org



Greetings Delegates,

Welcome to the Southern Regional Model United Nations Conference (SRMUN) XXII and the World Food Programme (WFP). We are elated for your presence this year. My name is Erica Little, and I will be your Director for this thought provoking and exciting committee. This is in my fifth participating year with the conference and fourth year on staff. In the past I have served as a Rapporteur and an Assistant Director for two years. This is my second year as Director. I am currently a graduate student at Drexel University studying for a Master of Science Degree in Higher Education Administration and Organizational Management with a secondary concentration in Student Development and Affairs. Serving as my right hand for this committee is my Assistant Director, Mr. Punit Patel. Punit graduated from Kennesaw State University with a Master's in Business Administration and a concentration in Management and Marketing. He is a seasoned participant of various Model United Nations conferences and previously served as Chair of the SRMUN General Assembly Plenary committee.

The World Food Programme (WFP) was established on January 1, 1996 with a mission to eradicate world hunger and poverty and serves as the food aid arm of the United Nations. This year's conference theme *Addressing the Global Financial Crisis: Restoring Economic Stability Through International Solidarity* directly affects the mission of the WFP, as many WFP initiatives require an ample supply of funding to assist developing Member States. As such, we have chosen the following topics to discuss at this year's conference.

- I. Combatting Global Malnourishment: An Assessment of World Efforts to Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
- II. Examining the Natural Disasters of Food Distribution
- III. Establishing Partnerships to Improve Economic Access and Resources for Developing States

Although this background guide will equip you with a strong foundation for your research, it is not to be utilized as an exhaustive means for these selected topics. Strong and succinct preparation is expected for each topic to ensure that the participation within and the outcome of this committee surpasses all delegate and staff's expectations. Please make sure to include additional research and cite it thoroughly throughout your position paper to ensure that you are prepared for discussion in November.

Each delegation is required to submit a position paper for consideration. It should be no longer than two pages in length (single spaced) and demonstrate your country's position, policies and recommendations on each of the three topics. For more information regarding the position papers please visit the SRMUN website at <http://www.srmun.org>. **All position papers MUST be submitted by October 30, 11:59pm EST using the submission system on the SRMUN website.**

Punit and I send you the best regards as you prepare for the 2011 SRMUN Conference.

Erica Little
Director
wfp@srmun.org

Punit Patel
Assistant Director
wfp@srmun.org

Cortney Moshier
Deputy Director-General
ddg@srmun.org

Committee History of the United Nations World Food Programme

In November / December 1961, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN General Assembly (GA) adopted parallel resolutions establishing the World Food Programme (WFP).¹ The three-year experimental programme was not due to enter into operation until January 1963, but it was up and running several months early, as an earthquake hit Iran, a hurricane swept through Thailand and newly independent Algeria was overwhelmed by five million returning refugees.² Food assistance was needed urgently and the WFP was tasked to supply it. The WFP is the United Nations' frontline agency mandated to combat global hunger, which afflicts one out of every seven people on earth.³ Since it was established in 1963, WFP has fed more than 1.4 billion of the world's poorest people, and invested more than US\$30 billion in development and emergency relief.⁴ On average the WFP provides food to 90 million individuals per year, of which 50 million are children.⁵

The WFP Executive Board was established on 1 January 1996 through GA Resolution 50/8 of 1 November 1995 and FAO Conference Resolution 9/95 of 31 October 1995.⁶ Article 1 of GA Resolution 50/8 states that, "the WFP Executive Board shall be composed of thirty-six (36) members elected from the Member States of the United Nations or Member Nations of FAO."⁷ Article 1 of said resolution further states that, "the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and the Council of the FAO shall each elect eighteen (18) members to the WFP Executive Board."⁸ Each Member State serves a three-year term and is eligible for re-election. Normally, ECOSOC holds elections for the Executive Board in May.⁹ Elections by the FAO Council are held in June, except in years when the FAO Conference meets in which case the elections are held in November.¹⁰ The Executive Board meets three times a year at the WFP Headquarters in Rome.¹¹ The Executive Director, appointed jointly by the United Nations Secretary-General and the Director-General of the FAO for a five-year term, heads the Secretariat of WFP.¹²

WFP relies entirely on voluntary contributions to run its humanitarian and development projects which consist of monetary aid, food, or the basic items necessary to grow, store and cook food.¹³ WFP operation costs are funded by donations from world governments, corporations, and private donors. In an average year, more than 60 governments voluntarily provide funds for the humanitarian and development work of WFP.¹⁴ In 2006 alone, the program received close to US\$2.9 billion dollars in contributions.¹⁵ Donations to the WFP are voluntary, and Member States are not mandated to contribute a certain percent every year.

¹ "FAQS." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/faqs>

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ "Humanitarian Affairs." 60 Ways the United Nations Makes a Difference. United Nations. <http://www.un.org/un60/60ways/ha.shtml>

⁶ Biennial Programme of Work of the Executive Board. "Organizational and Procedural Matters." Executive Board First Regular Session. World Food Programme. Rome, 14-16 February 2011. <http://one.wfp.org/eb/docs/2011/wfp229535-1.pdf>

⁷ A/Res/50/8. *Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and reconstitution of the Committee on Food Aide Policies and Programmes as the Executive Board of the World Food Programme*. United Nations General Assembly. 7 December 1995. <http://www.undemocracy.com/A-RES-50-8.pdf>

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Biennial Programme of Work of the Executive Board. "Organizational and Procedural Matters." Executive Board First Regular Session. World Food Programme. Rome, 14-16 February 2011. <http://one.wfp.org/eb/docs/2011/wfp229535-1.pdf>

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ "WFP In Numbers." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/wfp-numbers>

¹⁵ Ibid.

The core strategies behind WFP activities, according to its mission statement, are to provide food aid to:

- Save lives in refugee and other emergency situations;
- Improve the nutrition and quality of life of the most vulnerable people at critical times in their lives; and
- Help build assets and promote the self-reliance of poor people and communities, particularly through labor-intensive works programmes.¹⁶

WFP food aid is also directed to fight micronutrient deficiencies, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, and combat disease, including HIV and AIDS.¹⁷ In order to achieve this mission, the WFP coordinates partnerships with various agencies, including national government agencies such as The UK Department for International Development (DFID), US Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization (ECHO), EuropeAid Development and Cooperation (EUROPEAID), and United States Agency for International Development (USAID).¹⁸ The WFP partners with UN agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Save the Children, Catholic Relief Services, and Norwegian Refugee Council.¹⁹ The WFP also receives donations from private corporations to aide in achieving WFP objectives. Some of the current partners of WFP are: Caterpillar, PepsiCo Foundation, Unilever, Vodafone Foundation, Yum, Zynga, along with many others.²⁰

The WFP has five objectives which are to:

- Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies;
- Prepare for emergencies;
- Restore and rebuild lives after emergencies;
- Reduce chronic hunger and malnutrition everywhere; and
- Strengthen the capacity of countries to reduce hunger.²¹

Today, the WFP continues to work toward the vision of a world liberated from hunger through collaboration with its sister agencies. The FAO, IFAD and the WFP collaborate in many ways to further the global community's goal of eliminating hunger and poverty.²² Each agency has a unique mandate—technical expertise, international financial assistance and food aid, respectively.²³ By working together, they give Member States the benefit of their combined strengths and complementary relationships and resources.²⁴ Increasingly, the FAO, IFAD and WFP coordinate their activities at international, national, and regional/local levels.

All three organizations have been working together in Mozambique on building commodity value chains and market linkages for farmers' associations, a joint programme within the United Nations Development Assistance Framework.²⁵ The WFP purchases maize and beans directly from stallholders' organizations in Mozambique.²⁶ The FAO provides technical expertise to help reduce post-harvest losses, upgrade product quality and put quality monitoring procedures in place. The IFAD is involved in mobilizing funds through

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ "FAQS." The World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/faqs>

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ "Meet our Partners." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/how-to-help/companies/meet-our-partners>

²¹ Ibid.

²² "Collaboration among the Rome-based United Nations agencies." Food and Agriculture Organization. <http://www.fao.org/rome-based-agencies/en>

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

financial partners to improve access to credit for the targeted producers' organizations.²⁷ In Pakistan, the three agencies collaborated extensively in response to the 2005 earthquake and the 2007 floods in the southern part of the country. Together they planned operations in the Pakistan/Afghanistan border areas, with WFP providing extensive logistical support for FAO's activities.²⁸

In addition to technical projects and emergency response, the joint work of FAO, IFAD and WFP includes advocacy and communication. Whenever possible, the three organizations speak in a united voice in international policy meetings and events, including within the framework of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis.²⁹ They delivered joint messages at the Doha International Conference on Financing for Development and at the substantive session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 2008 and at the UN High-level Panel on the Right to Food in spring of 2009.³⁰ Representatives from all three branches meet constantly, to discuss areas of opportunities, and further collaboration efforts that will benefit the international community.

The following Member States currently serve on the WFP's executive board:

ANGOLA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, CANADA, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CUBA, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, EGYPT, FRANCE, GERMANY, GUATEMALA, HAITI, INDIA, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, IRELAND, JAPAN, JORDAN, KENYA, MOROCCO, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PHILIPPINES, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SAUDI ARABIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, SOUTH AFRICA, SUDAN, UNITED KINGDOM, and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Topic I: Combating Global Malnourishment: An Assessment of World Efforts to Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

"We know that food and nutrition security cannot be achieved person by person or even nation by nation. Given its dependence on weather, water, technology, trade, and stability it also requires concerted and cooperative global action."

World Food Programme Executive Director Josette Sheeran³¹

Introduction

The World Food Programme (WFP) was created to ensure that no man, woman or child would ever go without the basic nutritional needs to sustain life.³² With the knowledge that 925 million people in developing Member States do not have sufficient quantities of food to eat, and at least 5 million child deaths per year are due to malnutrition, the WFP and the international community have a tremendous and essential task to accomplish.³³ The world is facing a hunger crisis of epic proportions. In 2005, 1.4 billion people lived in extreme poverty, and the World Bank estimates that the spike in global food prices in 2008,

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ "Remarks to the Opening Session of the Committee on World Food Security." World Food Programme.

<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp227282.pdf>

³² "Hunger Stats." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/hunger/stats>

³³ Ibid.

followed by the global economic recession in 2009 and 2010 has pushed between 100-150 million people into poverty.³⁴ One in two people worldwide still live on less than US\$2 a day; one in every four people live in extreme poverty, less than US\$1.25 a day.³⁵ Despite the steady decline in reported extreme income poverty since 1990, the global economic crisis is threatening to reverse any positive trends up to this point. In fact, the World Bank estimates that an additional 64 million people will suffer from poverty because of the crisis.³⁶ Simultaneously, high food prices are undermining the progress in fighting hunger. Many Member States in Africa, Asia and Latin America are suffering because of the effects of climate change, with limited natural resources available to sustain agricultural production, limiting smallholder and subsistence farmers' opportunities for development which limits their potential for becoming self-sufficient.³⁷ Despite the setbacks, the fight to end global malnourishment remains strong and the WFP is dedicated to ensuring the successful implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and a high quality of life for everyone.

The continued survival of many developing Member States depends on global partnerships to provide appropriate technology, food security, and the establishment of emergency preparedness to areas struggling with poverty and hunger.³⁸ In the fight against poverty and malnutrition, the WFP must analyze the food security situation of a given population, evaluate current methods to combat hunger and successfully accomplishing the MDGs aiming towards eradicating poverty and hunger, empowering women, and alleviating social injustice worldwide.³⁹ In order to meet many of the MDGs, the World Food Programme (WFP) must focus on methods to reduce the percentage of the world's hungry people by half from 20% currently to 10% by 2015 as well as provide knowledge and technology through universal primary education in order to provide more resources and bridge the gap between poverty and the rising cost of food. By accomplishing this, the WFP would be able to accurately analyze and predict the needs of developing Member States and could begin providing initiatives to combat poverty and hunger.⁴⁰

Millennium Development Goals

On 8 September 2000, the Millennium Declaration, the founding text of the MDGs, was adopted by the world's leaders during the 55th session of the United Nation's General Assembly.⁴¹ This text "sought to build a better and safer world for the 21st century, a more peaceful and prosperous world and a world united through the common values of freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature and shared responsibility."⁴² The MDGs are eight international goals that encourage development through the improvement of social and economic conditions in the poorest areas of the world by 2015.⁴³ The eight goals to achieve are listed as follows: Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education; Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women; Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality Rates; Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health; Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDs, Malaria, and other diseases; Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability; and Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development.⁴⁴

MDG 1: Eradicating Hunger

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ "Poverty and Social Injustice Breed Politics." World Food Programme. <http://tribune.com.pk/story/90645/poverty-and-social-injustice-breed-conflicts>

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ "Hunger Stats." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/hunger/stats>

³⁹ "Poverty and Social Injustice Breed Politics." World Food Programme. <http://tribune.com.pk/story/90645/poverty-and-social-injustice-breed-conflicts>

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ "Millennium Development Goals." France at the United Nations. <http://www.franceonu.org/spip.php?article4026>

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Millennium Development Goals." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/hunger/millennium-development-goals>

⁴⁴ Ibid.

Population growth and demand from developing Member States have had a significant impact on poverty and lead to a rise in those undernourished around the world.⁴⁵ Of the 925 million people the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports do not have enough to eat, 98 percent are in developing Member States.⁴⁶ Currently, the WFP is on track in meeting the goal of halving the majority of hungry people in east and southeast Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean by 2015, but sub-Saharan Africa and south Asia remain stagnant, with little to no progress in combating the issue.⁴⁷ Aligned parallel to the WFP's mission statement of ensuring food to hungry people, this MDG is a primary project for the committee. The main goals are to save lives, improve nutrition and enhance the quality of life for as many people as possible.⁴⁸ Despite significant setbacks after the 2008-2009 economic down-turn exacerbated by the food and energy crisis, the world is still on track to reach the poverty reduction target by 2015. In fact, it is expected that the global poverty rate will fall below 15 percent, well under the target of 23 percent as required by MDG 1.⁴⁹

Poverty and Rising Food Costs

Between October 2010 and January 2011, the World Bank's food price index increased by 15 percent, and the global prices of wheat, maize, sugar and edible oils all increased sharply.⁵⁰ As a result, since June 2010 "there has been a net increase in extreme poverty of about 44 million people in low- and middle-income Member States."⁵¹ According to World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick, "global food prices are rising to dangerous levels and threaten tens of millions of poor people around the world."⁵² Statistical analysis in the World Bank report, entitled "Food Price Watch" found that global wheat prices doubled and maize prices jumped 73% between June 2010 and January 2011.⁵³ The price of rice, a staple in many developing Member States, has increased at a moderate rate, and a good harvest on the African continent has kept prices down and prevented even more people from falling below the poverty line. Additionally, the Global Food Crisis Response Program, has helped 40 million people with \$1.5 billion in food relief and loans to improve agriculture in the areas that need it the most.⁵⁴

In order to deal with the food crisis, families are purchasing lower quality and quantities of food to feed the household members. This reduction in quality continues to put children at risk; in particular, areas in Central America, where WFP study "Rises in Prices, Markets and Food, and Nutritional Insecurity in Central America" highlights the risks that urban poor, food producers, and the rural poor face as a result of the food crisis.⁵⁵ In El Salvador for example, not only are the effects of the food crisis realized, but the economic crisis has also reduced the transfer of funds sent by more than 1,000,000 Salvadorian immigrants living in the United States. These fund transfers contribute to 18% of El Salvador's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), equivalent to a net worth of 80% of the value of its exports.⁵⁶

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ "Hunger Stats." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/hunger/stats>

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Millennium Development Goals." World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/hunger/millennium-development-goals>

⁴⁹ "The Millennium Development Goals Report." United Nations. 2011.

http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/11_MDG%20Report_EN.pdf

⁵⁰ "Rising Food Prices Intensify Poverty, Hunger In U.S. And World." *The*

Huffington Post. March 18, 2011.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/03/18/rising-food-prices-hunger_n_837664.html

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² "High food prices impoverish 44 million." USA Today. February 2011.

<http://content.usatoday.com/communities/greehouse/post/2011/02/rising-food-prices-44-million-poverty/1>

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ "How the food and economic crises are hitting central America." World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/stories/how-food-and-economic-crises-are-hitting-central-america>

⁵⁶ Ibid.

Food Assistance Programs and the Utilization of Poverty Maps

Poverty maps demonstrate food insecurity in a concise and succinct format. They are used to determine areas that need food assistance and help map vulnerability to food security; these maps can estimate population groupings as small as 500 households.⁵⁷ Incorporating data acquired from over 2.2 million households in Malawi, the WFP has partnered with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to develop a poverty map outlining poverty measures for the Member State of approximately 850 local government wards. They have employed a Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) methodology to identify populations most at risk of having insufficient food to meet their needs. This mapping provides measures on the depth and severity of poverty, and identifies the most vulnerable households.⁵⁸ Although the maps are time consuming and difficult to construct in helping to provide food to famished areas, utilizing poverty maps allows for a more complete determination of where aid should be primarily disbursed. These maps do not provide an explanation of why food insecurity and vulnerability exist in particular areas nor does it provide assistance in determining the best method to utilize in combating localized food insecurity. The biggest advantage of utilizing VAM is establishing baseline vulnerabilities that are critical in determining the progress programs have on poverty and hunger.⁵⁹

Food for Assets

Similar to the Cash-for-Work program, the WFPs Food for Assets (or Food for Work) program provides food in exchange for work from the poor, allowing individuals movement towards autonomy and allows self-sufficiency and upward mobility.⁶⁰ Work tasks include working on new infrastructure, acquiring new skills that will increase food security of individual households and communities at large. Irrigation, terracing, soil and water conservation, building new schools, and providing rations to farmers who practice soil conservation are just a few of the projects outlined by the WFP.⁶¹

The WFP explains that this Food for Assets project pays workers with food for their labor to start building a hunger-free future for their communities, an opportunity for underprivileged communities to create sustainable resources and take care of one another.⁶² Food-for-work programmes help promote environmental and economic stability and agricultural production. Food for Assets includes:

- Irrigation, terracing, soil and water conservation. In countries where drought regularly causes food shortages, irrigation can boost crop yields by 100-400%;
- In war-torn countries, WFP offers food assistance as an incentive for ex-combatants to abandon weapons and learn new skills, which are vital to smooth their transition back into society;
- Poverty often forces farmers to overuse soil and grazing land. The result is barren land and accelerating desertification. WFP provides food rations to farmers who practice soil conservation by planting trees;
- To help communities develop, WFP sometimes helps people in villages to build new schools. They receive food, so they can devote time to the building work without worry about losing income; and
- WFP helps people set up home gardening businesses by giving them food assistance as they train. This means later they have a livelihood with which to support themselves.⁶³

⁵⁷ "What can poverty maps tell us for food assistance programming?" World Food Programme. http://www.wfp.org/sites/default/files/Poverty%20Maps_English.pdf

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ "Food for Assets." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/food-assets>

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org>

⁶³ "Food For Assets." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/food-assets>

Food for Assets offers communities the opportunity to build vital infrastructure and take the first step towards a stable economy and prosperous future.⁶⁴

Food Aid Methods

Many methods have been implemented to aid in the reduction of poverty and hunger in developing Member States; including cash and food vouchers. These methods are most frequently utilized when there is food available in the Member State, but it may be too expensive for the poorest inhabitants to purchase on their own.⁶⁵

Cash and Vouchers

WFP's Cash and Vouchers program consist of funds in the form of food or vouchers to purchase food for the hungry inhabitants of a given Member State. Cash and Vouchers are ways of transferring resources to beneficiaries. Beneficiaries receive the cash or vouchers, which they can then use to gain access to food items in the marketplace.⁶⁶ Cash transfers are assistance to persons or households in the form of cash payments or bank transfers; beneficiaries then meet their own food needs in the marketplace. Voucher transfers are assistance to persons or households in the form of paper or electronic entitlement, which can be exchanged in shops for specific types and/or quantities of food.⁶⁷ The two main types of vouchers are:

- **Commodity voucher:** exchanged for fixed quantities of specified foods.
- **Cash voucher:** exchanged for a choice of specified food items with the equivalent cash value of the voucher.⁶⁸

Both types of voucher can be exchanged only for food; recipients cannot claim cash. Shops where vouchers can be exchanged are selected by WFP and/or cooperating partners (CPs) based on specific selection criteria.⁶⁹ Vouchers are most effective when the objective of assistance is to ensure improved food/nutrition intake, using local shops and markets as suppliers.⁷⁰ Cash and voucher transfers can be either conditional or unconditional. Both unconditional and conditional transfers can occur in the same project.

- **Unconditional transfers** make no demands on beneficiaries and assume that beneficiaries will definitely use cash/vouchers to obtain food.
- **Conditional transfers** impose requirements on beneficiaries such as participation in work, training or attending school.⁷¹

WFP's conditional transfers are normally made in return for participation in work or training (e.g. food for work/training programmes).⁷² WFP may also pay wages in cash or vouchers rather than directly with food. Cash and Vouchers for work programmes are intended to help beneficiaries directly as well as support the wider community through the outputs of the work.⁷³ Wages should cover beneficiaries' basic needs and

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ "Cash and Vouchers: An innovative way to fight hunger." World Food Programme.
<http://www.wfp.org/stories/cash-vouchers-innovative-tool-fight-hunger>

⁶⁶ Cash and Vouchers Manual. World Food Programme.
http://foodsecuritycluster.org/c/document_library/get_file?p_l_id=224242&groupId=120482&folderId=196617&name=DLFE-11131.pdf

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ Ibid.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid.

should not compete with the local labour market.⁷⁴ Usually, the wages are kept slightly below the market levels to serve as a self-targeting mechanism.⁷⁵ Conditions on beneficiaries receiving assistance can be targeted at changing behaviour (e.g. following health advice, attending nutritional education classes or sending children to school).⁷⁶ Most often such cash or voucher transfers are used in combination with in-kind assistance (also called direct food assistance) in post-emergency recovery and development programming.⁷⁷

Program implementation

Due to economic and political crisis and extreme drought, in Zimbabwe, the WFP employs the Cash for Cereal program. High inflation between 2001-2009 resulted in many public services ceasing to exist coupled with 80% unemployment and 13/7% HIV/AIDs prevalence increases the vulnerability of the Member State.⁷⁸ Typically, families/individuals receive funding every six weeks of an allocated amount to utilize at their local markets. Through analysis of the program, research shows that recipients of this program have a more balanced diet, and they prefer to receive cash as they find inventive ways to allow their funds to last longer through buying in bulk.⁷⁹

In Afghanistan, due to prolonged recovery needs as a result of three decades of war and recurring natural disasters, millions of Afghans continue to live in severe poverty with more than half of the population below the poverty line. The WFP distributes monthly vouchers to families/individuals to be used in exchange for food items at select local markets.⁸⁰ WFP first introduced this program by distributing 1,500 vouchers to families in Jalalabad and then later in Kabul. There are plans to support an additional 30,000 beneficiaries in 2011 and allow local markets to receive new business as those who once could not shop in these stores are now regular customers.⁸¹

The Philippines presents a unique case because it is characterized as one of the most phone savvy Member States and is subsequently known as “the texting capital of the world.”⁸² In a Member State in which many individuals possess a mobile phone or share with others the WFP is able to reach out to them through text messages for distributing money earned through WFP “cash-for work” projects, also known as “Cash-by-Text.”⁸³ By distributing Cash through text to mobile phones the WFP’s program provides a faster, efficient method for individuals to receive their funds automatically after a hard day’s work and allows for many logistical issues to be resolved in regards to organizing cash distributions. The program allows individuals to receive their funds at any of the 18,000 participating corner shops within their communities.⁸⁴

Development Operations

The WFP continues to explore methods to prevent hunger by implementing innovative projects that will allow families to focus more on building a sustainable future for themselves, rather than worrying about

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ “Cash for cereals: Making money work in Zimbabwe.” World Food Programme.
<http://www.wfp.org/stories/cash-cereals-making-money-work-zimbabwe>

⁸⁰ “With new food vouchers, Afghan poor get to choose.” World Food Programme.
<http://www.wfp.org/stories/wfp-food-vouchers-afghan-poor-choose>

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² “Help arrives by text in the Philippines.” World Food Programme.
<http://www.wfp.org/stories/hope-arrives-text-families-philippines>

⁸³ Ibid.

⁸⁴ Ibid.

how to provide basic food needs for their families.⁸⁵ Providing nutritious school meals for children and implementing a food for assets program in which the WFP pays families with food in exchange for their focus on building irrigation systems that can boost production are two methods in the exploration phase. Additionally, implementing a Purchase for Progress (P4P) program that affords help to poor farmers and connects them to reliable markets is being addressed. Families can meet competitive prices for their product and take a positive step in the direction of sustainability.⁸⁶ The WFP's Development Operations (DEVs) targets homes and communities at an estimated 23.8 million people where hunger presents a serious concern to health and productivity. This operation temporarily alleviates the burden of families searching for needs to provide food for their families in which they are given time and resources to invest in assets such as real estate, clinics, schools, and technology.⁸⁷ Noted by the WFP, an additional way in which the organizations help poor families is to invest in their future through disaster mitigation. Member States who are consistently affected by natural disasters are aided by the WFP's development program, consisting of contingency plans to enhance its ability to respond to emergencies.⁸⁸

WFP's development aid temporarily frees the poor of the need to provide food for their families, giving them time and resources to invest in lasting assets such as better houses, clinics and schools, new agricultural skills, technology and, ultimately, a better future.⁸⁹ In 2006, WFP development projects benefitted 24.3 million people, targeting homes and communities where hunger poses a serious threat to health and productivity.⁹⁰ When food security is not at risk, development aid is not considered appropriate. To this end, WFP makes sure its aid is concentrated on pre-identified, food-insecure areas inside recipient Member States, usually rural areas of low productivity prone to natural disasters and areas vulnerable to periodic food shortages.⁹¹ The Agency also works in towns and cities with high concentrations of malnutrition. According to the WFP categories document, the current structures of DEVs are as follows:

- Normally cover period of no more than five years;
- Country Programmes combine several development activities to achieve multiple objectives;
- DEV projects normally limited to single development activity; and
- Developed on the basis of the common country assessment (CCA), United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) or Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) for the country.⁹²

⁸⁵ "Preventing Hunger." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/preventing-hunger>

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ "Development Operations (DEVs)." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/node/125>

⁸⁸ Ibid.

⁸⁹ Ibid.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

⁹¹ Ibid.

⁹² "World Food Programmes Categories." The World Food Programme.
<http://home.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/resources/wfp212969.pdf>

Nutrition and Logistics

In the WFP's fight to combat hunger, it is important that programs provide adequate amounts of quality-rich, nutritious foods to Member States in dire need.⁹³ In order to meet the needs of the over 90 million individuals in 74 Member States, a highly efficient and strategic logistics initiative must be employed. This includes being able to reach the desert, swamp, or jungle to supply food to the hungry.⁹⁴

Nutrition

As diets vary throughout the world, the WFP utilizes nutrition experts to provide guidance on international standards. These experts advise the organization on appropriate food supplies to deliver to specific Member States.⁹⁵ A large part of the WFP's methods to combat hunger are tailored to mothers and young children as "research confirms that good nutrition in the early years of life is crucial for human growth and mental development."⁹⁶ Currently, malnutrition accounts for a third of all deaths in children under the age of 5 in developing Member States.⁹⁷ The WFP also reaches out to additional vulnerable groups such as people living with HIV and children born with AIDS.⁹⁸

Logistics

As the largest humanitarian agency in the world, WFP operates in more than 80 Member States delivering food aid to over 100 million people a year.⁹⁹ On any given day, WFP has 60 planes in the air, 40 ships on the high seas and 5,000 trucks on the road.¹⁰⁰ WFP maintains an unrivaled deep field presence in some of the most remote places on earth.¹⁰¹ WFP provides logistics services in the core functions of storage, handling and multi-modal transport with combinations of air, sea, river, road and rail.¹⁰² It also provides associated services that ensure commodity loss mitigation such as commodity insurance, tracking and commodity fumigation. It further facilitates these functions by alleviating logistical bottlenecks.¹⁰³ Depending on the location and WFP's country presence, potential services offered by WFP to the humanitarian community include the following:

- **Procurement** – the procurement of food commodities, non-food items (NFIs) and support equipment for emergency relief operations;
- **Storage** – storage of humanitarian relief items and support equipment;
- **Customs**-facilitation of expedited customs clearance;
- **Logistics coordination and information management** – provision of logistics/operational coordination through:
 - cargo consolidation;
 - cargo tracking;
 - information sharing and dissemination; and
 - logistics training – training materials currently available for logistics professionals including both technical training and skills development.¹⁰⁴

⁹³ "Nutrition." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/nutrition>

⁹⁴ "Logistics." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/logistics>

⁹⁵ "Nutrition." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/nutrition>

⁹⁶ Ibid.

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ Ibid.

⁹⁹ "Logistic Services" World Food Programme. <http://logistics.wfp.org/content/logistics-services>

¹⁰⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰¹ Ibid.

¹⁰² Ibid.

¹⁰³ Ibid.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid.

In the event that transportation by roads or sea is unavailable the last option is to utilize aviation transport. Airlifts are utilized to deliver food to some of the worlds most hostile and inaccessible areas and in addition provide transportation for humanitarian aid workers involved in assessments and food distributions.¹⁰⁵ In the event of emergencies, the WFP works steadily to ensure food assistance is delivered where needed through effective rapid response methods. These methods include: the emergency logistics team ALITE, “virtual” food stocks, standby arrangements, and UN humanitarian response depot (UNHRD).¹⁰⁶ The Augmented Logistics Intervention Team for Emergencies (ALITE) is the WFPs Logistics unit tasked with providing rapid and effective emergency services and supplying “urgently-needed personnel, equipment, and high energy food.”¹⁰⁷ Food virtual stocks are characterized as development stocks, in which the WFP can “draw on food stocks set up for development projects around the world”; stocks afloat, in which the WFP charters and can redirect food aid shipments to meet crisis needs; and in-country borrowing, that allows WFP logistics to enlist in-country food reserves to meet emergency needs.¹⁰⁸ Standby arrangements allow donor Member States and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to provide WFP with logistical experts to assist staff to repair roads, manage fleets, and communicate in the field, with these standby personnel providing a home base that is set up near disaster scenes.¹⁰⁹ The UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) serves both WFP and allows the organization to “pre-position emergency supplies and support equipment at strategically placed ‘hubs.’” These hubs are strategically located in Ghana, UAE, Malaysia, Panama and Italy; in the event that an emergency is to occur relief items can be transported to affected areas with 24-48 hours.¹¹⁰

Conclusion

With the incorporation of the WFP’s poverty eradication strategies to combat hunger one thing is certain—these methods are helping to keep families from starving and providing them with the opportunity to have a balanced diet. It also places them in situations that allow the public to feel autonomous and empowered in the decisions they make. WFP goes above and beyond to provide for those in need of food within developing Member States and there are many methods to ensure that quality food is transported to all individuals. In regards to combating hunger as a whole the WFP still has quite a way to go especially in Member States that do not seem to be effectively using the resources given to them. There is a great potential for success, but Member States must be prepared for hard work and slow progress, often beginning in just a small town or village with several households. Once mastering the methodology in a small setting, the potential for success increases exponentially.

Committee Directive

Delegates should be prepared for a lively debate on the issue and use critical thinking skills to determine new and innovative ways to get food to those in need. By considering these obscure options, delegates may inadvertently open new doors to ideas that the WFP and other organizations have never considered. Examine and consider why certain provisions work for some areas, but not others, and how modifications to existing programs and policies may help even more than creating something from scratch. Remember that when researching for committee, delegates should be well-versed on poverty and hunger statistics and the needs present within their borders. Also, what programs and policies are in place that addresses hunger and poverty? Are they working? Is the WFP active within your Member State? If so, are there positive responses from members within your Member State? What about other programs? What are the specific needs of your Member State?

¹⁰⁵ “Aviation.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/logistics/aviation>

¹⁰⁶ “Rapid Response.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/logistics/rapid-response>

¹⁰⁷ Ibid.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

II: Examining the Impact of Natural Disasters on Food Distribution

“When it comes to food, the margins between stability and chaos are perilously thin”

-Josette Sheeran Executive Director of World Food Programme¹¹¹

Introduction

Since its inception, the World Food Programme (WFP) has been dedicated to helping those plagued by natural disasters. Some of the most common natural disasters are avalanches, earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, lightning, tornados, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, and wildfires.¹¹² Great strides have been made towards predicting and preventing disasters. With today's technology, for example, forecasters can make accurate predictions regarding a hurricane's landfall 24 hours before it hits.¹¹³ Earthquakes can provide some clues when scientists analyze seismic activity, but this technology is still too primitive for geologists to accurately predict their locations or severities.¹¹⁴ Many developing Member States do not have access to adequate technology and therefore would not be able to analyze or predict potential disaster to avert economic hardship. The reported global cost of natural disasters has risen significantly, with a 15-fold increase between the 1950s and 1990s.¹¹⁵ The last decade of the 20th century was designated as *International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction* (IDNDR) at the 42nd General Assembly (GA) Resolution 169 in 1987.¹¹⁶ During the 1990s, major natural catastrophes are reported to have resulted in economic losses averaging an estimated US\$66 billion per year.¹¹⁷

Recognizing the financial strains that a natural disaster takes on an economy, the failure to realize the amount of time it takes to get adequate food and water supply to disaster stricken areas becomes a major issue. Following natural disasters, such as the recent earthquake and tsunami in South East Asia, many Member States and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) were faced with the daunting task of providing food to those in the affected areas.¹¹⁸ Recently, we have seen that the challenge of food distribution is impacted around the world regardless of economic stature. A bridge that takes years to build is wiped out in minutes, making it harder to deliver proper aid to individuals in the affected areas. With the subsequent chaos, the challenge is to find alternate methods to distribute food. When dealing with earthquakes, tsunamis and floods, ground distribution is not feasible and the availability of air transportation is not guaranteed. NGOs and Western countries usually use air food drops, which may harm the public depending on the weight of each package. The package itself can be stolen and lost in the process of food drops.

Natural disasters hinder the proper distribution of food due to the lack of proper planning.¹¹⁹ A tsunami washes away roads and infrastructure destroying the proper storage and distribution facilities for food, limiting the life cycle of all food aid.¹²⁰ When food is not properly stored it gives rise to higher levels of contamination creating more problems in the wake of the natural disaster.¹²¹ The proper transportation and

¹¹¹ World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org>

¹¹² “Natural Disasters.” National Geographic. <http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/natural-disasters>

¹¹³ “Hurricanes: Engines of Destruction.” National Geographic.

<http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/natural-disasters/hurricane-profile>

¹¹⁴ Matthew d'Alessio. “When Will the Next One Hit? How Do We Know?” Earthquake Science Explained: A Series of Ten Short Articles for Students, Teachers, and Families. USGS Science for a Changing World. <http://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/2006/21/gip-21.pdf>

¹¹⁵ Margaret Arnold. “Disaster reconstruction and risk management for poverty reduction.” *Journal of International Affairs*, 2006. Issue 59. pp.2.

¹¹⁶ A/RES/49/2249/22. *International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction*. United Nations General Assembly. December 2, 1994. <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/49/a49r022.htm>

¹¹⁷ Charlotte Benson and Edward Clay. “Developing countries and the economic impacts of natural disasters.” *Disaster Risk Management Series* 2. 2000. Washington, D.C. World Bank. pp. 11-21.

¹¹⁸ Ibid.

¹¹⁹ Ibid.

¹²⁰ Ibid.

¹²¹ World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org>

storage of food aid is central to the analysis of food distribution because contaminated goods can cause more deaths than the natural disaster alone. The majority of lives lost in natural disasters occur after the event due to a lack of proper distribution. In addition, the monopolization of power endangers the lives of many. Food aid is often monopolized by those in positions of power. Food drops are ineffective because there are no guarantees that the food will reach the people in the highest situation of need.¹²² These drops inadequately address the shortages of food resulting in further chaos rather than alleviating the problem.¹²³

Another major problem which food drops cannot address is the lack of clean drinking water. Clean drinking water is essential to the survival of victims of natural disasters. Lack of access to drinking water is devastating to the success of food drops. Food drops often times are characterized by the use of staple products like rice or corn. Rice is a staple product that requires the use of clean water for cooking and as a result, if there is no access to clean water, it defeats the essence of proper distribution.¹²⁴ Also, the lack of clean drinking water and consumable goods creates violence. Violent outbreaks after natural disasters threaten the safety of the citizens. Natural disasters can be utilized to undermine the power of governments through a threat to the rule of law. Stable governmental agencies are vital to the proper distribution of food aid after a natural disaster. Their position of power allows them to present a unified front on what should be done concerning the distribution of food aid. However, many governments face chaos in the aftermath of natural disasters due to large bureaucracy and inefficiency. The nature of these catastrophic events demands proper distribution of food. Natural disasters play a significant role in the distribution of food aid because they limit the process by which food aid can be distributed.

Background

Between March 2007 and March 2008 WFP has put forth more efforts not only to supply food to disaster stricken areas, but also the ability to get it there. Global food prices increased an average of 43 percent, according to the International Monetary Fund.¹²⁵ During that time period, wheat prices increased by 146 percent, soybean prices increased by 71 percent, corn prices increased by 41 percent, and rice prices increased 29 percent, respectively.¹²⁶ Rising food prices contributed to a significant increase in food insecurity worldwide, particularly among developing Member States. Approximately one sixth of the world's population subsists on less than \$1 per day.¹²⁷ According to the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), an average household food prices have a significant effect on poor and food-insecure population.¹²⁸ Overall, increased food prices particularly affect developing Member States, and the poorest people within those countries, where populations spend a larger proportional share of income on basic food commodities.¹²⁹

When a region is struck by devastation, the question arises of how to get aid relief to the people as quickly as possible. In order to distribute aid effectively, WFP must assess the impact of the disaster and collaborate with the Member State to execute their plan of action. WFP is then mandated to provide food assistance to save lives in refugee and emergency situations; by doing so it improves the nutrition and quality of life of the most vulnerable people at critical times in their lives.¹³⁰ It further helps build assets and promote self-reliance of poor people and communities. WFP concentrates its efforts and resources on

¹²² "News: Latest Stories." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-airdrops-food>

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ "Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS)." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/food-security/reports/FSMS>

¹²⁵ "USAID Responds to Global Food Crisis." United States Agency International Development. May 22, 2009. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/foodcrisis/

¹²⁶ Ibid.

¹²⁷ Ibid.

¹²⁸ Ibid.

¹²⁹ Ibid.

¹³⁰ United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). United Nations Swaziland. http://www.sz.one.un.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=136

the neediest people and Member States. Its assistance is guided solely by need and is targeted to those most at risk from the consequences of food shortages.¹³¹ The WFP's rapid response team draws-up contingency plans designed to move food and humanitarian aid fast into disaster areas. The agency works closely with the other members of the UN family, governments and NGOs, and offers its logistical expertise to guarantee the delivery of all kinds of humanitarian aid.¹³²

However, when coping with natural disasters, the focus is more on the speed at which systems can recover, and less so on preventive measures.¹³³ Accountability and responsibility are concepts that are less clear in the aftermath of natural disaster scenarios.¹³⁴ When natural disasters affect food supply chains, the key is to manage what follows in an efficient, systemic, and brisk manner.¹³⁵ Food strategists and policymakers cannot sufficiently appreciate the potential devastation of a natural disaster until they analyze it within the context of the larger food system of which it is a part.¹³⁶ A more general solution lies in how public officials communicate risks, directly and indirectly, with the community affected by the incident.¹³⁷ The reality is that natural disasters make victims, and often, lots of them. When human lives are at stake, food safety is automatically a secondary concern.

Current Status

As we examine the devastation around the world as a result of natural disasters, we recognize that many developing Member States are in need of food supplies due to the lack proper infrastructures. When the Member State's physical infrastructure is affected by a natural disaster, it makes it that much harder to provide relief to its people. Many NGOs and other relief agencies are solely left with making food drops, which endanger already suffering populations even more. The current international food moved some developed Member States to create programs not only to feed Member States quickly, but to help redevelop their agricultural sectors through providing seeds and other agricultural resources.¹³⁸

In their recent meeting of G20 Agriculture Ministers stressed the importance of a significant increase in agricultural production and productivity. Considering the diversity of conditions world-wide and the need for a sustainable use of natural resources, G20 must respond to the challenge of a growing demand.¹³⁹ To feed a world population which is expected to reach more than 9 billion in 2050, it is estimated that agricultural production will have to increase by 70 percent over the same period, and more specifically by almost 100 percent in developing countries.¹⁴⁰ As stated in the Multi-Year Action Plan on Development, this requires a balanced set of measures to increase resilience, production, productivity and resources efficiency; especially in the least developed countries and with regard to small-scale family farming.¹⁴¹ This plan also requires significant advances to reduce pre- and post-harvest losses and food waste along value chains.¹⁴²

To support the preparation of a feasibility study and a proposal for a pilot, the WFP and other international organizations will establish these programs by the end of June 2011. Bilateral development partners and potential eligible countries in a particular region could participate in an emergency humanitarian food

¹³¹ Ibid.

¹³² Ibid.

¹³³ Sylvain Charlebois. "Food risk in Japan: natural disasters and food safety." OEN: OpEdNews.com. May 15, 2011. <http://www.opednews.com/articles/Food-risks-in-Japan-natur-by-Sylvain-Charlebois-110515-569.html>

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ Ibid.

¹³⁶ Ibid.

¹³⁷ Ibid.

¹³⁸ "World Food Programmes Categories." The World Food Programme.

<http://home.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/resources/wfp212969.pdf>

¹³⁹ "Ministerial Declaration: Action Plan on Food Price Volatility and Agriculture." Meeting of G20 Agriculture Ministers. Paris, France. June 22 and 23, 2011. http://agriculture.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/2011-06-23_-_Action_Plan_-_VFinale.pdf

¹⁴⁰ Ibid.

¹⁴¹ Ibid.

¹⁴² Ibid.

reserves pilot, involving expertise from the civil society and the private sector.¹⁴³ They are charged to elaborate a proposal for a pilot program for small targeted regional emergency humanitarian food reserves, consistent with annex II of the WTO agreement on agriculture to:

- strengthen synergies with ongoing regional initiatives;
- take into account the aid effectiveness principles;
- operate with the active participation of the countries concerned;
- provide evidence of cost effectiveness and efficiency compared to other instruments; and
- optimize existing instruments.¹⁴⁴

The proposal for a pilot will be designed to cover a limited group of Member States, selected from Low Income Food Deficit Countries (LIFDC) as determined by FAO and Least Developed Countries (LDC) as defined by the United Nations General Assembly in a particular region.¹⁴⁵ This proposal for a pilot will ensure integration with schemes of targeted assistance to the most vulnerable, such as safety nets, and clear transparent and pre-determined trigger mechanisms, such as early warning systems.¹⁴⁶ The pilot will determine the best combination of physical and financial instruments for small regional emergency humanitarian food reserves and specify technical requirements and financial conditions for the best options for procurement, size, composition, release terms, replenishment and rotation.¹⁴⁷ The pilot will benefit from lessons learnt and experience gained through other initiatives promoted by the G20, in particular in the context of the Agricultural Market Information System, the risk management toolbox and the development of a code of conduct for responsible emergency food reserves management.¹⁴⁸

Case Study Haiti

A 7.0 magnitude earthquake occurred inland, on 12 January 2010, approximately 25 kilometers (16 mi) from Port-au-Prince at a depth of 13 kilometers (8.1 mi).¹⁴⁹ By 24 January, at least 52 aftershocks measuring 4.5 or greater had been recorded.¹⁵⁰ Approximately three million people were affected by the quake.¹⁵¹ The Haitian government reported that an estimated 316,000 people died, 300,000 had been injured and 1,000,000 are homeless.¹⁵² The government of Haiti also estimated that 250,000 residences and 30,000 commercial buildings had collapsed or were severely damaged.¹⁵³ Currently, 19 million cubic meters of rubble and debris exist in Port-au-Prince; which is enough to fill a line of shipping containers stretching from London to Beirut.¹⁵⁴ Presently, 1.5 million people are living in camps including over 100,000 at critical risk from storms and flooding.¹⁵⁵ There are over 1,100 camps and 54 of these are home to 5,000 people or more.¹⁵⁶

¹⁴³ Ibid.

¹⁴⁴ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵ Ibid.

¹⁴⁶ Ibid.

¹⁴⁷ Ibid.

¹⁴⁸ Ibid.

¹⁴⁹ "Magnitude 7.0-HAITI REGION." USGS: Science for a changing world. January 12, 2010.
<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eqinthenews/2010/us2010rja6/>

¹⁵⁰ "As Haiti mourns, quake survivor found in rubble." *The New York Daily Times*. January 24, 2010.
http://www.newyorkdailytimes.com/news/story/y/75005_as-haiti-mourns-quake-survivor-found-in-rubble.htm

¹⁵¹ Red Cross: 3M Haitians Affected by Quake." CBS News. January 13, 2010.
<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/01/13/world/main6090601.shtml?tag=cbsnewsSectionContent.4>

¹⁵² "Haiti raises earthquake toll to 230,000". Associated Press. *The Washington Post*. February 10, 2010.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/09/AR2010020904447.html>

¹⁵³ Clarens Renois. "Haitians angry over slow aid." *The Age*. February 5, 2010.
<http://www.theage.com.au/world/haitians-angry-over-slow-aid-20100204-ng2g.html>

¹⁵⁴ "Haiti Earthquake Facts and Figures." Disasters Emergency Committee. <http://www.dec.org.uk/item/425>

¹⁵⁵ Ibid.

¹⁵⁶ Ibid.

Due to the severity of the quake and aftermath, The Red Cross dispatched a relief team from Geneva and the UN's World Food Program sent two planes with emergency food aid.¹⁵⁷ WFP is working with all of its partners to mobilize a regular flow of food to reach all of those devastated by the earthquake," said WFP Executive Director Josette Sheeran.¹⁵⁸ The Inter-American Development Bank stated "it was immediately approving a \$200,000 grant for emergency aid."¹⁵⁹ Various Member States responded to the disaster with humanitarian aid, pledging funds and dispatching rescue, medical teams, engineers and support personnel.¹⁶⁰ The earthquake, which hampered rescue and aid efforts, had damaged communication systems, air, land, and sea transport facilities, hospitals, and electrical networks. Confusion over who was in charge, air traffic congestion, and problems with prioritization of flights further complicated early relief work.¹⁶¹

Within 24 hours of the earthquake, WFP started an emergency operation to feed the survivors and in the week afterwards, WFP delivered 1 million rations to more than 200,000 people.¹⁶² Currently, the WFP is focusing on increasing long-term food security. At the peak of WFP's emergency response, the agency provided food for over 4 million people in Port-au-Prince and beyond, with general food distributions as well as meals for hospitals and children's homes.¹⁶³ At this time, WFP is reaching close to 2 million Haitians with its programmes, by supporting the National School Meals Programme to provide a daily hot meal to Haitian school children.¹⁶⁴ Also, under the Cash for Food Work; more than 150 projects are designed to support reconstruction and disaster risk reduction. The program increases the sustainability of agricultural rehabilitation stimulate the local economy and pays workers with money and rations of food for a family of 5.¹⁶⁵

Following the earthquake, WFP opened up air, sea and land corridors to get help into Haiti. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1908(2010) also deployed more UN peacekeeping troops in efforts to distribute more aid to the people of Haiti.¹⁶⁶ WFP transports food, relief items and humanitarian personnel from several hundred organizations to urban and remote areas.¹⁶⁷ UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) provided a vital link between Haiti's main cities and remote areas inaccessible by road.¹⁶⁸ After the quake, landlines, cell phones and satellite communications were all down. Within days, WFP specialists connected aid workers to each other and the world.¹⁶⁹ WFP's team has provided additional VHF coverage in the affected areas as well as wireless networks in Port-au-Prince and most major Haitian cities, which increased the reach of WFP programmes.¹⁷⁰ WFP collaborated with partners to boost capacity, which allowed them to implement programmes effectively and assist the government to increase capacity and decrease food insecurity.¹⁷¹ The agency has also implemented long-term strategies to improve food security in Haiti

¹⁵⁷ Ibid.

¹⁵⁸ "WFP Begins Major Scale-Up of Food Assistance Operation to Victims of Haiti Earthquake." World Food Programme. January 30, 2010. <http://usa.wfp.org/news-release/wfp-begins-major-scale-food-assistance-operation-victims-haiti-earthquake>

¹⁵⁹ Ibid.

¹⁶⁰ Ibid.

¹⁶¹ Ibid.

¹⁶² "Haiti: One year after the 12 January earthquake." World Food Program. January 2011.

<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp230092.pdf>

¹⁶³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴ Ibid.

¹⁶⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶⁶ Ibid.

¹⁶⁷ Ibid.

¹⁶⁸ Ibid.

¹⁶⁹ Ibid.

¹⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹⁷¹ Ibid.

by contributing to the development of agricultural sector and by stimulating the markets and local economy through local purchases.¹⁷²

Today, the WFP is operating three programs in Haiti: school meals, supplementary feeding, and Cash/Food for Work programs.¹⁷³ It also provides daily hot meals to 655,000 school children and hopes to reach 800,000 children by the end of the year.¹⁷⁴ It aims to address malnutrition through its supplementary feeding program in which nutritional and food supplements (such as fortified peanut paste and corn soya blend) are given to children under five, as well as pregnant and nursing mothers. The program is serving 563,000 and aims to reach 655,000 by the end of 2010.¹⁷⁵ Furthermore, Cash and Food for Work programs in coordination with the Haitian government currently employs 35,000 Haitians working on reconstruction and infrastructure based projects in exchange for receiving food rations and/or cash the program plans to expand employment to 140,000 workers.¹⁷⁶ WFP recently reported that it still welcomes donations from the international community, which will help in the re-building of Haiti.

Case Study Pakistan

The World Food Programme started food distributions to 35,000 families hit by catastrophic flooding in Northwestern Pakistan, which has also affected parts of neighboring Afghanistan on August 1, 2010.¹⁷⁷ In late July of 2010 Pakistan was devastated by floods resulting from heavy monsoon rains from different parts of the region. Approximately one-fifth of Pakistan's total land area was underwater, equaling 796,095 square kilometers (307,374 sq mi).¹⁷⁸ According to the Pakistani government the floods directly affected about 20 million people, mostly by destruction of property, livelihood and infrastructure. With a death toll of close to 2,000 people, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon had initially asked for \$460 million for emergency relief, noting that the flood was the worst disaster he had ever seen.¹⁷⁹ Only 20% of the relief funds requested had been received as of 15 August 2010.¹⁸⁰ The U.N. had been concerned that aid was not arriving fast enough, and the World Health Organization reported that ten million people were forced to drink unsafe water.¹⁸¹ As a result of the floods, the Pakistani economy was harmed by extensive damage to its infrastructure and crop production.¹⁸² Wheat crop damages were estimated to be over 500 million USD and total economic impact may have been as much as 43 billion USD.¹⁸³

The United Nations estimates 10 million people urgently needed food and shelter; many are living in wretched conditions beside roads, sleeping in the open with little food and clean water.¹⁸⁴ The authorities and aid agencies have struggled to help the survivors, many of who have lost everything and say they

¹⁷² Ibid.

¹⁷³ "Six Months After the Quake: WFP Empowers Haiti to Build Food Security System." World Food Programme. July 8, 2010. <http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/six-months-after-quake-wfp-empowers-haiti-build-food-security-system>

¹⁷⁴ Ibid.

¹⁷⁵ Ibid.

¹⁷⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷⁷ "WFP Begins First Food Distributions To Pakistan Flood Victims; Food Supplies Hit." World Food Programme. August 1, 2010. <http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-begins-first-food-distributions-pakistan-flood-victims-food-supplies-hit>

¹⁷⁸ "Millions of Pakistan children at risk of flood diseases." *BBC News Online*. August 16, 2010. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-south-asia-10984477>

¹⁷⁹ UN chief: Pakistan needs more aid." *Al Jazeera*. August 15, 2010. <http://english.aljazeera.net/news/asia/2010/08/201081552627441712.html>.

¹⁸⁰ Ibid.

¹⁸¹ Neil MacFarquhar. "U.N. Warns of Supply Shortage in Pakistan." *New York Times*. August 18, 2010. <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/19/world/asia/19nations.html?hp>

¹⁸² "Floods to hit economic growth: Finance Ministry." *Dawn News*. August 10, 2010. <http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/business/03-floods-to-hit-economic-growth-finance-ministry-ss-04>

¹⁸³ "Pakistan battles economic pain of floods." *The Jakarta Globe*. August 19, 2010. <http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/afp/pakistan-battles-economic-pain-of-floods/392220>

¹⁸⁴ Ibid.

received no warnings that raging waters were heading their way. Initial fears of a second wave of deaths caused by water- and insect-borne diseases such as cholera, typhoid and malaria have eased as the floodwaters receded.¹⁸⁵ The floods damaged millions of hectares of cultivatable land and crops, and many farmers lost their seeds.¹⁸⁶ Aid workers say water could stagnate on the surface for months, making planting difficult.¹⁸⁷ The people most severely affected were predominantly small farmers and unskilled laborers.¹⁸⁸

More than 60 percent lost immediate access to their primary livelihood and were faced with a drop in their already low income by more than half.¹⁸⁹ The significant increase in food prices in flood-affected areas is exacerbating the situation.¹⁹⁰ More than three quarters of the affected population have access to less than one-week supply of food and livestock were severely impacted. On average 40 percent of livestock were lost by flood-affected households. And almost half of the affected population has unacceptable food intake, in spite of the efforts by government/army, NGOs, UN and the general public.¹⁹¹ Nutrition measurements indicate that the malnutrition situation is deteriorating.¹⁹² Based on the number of destroyed and unlivable houses as well as the extent of crop losses, 10.1 million people are in need of immediate assistance.¹⁹³ Within this group, considering current food consumption levels and displacement status, at least 7.8 million are particularly vulnerable to lasting food insecurity.¹⁹⁴ Longer-term food assistance requirements for recovery and rehabilitation programmes amount to 3.6 million people living in highly food insecure area.¹⁹⁵ WFP is fighting to overcome the weather, devastated infrastructure and the sheer scale of human need in providing food aid to as many as six million victims of the recent floods in Pakistan.¹⁹⁶ Trucks, helicopters and even mules are being used to transport food around the country and reach those cut off from help.¹⁹⁷

WFP is fighting to overcome the weather, devastated infrastructure and the sheer scale of human need in providing food aid to as many as victims of the recent floods in Pakistan.¹⁹⁸ The agency also reached some 430,000 people in the northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) province where the flooding was hit hardest, and begun rolling out food distributions in eastern and southern regions of the country.¹⁹⁹ With floodwaters closing in on communities in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan, WFP geared up to feed over 825,000 people in those regions over the coming days.²⁰⁰ The WFP-led Logistics Cluster has delivered more than 3,500 metric tons of food and non-food items, including vital medical supplies, to isolated locations in KPK, Sindh and Punjab.²⁰¹ As the operation shifts into high gear, WFP estimates that at any one time, a fleet of over 200 trucks is on the move around the country delivering food to victims.²⁰² WFP is well positioned for a rapid response in Pakistan, thanks to its numerous NGO partners and longstanding

¹⁸⁵ Ibid.

¹⁸⁶ Ibid.

¹⁸⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸⁸ Ibid.

¹⁸⁹ "Pakistan flood impact assessment." World Food Programme. September 2010.

<http://home.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp225987.pdf>

¹⁹⁰ Ibid.

¹⁹¹ Ibid.

¹⁹² Ibid.

¹⁹³ Ibid.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁹⁶ "WFP Battling To Reach Pakistan Flood Victims." World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/stories/wfp-boosts-pakistan-flood-aid>

¹⁹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰⁰ Ibid.

²⁰¹ "Pakistan: Operational Update (1 Oct. 2010)." World Food Programme. October 1, 2010.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/pakistan-floods-emergency>

²⁰² Ibid.

presence in the region. In addition, a network of humanitarian hubs, some with food stocks, allowed for ready distributions as soon as the disaster struck.²⁰³

The FAO, IFAD and WFP worked swiftly to mobilize resources, logistics and capacity on the ground to address immediate and longer-term food needs.²⁰⁴ Together, these agencies are ramping up complementary programmes such as emergency food and nutritional assistance, distribution of agricultural inputs such as seeds, animal feed and veterinary supplies, rehabilitation of damaged land, agricultural infrastructure, and microfinance activities.²⁰⁵ These programmes require generous and sustained donor support and hold the potential to provide immediate food assistance while helping the government invest in agriculture and safety nets in order to address hunger and food insecurity exacerbated by the recent natural disaster.²⁰⁶ WFP reached 3 million flood affected people with food rations during August and is scaling up to reach six million this month, particularly through an expansion of operations in Punjab and in Sindh, which remains largely under water.²⁰⁷ The monthly family food rations include nutritious ready-to-use food supplements for children, who are at risk of malnutrition.²⁰⁸ As floodwaters recede, the WFP will assist families and help them meet food needs as they rebuild their livelihoods, including through school meals programmes.²⁰⁹ The WFP will also lend its logistics expertise and network in Pakistan to assist the government. FAO will reach Pakistani farmers with seed kits and other tools in order to take advantage of the crucial upcoming wheat-planting season. It will also provide support to rehabilitate damaged agricultural land and infrastructure; seeing that wheat is the staple food of Pakistan, providing 60 percent of average protein and carbohydrate requirements.²¹⁰

Conclusion

Natural disasters can strike at any given time, and there are often no warning bells that can predict major catastrophes. Though technology exists with the capability of limiting damage incurred by a natural disaster, not all Member States have adequate access to these technologies. The WFP has proven that it has the ability to distribute aid in areas affected by natural disasters. Challenges have grown with the heightened magnitude of earthquakes and tsunamis which devastate infrastructure in both developed and developing nations. Natural disasters affect victims both from a physical and psychological stand point, hindering the ability of individuals to fight back and rebuild. As highlighted in each of the case studies, the challenges of distributing aid have been overcome by WFP and many other NGOs, but we must examine the time constraints that these relief organizations face. WFP logistic experts are capable of mapping out potential routes of distribution, though we need to ascertain definite plans of action. The UN and many of its agencies have taken prompt action to fight global hunger and avoid food shortage epidemics in many of devastated regions. It is now up to Member States to create a unified plan to deter instances of food crises following natural disasters.

Committee Directives

Member States should examine their respective history and identify innovative measures that have been successful in facilitating the distribution of food aid in the aftermath of a natural disaster. Delegates should examine the success and failures of current programs and develop them into a more globalized perspective that will facilitate the distribution of food aid to victims. They should also analyze the utility of current infrastructure used to store food aid and its drawbacks to complete a roadmap toward the prevention of

²⁰³ Ibid.

²⁰⁴ “FAO, IFAD, WFP to accelerate assistance to Pakistan flood victims: Around 10 million people are vulnerable to hunger and malnutrition.” Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. September 15, 2010. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/45288/icode/>

²⁰⁵ Ibid.

²⁰⁶ Ibid.

²⁰⁷ Ibid.

²⁰⁸ Ibid.

²⁰⁹ Ibid.

²¹⁰ Ibid.

food shortages in the event of a natural disaster. Compare and contrast current methods of storage with new possibilities that might strengthen regional food security. Member States should explore the possibility of emergency relief plans in the event of a complete infrastructure failure. They should plan alternate methods of delivery in the face of mass chaos. Delegates should consider what the international community can do to minimize food shortage and does your country support the actions of WFP. Delegates may want to ask themselves if their country is not heavily affected by food shortage but their neighboring countries are how that would affect your country. Delegates should also understand their country's positions in the WFP, considering whether they are primarily a donor or a recipient of food aids.

Topic III: Establishing Partnerships to Improve Economic Access and Resources for Developing States

“Investing in agriculture in developing countries is key as a healthy agricultural sector is essential not only to overcome hunger and poverty but also to ensure overall economic growth and peace and stability in the world”.

FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf²¹¹

Introduction

In order to diffuse growing concerns of poverty and provide achievable levels of global development through sustainable food security and disaster relief, the World Food Programme (WFP) must implement within developing Member States emergency preparedness, support vulnerable groups with the establishment of technology to bridge the digital gap, and explore relief and recovery strategies to meet the United Nations Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of engaging global partnerships for development by 2015.²¹² By re-establishing livelihoods and stabilizing food security, extended relief is provided to developing Member States and their inhabitants allowing for people to rebuild their infrastructures and replant their crops. This type of operation allows for implementation of technological development aid, and continued advances in science and technology to help WFP continue its humanitarian work towards eliminating hunger and poverty.²¹³ The international community must exercise strategic planning and action in order to contribute abundant resources to those in need through direct and sustained assistance and determine methods so Member States can build strong economic communities and increase access to jobs, education, water, and organizations for their communities.²¹⁴ Currently WFP has a five year strategic plan in place (2008-2013) that operates in the assistance of Member States consisting of five objectives for the organization:

- Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies;
- Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures;
- Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post-conflict, post-disaster or transition situations;
- Reduce chronic hunger and under nutrition and;
- Strengthen the capacities of countries to reduce hunger, including through hand-over strategies and local purchase.²¹⁵

²¹¹ “Economic Crisis is devastating for world’s hungry.” World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/economic-crisis-devastating-worlds-hungry>

²¹² “Protracted relief and recovery.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/operations/relief>

²¹³ Ibid.

²¹⁴ “UN Agencies call for immediate action to achieve millennium goals.” World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/un-agencies-call-immediate-action-achieve-millennium-goals>

²¹⁵ “About.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/about/strategic-plan>

“These objectives reflect the changing nature of food aid and hunger, and WFP’s history, experience and comparative advantages” and also falls in line with MDG 8 in which there is an engagement in global partnerships for development.²¹⁶

Statistics of Poverty

Every 3.6 seconds someone dies of starvation, and it is estimated that over 800 million people in the world suffer from malnutrition, about 100 times as many as those who actually die from it each year.²¹⁷ As the number of undernourished people in the world was projected to reach one billion in 2010, the goal of the World Food Programme is to feed at least 90 million people every year.²¹⁸ “The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that a total of 925 million people were undernourished in 2010 compared with 1.023 billion in 2009.”²¹⁹ This decrease was due to 80 million fewer people suffering in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, yet poverty rates still remain dangerously high.²²⁰ In Asian, African and Latin American Member States, well over 500 million people are living in what the World Bank has called “absolute poverty.”²²¹ Every year millions of children die of hunger, and for the price of one missile, a school full of hungry children could eat lunch everyday for the next 5 years.²²² Throughout the 1990’s more than 100 million children died from illness and starvation; of which 100 million could have been prevented for the price of ten Stealth bombers, or what the world spends on its military in two days.²²³ The World Health Organization estimates that one-third of the world is well fed, one-third is under-fed, and one-third is starving.²²⁴ FAO recently reported, “one in twelve people worldwide are malnourished, including 160 million children under the age of 5.”²²⁵ The Indian subcontinent alone has nearly half the world’s hungry people; Africa and the rest of Asia together have approximately 40 percent, and the remaining hungry people are found in Latin America and other parts of the world.²²⁶

²¹⁶ Ibid.

²¹⁷ “Hunger and World Poverty.” Poverty.com. <http://www.poverty.com/>

²¹⁸ “Emergency Preparedness.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/our-work/being-ready>

²¹⁹ “The State of food insecurity in the world.” Food and Agriculture Organization.
<http://www.fao.org/publications/sofi/en/>

²²⁰ Ibid.

²²¹ Ibid.

²²² Ibid.

²²³ Ibid.

²²⁴ Ibid.

²²⁵ Ibid.

²²⁶ Ibid.

Case Study: Tanzania

Tanzania demonstrates how poverty reduction strategies can be used in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).²²⁷ In addition to an independent joint strategic review of the UN system, the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA in Swahili) was completed in 2005.²²⁸ MKUKUTA is a national strategy to promote economic growth and reduce poverty that is built around 3 primary “clusters” of desired outcomes; namely: growth and the reduction of income poverty; improved quality of life and social well-being; good governance and accountability.²²⁹ On the basis of these and to ensure that the UNDAF was fully aligned with the latter, the UN country management team decided not to prepare a Common Country Assessment (CCA), but to use the MKUKUTA as a basis for the UNDAF.²³⁰ Six working groups that addressed areas of concerns in the joint strategic review and the MKUKUTA were established initially for the new UNDAF.²³¹ WFP has assigned staff to participate in each group as appropriate and each working group prepared a problem-tree analysis identifying the highest-level MKUKUTA broad goals, related UNDAF outcomes by the end of the cycle, country programme outcomes, country programme outputs, partners’ roles, and resource mobilization targets.²³²

In Tanzania, government leadership on a joint assistance strategy has made it imperative that the UN system demonstrates its comparative advantage in supporting the government’s development priorities in a joint, integrated and coordinated way.²³³ WFP staff must acquire new skills and the capacity to assimilate development theory quickly in order to position WFP for a role in a rapidly evolving aid environment.²³⁴ The country office is relying on outside support from the WFP regional bureau and headquarters to ensure adequate technical and intellectual weight and also to obtain guidance on the appropriate direction to take.²³⁵ This will ensure that WFP’s particular skills and experience can be utilized in addressing food security and nutrition issues as part of the UN system support to the government and people of Tanzania.²³⁶

The prevalence of income poverty is still high in Tanzania; according to the Household Budget Survey of 2000/01 the proportion of the population below the national food poverty line is 18.7 percent, well below the national basic needs poverty line of 35.7 percent.²³⁷ Comparing these results with those of the Household Budget Survey of 1991/92 there has been a small decline in the proportion of the population below the national poverty lines with basic needs poverty decreasing from 38.6 percent to 35.7 percent and food poverty from 21.6 percent to 18.7 percent, poverty remains overwhelmingly in rural areas where about 87 percent of the poor population lives, in households highly dependant on agriculture.²³⁸ As the population is growing, the absolute number of the poor raises concern, specifically because there is also a big disparity between urban and rural poverty for both food and basic needs.²³⁹

227 “Engagement in Poverty Reduction Strategy.” World Food Programme.
<http://www.wfp.org/sites/default/files/wfp091940~1.pdf>

228 Ibid.

229 Ibid.

230 Ibid.

231 Ibid.

232 Ibid.

233 Ibid.

234 Ibid.

235 Ibid.

236 Ibid.

237 Ibid.

238 Ibid.

239 Ibid.

Case Study: Sierra Leone

When the interim poverty reduction strategy in 2001 for Sierra Leone was developed, there was little or no input from the WFP country office.²⁴⁰ Recognizing the lack of engagement, the country office sought to take a more active role during the development of the full strategy for poverty reduction in 2005, engaging in dialogue with experts/consultants who were assisting with the development of strategies in both the education and health sectors.²⁴¹ The country office shared WFP plans and priorities with the government of Sierra Leone, other stakeholders, and provided all the information that WFP had available in these areas which included the pilot project documents in food-for-education and mother-and-child-health programmes; as well as all materials the Member State had been developing to that point.²⁴² WFP country office staff engaged in consultations with the ministries of education and health, agriculture, forestry and food security.²⁴³ This led to the awareness that there was a significant gap in the government policy on food security. The WFP country office, under the leadership of the ministry of agriculture, forestry and food security, assisted the Sierra Leone in convening an inter-agency task force that included FAO and the food-pipeline agencies to help develop a food-security strategy that would help.²⁴⁴ This became a major instrument in the development of the poverty reduction strategy and the process of preparation, dialogue, and finalization increased recognition of the importance of food security.²⁴⁵ It secured the support of other key donors and agencies within the Member State, including United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Department for International Development, to make sure the strategies and priorities articulated to fight hunger were incorporated in the final document.²⁴⁶

As reported by the country director in Sierra Leone, WFP would not have been able to participate fully in the process without the support of the regional bureau and Headquarters because of capacity constraints, ongoing implementation of a country programme and the diversity of skills required.²⁴⁷ The lessons learned from this process were that it is critical to always work with and through government channels as well as with other partners and, while a country office may have limited experience or expertise support should still be readily available either through the regional bureau or the Policy Department at Headquarters.²⁴⁸

UNDP support for the growth and poverty reduction in Sierra Leone has evolved into a comprehensive programme including private sector development, microfinance, and agribusiness stimulus and aid coordination.²⁴⁹ Dedicated initiatives focus on strategic growth sectors like minerals, tourism and high potential cash crops like ginger and cashews.²⁵⁰ UNDP also provides analytical support to the government of Sierra Leone, feeding into a detailed policy dialogue as well as the overarching process of development planning.²⁵¹

Beyond the critical support to the preparation of the National Recovery Strategy (2003-2005,) as well as both the first (2005-2007) and (2008-2012) Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), this has included analysis on emerging issues such as mitigating the impact of the global financial crisis and managing the inflow of foreign remittances.²⁵² UNDP Sierra Leone also responds to the organization's core mandate of fostering human development and monitoring progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by producing flagship knowledge products like the National Human Development Report

²⁴⁰ "Engagement in Poverty Reduction Strategy." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/sites/default/files/wfp091940~1.pdf>

²⁴¹ Ibid.

²⁴² Ibid.

²⁴³ Ibid.

²⁴⁴ Ibid.

²⁴⁵ Ibid.

²⁴⁶ Ibid.

²⁴⁷ Ibid.

²⁴⁸ Ibid.

²⁴⁹ "Economic Development." United Nations Development Programme. <http://www.sl.undp.org/poverty.htm>

²⁵⁰ Ibid.

²⁵¹ Ibid.

²⁵² Ibid.

(NHDR) and MDG Report as well as by building national capacities for tracking and analyzing the MDGs.²⁵³

Emergency Preparedness and Development

WFP is an operational organization that focuses on the hungry poor and has widely acknowledged competencies in this area and should continue to be highly operational, because this is its greatest comparative advantage. However, with the changing aid environment, WFP could benefit from engaging in policy dialogue in addition to adding significant knowledge on hunger reduction to the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) process, contributing to poverty reduction and the successful completion of the MDGs.²⁵⁴ The WFP also plays a role in assisting governments in identifying the area of greatest needs, the causes of hunger and the policies and strategies necessary for eliminating hunger in a sustainable way.²⁵⁵ As a result, it is vital that the WFP support Member States in their formulation of hunger-reduction policies and strategies as integral components of the PRS.²⁵⁶ Moreover, disasters and conflicts can wipe out years of development efforts in a very short time and cause people to fall into extreme poverty and hunger and should be taken into account when an assessment of the risks a Member State faces, which may include natural disasters, conflict situations and economic shocks.²⁵⁷

WFP's emergency operations cover four main kinds of emergency:

- sudden disasters: natural or man-made disasters which affect food access and/or cause population displacements;
- slow-onset disasters: such as drought and crop failure;
- refugee crises (in close collaboration with UNHCR); and
- complex emergencies: involving elements such as conflict, widespread social and economic disruption, and requiring special United Nations coordination procedures.²⁵⁸

In an emergency situation, WFP will above all else, try to “save lives” and prevent deterioration of nutritional status through general ration distribution as well as selective feeding activities, and by seeking to ensure an appropriate food basket in terms of quantity and quality.²⁵⁹

A top priority of the WFP is to be prepared for sudden emergencies, taking into account knowledge of facts and figures of a particular area and strategically using resources available in order to make sound decisions that are safe and productive.²⁶⁰ WFP strives to maintain a comprehensive early warning system in order to have a strong defense in place against natural and man-made disasters and partners with technology experts and academic institutions for data mining in which the WFP picks up all signals that may indicate an emergent or occurring disaster.²⁶¹ By using this type of mapping, WFP is able to be proactive in its efforts to eliminate devastating results caused by natural disasters.

²⁵³ Ibid.

²⁵⁴ Ibid.

²⁵⁵ Ibid.

²⁵⁶ Ibid.

²⁵⁷ Ibid.

²⁵⁸ Ibid.

²⁵⁹ Ibid.

²⁶⁰ Ibid.

²⁶¹ Ibid.

Technology Advancements

Additional incorporations of technology in emergency preparedness comes in the form of satellite imagery in which the WFP uses the imagery in conjunction with their partner Information Technology for Humanitarian Assistance, Cooperation and Action (ITHACA), to map images of where a tropical storm has made landfall and to assess the relation of the storm to bridges and roads in its path that may have been exposed to extreme weather or areas in which the probability of flooding is extremely high.²⁶² Close up images of Haiti after a large-scale earthquake also allowed WFP to determine areas that were densely populated through a process called Rapid Impact Analysis. This analysis presents a computerized overlay that maps key information to create “a very immediate and easy to use picture” and allows WFP to determine where to set up food distribution points as closely as possible to the affected populated sites.²⁶³

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

To assess the vulnerability of an area, WFP periodically conducts a comprehensive food security and vulnerability analysis (CFSVA). This analysis provides an in-depth view of the food security situation in a given Member State and answers various questions about the area such as: Who are the food-insecure and vulnerable people? Where do they live? And why are they insecure?²⁶⁴ By understanding the answers to these questions it allows the WFP to determine the core causes of food insecurity and vulnerability, and offers an in-depth profile of food insecure and vulnerable people in various populations that are used in conjunction with analysis of price trends in the Member States.²⁶⁵ This type of analysis allows for a focus on disaster risk reduction in which national governments can continue to focus on developing policies to prevent and mitigate disasters and save money in the future costs of relief and rehabilitation.²⁶⁶ In order to equip for natural disasters, disaster risk management adapts to climate change and allows the WFP emergency response operations to plan preventative action such as raising houses in high flood areas, construction of water catchments, tree planting and terracing.²⁶⁷

WFP’s Food for Assets program, in which food is provided to workers in various Member States in exchange for work and serves in helping families fight malnutrition, protect community-level land and infrastructure in their areas.²⁶⁸ A similar method to the Food for Assets program is the Managing Environmental Resources to Enable Transition (MERET) project in Ethiopia, in which food is used as an incentive for labor to aid in regenerating vegetative cover and increasing soil water capture that will help reduce the risk of drought and flooding.²⁶⁹ Incorporation of MERET into Ethiopian communities has been well received and is regarded as “one of the best practices in the UN blueprint” for the Member State and her people.²⁷⁰

Economic Crisis and Food Insecurity

The poorest people in developing Member States have been affected the most by the wavering economy which has sparked a stronger collaboration between WFP and the FAO to reform the world food system.²⁷¹ For a short time, there was a decrease in poverty because of an increased investment in agriculture following the global food crisis of the early 1970s but Official Development Assistance (ODA), dedicated

²⁶² “Advances in Science and Technology helping WFP’s Humanitarian Work.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/our-work/our-competences/being-ready/technology-helping-wfp>

²⁶³ Ibid.

²⁶⁴ Ibid.

²⁶⁵ Ibid.

²⁶⁶ “Our work.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/disaster-risk-reduction>

²⁶⁷ Ibid.

²⁶⁸ Ibid.

²⁶⁹ “How to make your field greener.” World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/stories/how-make-your-fields-greener>

²⁷⁰ Ibid.

²⁷¹ “Economic crisis is devastating or the Worlds hungry.” World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/economic-crisis-devastating-worlds-hungry>

to agriculture declined extensively and hunger numbers increased again.²⁷² Although the global food crisis of the 1970's was tragic there are three factors that make this current food crisis stand out even more. First, many areas of the world are being affected simultaneously by the crisis. Second, the current economic state of the world contributes to the food crisis so those who are vulnerable to food insecurity are affected even more due to high food prices and reduced incomes from employment. Third, developing Member States have become more integrated into the world's economy than ever in history exposing them to more vulnerability in the international markets.²⁷³

FAO and WFP continue to exercise strong partnerships by lobbying a "twin-track" approach to address short term acute hunger caused by abrupt food shortages and long term chronic hunger.²⁷⁴ An example of this approach is in El Salvador, where the economic crisis in the U.S is reducing the flow of remittances in the area sent by more than one million Salvadoran immigrants living in the U.S.²⁷⁵ As remittance composes 18 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and an 80 percent net worth of the value of its exports this decline reduces the purchasing power of the Member States' inhabitants and affects families' investment in the education of their children.²⁷⁶ Since there is such a dire need, "WFP has requested additional support from the donor community for its humanitarian programmes as well as for the local social protection programmes, such as the school feeding programme, essential tools in the fight against hunger and malnutrition."²⁷⁷

Efficient Delivery of Humanitarian Aid

Since the WFP is responsible for providing humanitarian aid to those in need, a Member States' lack of funds could place them in a predicament of not receiving sufficient aid to their most fragile areas. Lebanon represents a perfect example because they currently possesses a severe shortage of funding in logistics operations and are at a place where the international aid effort sponsored by WFP could be halted because the operation is a three month long effort which requires \$39.5 million to operate successfully of which Lebanon has only supplied \$19.2 million to the operation.²⁷⁸

Communication is a key aspect when delivering aid to Member States in need. The WFP depends on the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) which allow staff to communicate with field officers and headquarters wherever they are in conjunction with their rapid response teams that can be dispatched if an emergency occurs to set up a home base of operations within 48 hours at a designated site.²⁷⁹

Support to Vulnerable Groups

A strong push has been implemented in Iraq in relief and recovery operations that adjust activities and budgets in place based on prioritization of needs and available resources²⁸⁰ Currently, parts of the Member State possess high rates of acute malnutrition and the economy continues to struggle, but, employment and security and access to social services continue to remain high priorities to the population.²⁸¹ This concern is reflected in the WFP's Country Strategy for Iraq (2010-2014) with the goal to aid the government in "improving social protection for vulnerable groups affected by prolonged conflict."²⁸² The operation consists of two components; "support for vulnerable groups to restore and rebuild their lives through

²⁷² Ibid.

²⁷³ Ibid.

²⁷⁴ Ibid.

²⁷⁵ Ibid.

²⁷⁶ Ibid.

²⁷⁷ Ibid.

²⁷⁸ "Lack of funds could sharply reduce aid deliveries in Lebanon." News. World Food Programme.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-lack-funds-could-sharply-reduce-aid-deliveries-lebanon>

²⁷⁹ "ICTs in Emergencies." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/emergencies/ict>

²⁸⁰ "Operations." World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/content/support-vulnerable-groups>

²⁸¹ Ibid.

²⁸² Ibid.

improved access to food and primary healthcare” and “school feeding as a safety net to restore attendance and learning.”²⁸³

Additionally, a joint partnership exists between WFP and the Iraqi Ministry of Trade (MOT) in which both entities work together to improve the supply chain management of the Public Distribution System (PDS), providing a monthly food ration to millions of Iraqis.²⁸⁴ This partnership is part of the Iraqi National Development Plan and Poverty Reduction Strategy, and the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in which social safety nets are strengthened for vulnerable groups.²⁸⁵ These methods also fall under Development Operations (DEVs), where the WFP partners with Member States, and invests in people and access to resources in order to provide them with a food secure environment that encourages children to go to school and allow farmers to try new agricultural methods and benefits 24.3 million people.²⁸⁶

WFP Partners

When there is a functioning national government recognized by the United Nations, WFP assistance is provided at the request of that entity and within the framework of an agreement signed by both parties.²⁸⁷ Other than national and local government entities, WFP partners include: United Nations agencies such as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS).²⁸⁸ WFP also partners with international organizations such as International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and Non Government Organization (NGO's).²⁸⁹

In 2004, WFP worked with a total of 1,943 NGOs, among which 224 were international NGOs and 1,719 were national or local NGOs.²⁹⁰ NGOs play a fundamental role in the distribution of WFP food to beneficiaries and in monitoring the distribution of WFP food aid.²⁹¹ WFP and NGOs are also partners in activities that do not involve the distribution of food including early warning activities, food-security assessments, advocacy for food/nutrition-related issues and the coordination of food-security activities in an area or region.²⁹² In order for NGO's to work with WFP not only do they need to agree to the partnership, they must also:

- be accepted by the government;
- have extensive experience in humanitarian and relief operations;
- have sound, specific programmes for food distribution and/or on issues related to food assistance, food security, advocacy and development which correspond to WFP's general priorities and target groups;
- have adequate personnel and in-country organizational structures, including staff, field offices, vehicles and access to communications;
- have a transparent institutional framework, active grass root participation, information systems and documentation, technical knowledge and geographical presence;
- be willing and able to work with communities and community-based organizations

²⁸³ Ibid.

²⁸⁴ “News.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-and-iraqi-trade-ministry-form-partnership-strengthen-food-distribution-capacity>

²⁸⁵ Ibid.

²⁸⁶ “Development Operations.” World Food Programme. <http://www.wfp.org/operations/development>

²⁸⁷ How to work with World Food Programme.

http://one.wfp.org/aboutwfp/partners/documents/english/WFP_manual_Section1.pdf

²⁸⁸ Ibid.

²⁸⁹ Ibid.

²⁹⁰ Ibid.

²⁹¹ Ibid.

²⁹² Ibid.

- have staff with basic skills in project and financial management, analytical skills and capacity in areas of commodity tracking, food distribution and beneficiary; and
- be able comply with WFP's monitoring and reporting requirements and have sound, reliable financial and accounting systems.²⁹³

Conclusion

Serving as the world's largest humanitarian agency, it is imperative that WFP maintain strong ties with Member States to ensure that the mission of the committee of eliminating poverty and hunger remains a consistent priority and is being addressed within individual areas. This requires working with Member States to map a solid strategic plan and working consistently towards achieving those goals by assessing resources that are realistically available to them and implementing them effectively. Although WFP plays a strong role in these Member States' survival and development it is important that they establish autonomy to become strong pioneers from both a financial and social perspective. Key methods to accomplishing the goal are to understand where they are currently and succinctly determine the short and long term needs in order to communicate a comprehensive vision effectively and make it become a reality.

Committee Directive

Establishing partnerships is critical for the success of any Member State looking to be a self-sustaining entity, especially when in developing Member States. Delegates should focus their efforts on making sure they know the mapped strategic plan of their given Member State. Once delegates have a clear indication of the direction their Member State wishes to go, they can work together to form alliances and working groups to project innovative plans that will help the international community. Since this topic deals with enhancing partnerships, delegates should be aware of previous working relationships with the WFP and other NGO's and Member States within the committee. Was the outcome positive? If not, what happened and what could change the outcome? By stressing collaboration and cooperation, delegates must find a way to work together to ensure that no man, woman or child will ever go hungry again.

Technical Appendix Guide (TAG)

Topic I: Combating Global Malnourishment: An Assessment of World Efforts to Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Lambers, William. "Afghanistan: No time to lose on health, nutrition, and justice." BC Culture. 2011. <http://blogcritics.org/culture/article/afghanistan-no-time-to-lose-on/>

This article speaks to state of health and nutrition in Afghanistan. It highlights the Save the Children program and focuses on WFP's hunger relief operation that is currently experiencing a monetary shortfall. Lambers speaks to methods Afghani leaders must enforce in order to ensure accountability, remedies for victims of violation, and for establishing lasting security in the country.

"Poverty and Social Injustice breed conflicts." The Express Tribune. 2010. <http://tribune.com.pk/story/90645/poverty-and-social-injustice-breed-conflicts/>

²⁹³ Ibid.

This article speaks to the relationship between food insecurity, poverty, extremism, and conflict. It underlines the need for citizens to challenge the fundamental paradigm of state which is focusing more on non-development expenditures such as debt-servicing and day to day administration. In addition, focus is placed on the interconnectedness between individual, national, regional and global security.

“How the WFP fights Malnutrition.” World Food Program. 2011. <http://www.wfp.org/nutrition/how-wfp-fights-malnutrition>

This article speaks to the methods the WFP utilizes to combat malnutrition in developing Member States. WFP tailors its responses to meet specific nutritional needs as they have food distribution structures in place in over 70 countries. Working in conjunction with UNICEF, WFP addresses moderate malnutrition while UNICEF addresses severe malnutrition; through combined efforts WFP provides food that supplements the food households currently possess with nutritious products and stresses new strategies such as home fortification with multi-micronutrient powder.

“Humanitarian Response Depots.” World Food Programme. 2011. <http://www.wfp.org/logistics/rapid-response/depots>

The World Food Programme highlights the humanitarian efforts that they are currently enforcing in relation to their logistic efforts in transferring goods to Member States. It describes its purposes and explains the two types of services it provides: standard services and specific services.

“Nutrition for Mothers and Young Children.” World Food Programme. 2011. <http://www.wfp.org/nutrition/mothers-children>

The World Food Programme stresses the importance of ensuring quality, nutritious food to mothers and children as they represent the growing population of their respective nations and they are the most vulnerable from a nutrition point of view. By not providing for pregnant women, children are highly susceptible to being born with malnutrition that will prohibit healthy growth and development throughout the younger years, contributing to the poverty and malnutrition crisis in the international community.

“Updating Poverty Maps of Bangladesh.” The World Food Programme. 2011. <http://www.wfp.org/sites/default/files/Updating%20Poverty%20Maps%20Of%20Bangladesh.pdf>

This document highlights current poverty trends occurring in Bangladesh as understanding the geography of Member States is critical if we wish to successfully contribute to poverty eradication. As poverty maps can reveal severe poverty throughout Member States and these trends change it is important that these maps are regularly updated to ensure that WFPs methods remain effective in these particular areas. This document shows an example of poverty and outlines its importance and how to interpret it to use for various analyses.

“Vouchers and Cash Transfers as Food Assistance Instruments: Opportunities and Challenges.” World Food Programme. 2004. <http://www.wfp.org/content/vouchers-and-cash-transfers-food-assistance-instruments-opportunities-and-challenges-0>

This document offers additional information on the implementation of the cash and vouchers method enforced by the World Food Programme (WFP). Defined by the WFP, food assistance refers to the set of instruments used to address the food needs of vulnerable people. The vouchers and cash transfers methods affords opportunities and limitations that need to be fully examined on a context specific basis as appropriate partnership is imperative for effective and efficient implementation. Outlined in this document

are linkages with strategic objectives, implications of this method, and the pros and cons of vouchers and cash transfers.

“WFP and Nutrition, Right Food at the Right Time.” World Food Programme. 2011.

<http://docustore.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp220979.pdf>

This document provides further insight into the complication of malnutrition in regards to young children. The WFP speaks towards methods they are currently exploring to decrease this epidemic, placing more investment in children, building partnerships for better nutrition, and maximizing the nutritional impact of our food interventions.

Topic II: Examining the Impact of Natural Disasters on Food Distribution

“Emergency Preparedness and Response.” World Food Programme. 2011.

http://es.wfp.org/sites/default/files/Climate_Emergencies-_PDF_English.pdf

This article speaks to WFP and its experience over the last 40 years in providing aide to the most vulnerable populations in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, helping them mitigate and adapt to climate change. It also outlines functioning of the Latin American and Caribbean Emergency Response Network (LACERN) program, which was created by the WFP to aide this region, which is respective to recurrent natural disasters.

Nathanial Gronewold. “Spate of Natural Disasters Spurs Record Relief Spending for U.N.” *The New York Times*. December 6, 2010. <http://www.nytimes.com/gwire/2010/12/06/06greenwire-spate-of-natural-disasters-spurs-record-relief-58500.html>

This article speaks to spending of the U.N. when it comes to natural disasters. Most of the cash is believed to be a record amount spent by the world body on natural disasters. It covers floods of Pakistan, earthquake of Haiti, and other U.N. efforts. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has the data of the spending that took place and provided to the various U.N. agencies.

“Evaluation Quality Assurance Systems.” World Food Programme. 2010.
<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/tor/wfp234795.pdf>

This article speaks to the ability of WFP to adapt to change. It evaluates the internal and external workings of the organization and how it executes its mission. The evaluation also focuses on a new WFP strategic direction and the policy, operations and activities that are in place to implement it.

“WFP resumes food distribution in Lakes and Jonglei states.” *Sudan Tribune*. 2011.
<http://www.sudantribune.com/WFP-resumes-food-distribution-in-38901>

This article speaks to the food distribution in Southern Sudan. It also covers the WFP reaction to the seizure of its aid by a rebel group and its new rotation in distributing aid in Southern Sudan.

“6 Months On Food Aid Helps To Power Flood Recovery.” World Food Programme. 2011.
<http://www.wfp.org/stories/pakistan-6-months-food-aid-helps-power-flood-recovery>

This article speaks to the aftermath of the recent floods in Pakistan. It also covers the work that WFP and its continuous efforts to distribute food to the victims of the monsoon floods. The article further states how WFP is adapting to conditions and helping communities re-build infrastructure.

“WFP Logistic Expertise Supports Relief to Japan Quake Victims.” World Food Programme. 2011.
<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-logistic-expertise-supports-relief-japan-quake-victims>

This article speaks to the WFP and its logistics operation to support the Government of Japan. It covers the delivery of relief items to victims of the devastating earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis.

Topic III: Establishing Partnerships to Improve Economic Access and Resources for Developing States

“The State of Food Insecurity in the World.” World Food Programme. 2010.
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1683e/i1683e.pdf>

This document represents the Food and Agriculture Organization’s (FAO) progress report on world hunger. It speaks to the fact that, even before the food crisis and the economic crisis, the number of hungry people had been increasing slowly but steadily.

“Ready to help: Reaching the Right People in the Right Places Fast.” World Food Programme. 2010.
<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp207110.pdf>

This document constructed by the World food Programme speaks to the committee’s efforts outlining how they prepare themselves and remained prepared for any worldwide emergency.

“Food Insecurity and Violent Conflict: Causes, Consequences, and Addressing the Challenges.” World Food Programme. 2010.
<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/newsroom/wfp238358.pdf>

This paper provides an overview of the link between food insecurity and violent conflict, addressing both traditional and emerging threats to security and political stability. It discusses the effects of food insecurity on several types of conflict, and the political, social, and demographic factors that may exacerbate these effects. It then discusses the interventions that can break the link between food security and conflict,

focusing on mechanisms that can shield consumers and producers from food price shocks. Finally, it discusses ways in which the international community can assist in breaking this link and build peace.

“Hunger in the face of Crisis.” World Food Programme. 2009.

<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/012/ak541e/ak541e00.pdf>

This document speaks to the economic and social perspectives of the world hunger epidemic speaking to the global economic crisis, impact of hunger and policy options available.

“WFP Policy on Disaster Risk Reduction.” World Food Programme. 2009.

<http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/communications/wfp201595.pdf>

Disaster risk reduction activities frequently form part of WFP’s work programme: food-for-work activities for example, often aim to improve livelihood opportunities and make communities more resilient, while vulnerability assessments provide a good basis for disaster risk reduction work. For WFP, disaster risk reduction also means complementing emergency response and preparedness with targeted prevention and preparedness activities before disaster strikes.

“Review of the Role and Quality of the United Nations Development Assistant Frameworks (UNDAFs).”

United Nations Development Group. 2006. http://www.undg.org/archive_docs/8770-

[Review_of_the_Role_and_Quality_of_UNDAFs.pdf](http://www.undg.org/archive_docs/8770-Review_of_the_Role_and_Quality_of_UNDAFs.pdf)

This document lends focus to the United nations Development Assistant Frameworks. The purpose of the Review is to assess trends and progress in the UN’s capacity to strategically position itself at the country level, with respect to other donor agencies and in its efforts to support national priorities and the MDGs. In particular, the quality and usefulness of so-called ‘second-generation’ UNDAFs and UNDAF Results Matrices (RMs) (developed since 2003) in focusing UN activities on areas of comparative advantage are reviewed, along with the relevance and efficacy of UNDG global support to country-level processes, including guidance and training.

“Unilever and WFP Come Together in Support of Primary School Children in Bangladesh.” World Food

Programme. 2011. <http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/unilever-and-wfp-come-together-support-primary-school-children-bangladesh>

This article speaks to the efforts of WFP and Unilever in which they have entered into a partnership under which 95,000 school students will receive a nutritional boost in school each day.

“WFP declares Horn of Africa Crisis Highest Global Humanitarian Priority.” World Food Programme.

2011. <http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/wfp-declares-horn-africa-crisis-highest-global-humanitarian-priority>

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) today said 11.3 million people are in need of food assistance due to drought in the Horn of Africa, and declared a corporate emergency, elevating the crisis to the highest level of action, and indicating grave concern about the possibility of widespread loss of life as such WFP has called upon collaboration of outside resources to help in the epidemic occurring within this Member State.