



World Food Programme

Programme Alimentaire Mondial

Programa Mundial de Alimentos

برنامج الأغذية العالمي

Check against delivery

Remarks of the Deputy Executive Director, Mr Amir Mahmoud Abdulla, to the Economic and Social Council Operational Activities for Development Segment

Tuesday, 28 February 2017

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to be here today on behalf of WFP Executive Director, Ms Ertharin Cousin, who could not attend. She asked me to extend her compliments.

Before outlining how WFP is supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in alignment with the new QCPR, please permit me to set the scene and hi-light the context that we face today.

Some 20 million people in South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria and Yemen are on the brink of disaster, with famine declared in South Sudan and warnings of looming famines in the other countries.

Conflict is a leading driver of the crises in all four countries.

WFP had already scaled up to record levels in the four at-risk famine countries. We are committed to defeating famine and supporting peace and prevention of conflict by using every means possible so families have adequate nutritious food.

And other needs continue unabated especially across the Middle East and Africa where major refugee and displacement crises continue.

And of course many other humanitarian and development needs remain; less heralded but in their own way just as critical.

Ahead of us is an unprecedented challenge demanding a massive, coordinated, humanitarian and development response.

Excellencies, this sobering reality affirms the need to do things differently, if we are to reach the Sustainable Development Goals and achieve Zero Hunger

WFP must not only save lives, but also change the lives of the people we serve.

Last November, our Executive Board approved the "Integrated Road Map", a transformative package that will maximize WFP's results in the field to help build a better future for those furthest behind, and place humanitarian assistance within the context of broader development initiatives.



The Integrated Road Map includes the Strategic Plan (2017–2021), the Policy on Country Strategic Plans, the country portfolio budget structure, a Financial Framework Review – and a supporting Corporate Results Framework.

This integrated corporate architecture will enhance WFP’s contribution to nationally-owned food security and nutrition priorities. It will also ensure the efficient allocation of resources and support effective and innovative partnerships at the national, regional, and global levels.

WFP will move away from a project-based approach towards multi-year, comprehensive strategic plans that fit well within the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.

While WFP’s work will contribute toward many of the SDGs depending on the country context and national priorities, the Strategic Plan prioritizes two SDGs – SDG2 on zero hunger and SDG17 on partnering – these most clearly reflect our mandate, strengths and capacities.

Excellencies, No one UN entity or organization or government, single, can achieve Zero Hunger. Changing lives, as well as saving lives, demands collaboration.

As articulated in the WFP Corporate Partnership Strategy (2014–2017), WFP aligns and integrates its food assistance capacities and programmes with interventions and investments of governments, other United Nations agencies and actors from the private sector and civil society, which can together generate the deep systemic changes required for sustainable development.

Excellencies, WFP will proactively respond to Member States’ desire for clarity on how each UN entity contributes to achieving Agenda 2030 with coherence and effectiveness.

WFP has an established results-based management framework to track progress against implementing the QCPR. Of the prioritized indicators from the 2012 QCPR, WFP achieved 79% compliance.

WFP is committed to completing the unfinished business of the QCPR and together with our United Nations Development Group’s partners we are active in the work-streams of increased coherence and integrated programming approaches, cost-effective and collaborative models of field presence and ensuring joint strategies at headquarters to better support the UN Country teams.

One of the unfinished commitments of the QCPR focuses on SDG5 – women’s empowerment and gender equality. At WFP, we know all too well that gender inequality is both a major cause and effect of poverty and hunger.

To systematically tackle these inequalities, WFP launched its Gender Transformation Programme in 2016, building on our existing Gender Policy. We are accelerating our corporate initiative to mainstream gender issues at Country Office level across policies, programs and operations.



WFP has committed to meeting all 15 UN SWAP Performance Indicators and we universally use the Gender Score card. To date, we have achieved all but one Performance Indicator -- that being the staffing gender parity indicator.

Excellencies, WFP faces unprecedented levels of need of today with famines and conflict at a time of resource constraints.

It is therefore essential that we build on our core strengths, ensure our business processes are streamlined, and exert discipline over our cost base. WFP will play its full part - continuing to reengineer for the future, making our organization's work more efficient and transparent, and meeting our commitment under Agenda 2030 to fulfil our obligation to the people we serve.

Excellencies, in conclusion, let me assure you that WFP will continue with the challenging work of saving lives and changing lives throughout the ambitious era of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. And with our partners, we will strive to ensure the promise of SDG2 and SDG17 and continue to pursue our common ideal: A Zero Hunger world.