

YEMEN SO 200130
Air Passenger Service and Logistics Cluster Coordination in Support of the Humanitarian
Response in Sa'ada
B/R No.: 1 @.....

BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR THE APPROVAL OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR

	<u>Initials</u>	<u>In Date</u>	<u>Out Date</u>	<u>Reason For Delay</u>
<u>ORIGINATOR</u>				
Country Office or Regional Bureau on behalf of Country Office
<u>CLEARANCE</u>				
Project Budget & Programming Officer, RMBP
Chief, RMBP
Chief, ODLT
Director, ODL
Director, ODI (<i>ICT operations only</i>)
<u>APPROVAL</u>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Director

PROJECT	Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
Total WFP cost (US\$)	530,634	412,041	942,675

<u>TYPE OF REVISION</u>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional DSC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional ODOC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension in time	<input type="checkbox"/> Change in project orientation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			

NATURE OF REVISION

- Extension for six months to ensure a continuation of the Logistics Cluster and Air Passenger Services to support the humanitarian community and provide for the regular and secure movement of staff and light humanitarian cargo to Sa'ada town;
- Increase in ODOC to reflect the additional six-month requirement for operational costs; and
- Increase in DSC to reflect the revised six-month staffing requirements.

1. Through this Special Operation, WFP has—in its capacity as Logistics Cluster Lead and custodian of the United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS)—supported the efforts of the humanitarian community to respond to the crises in Yemen. Following the formal request of the Humanitarian Country Team and subsequent activation of the Logistics Cluster in February 2010 under the leadership of WFP, the humanitarian community has stressed the need to continue and maintain coordinated and cohesive logistics systems to ensure the uninterrupted supply of lif- saving relief items in Yemen as well as ensure the movement of staff and goods.

2. Objectives of SO 200130 :

- Facilitate efficient logistics coordination and emergency response in support of the humanitarian community under the Cluster approach; and
- Provide the humanitarian community with sufficient and adequate Air Passenger Service to facilitate the access of humanitarian personnel and light cargo to the affected areas and ensure operational continuity.

3. The special operation is for an additional duration of six months, from 24 November 2010 to 31 May 2011, at a total additional cost of US\$ 412,041.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

4. The six-year intermittent civil conflict in northern Yemen has led to extensive displacements of people, damage to infrastructure, and general insecurity. As of November 2010, there is a growing humanitarian presence in Sa'ada town. Access to areas outside of Sa'ada town has improved since the UN office was opened in June 2007. However, more than eight months after the February 2010 cease-fire, access to beneficiaries is still a major challenge for humanitarian actors, limiting their ability to provide regular assistance and hampering needs assessments in Sa'ada, Al Jawf and Amran governorates. Landmines, unexploded ordnances, and damage to transport routes present further challenges.

5. All of Yemen is currently under UN Security Phase III. No travel authorization is currently issued by United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) for UN staff to travel by road from Sana'a to Sa'ada and from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Sa'ada. The main road, connecting Sana'a and Sa'ada, travels through the conflict area of Harf Sufyan and tribal checkpoints are set up along the road and frequent incidents of kidnappings and car hi-jacking has been reported. A secondary road runs through Al Jawf governorate which is equally considered unsafe, as the entire governorate of Al Jawf is a "no-go" area for UN and many I/NGOs;. A third side road through western Sa'ada travels through the Houthi territory, which is another conflict area and where landmines and unexploded ordnance provide further obstacles. Based on the current situation, it is not anticipated that authorization for road-travel will not be given to any UN staff (and most I/NGO staff) in the foreseeable future.

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:

6. In February 2010 the Humanitarian Country Team requested the formal activation of the Logistics Cluster and the establishment of UNHAS in Yemen. As a result, WFP launched Special Operation 200130 "Air Passenger Service and Logistics Cluster Coordination in Support of the Humanitarian Response in Sa'ada". The Humanitarian Country Team has stressed the necessity to continue and maintain coordinated and cohesive logistics systems to ensure the uninterrupted supply of life-saving relief items in Yemen, together with the movement of staff and aid. This BR will provide the humanitarian community with continued secure access to Sa'ada governorate until the volatility is reduced and road travel can be authorized.

From May to October 2010, WFP facilitated 22 flights for the humanitarian community between Sana'a and Sa'ada

7. One of the serious obstacles that the humanitarian actors are facing in their efforts to deliver effective and timely assistance to the vulnerable population in Sa'ada region is the customs clearance of relief items. Key bottlenecks include testing and quality controls as well as limited capacity in the ports. Although a model agreement for the facilitation and speedy clearance of humanitarian relief items has been presented to the Government, there is a need for further coordination and facilitation. Support is required to develop and structure the Government's customs systems and procedures.

8. The unpredictable security situation in Sa'ada has required air evacuation/relocation of staff on more than one occasion, most recently in May 2010. Through the BR the UNHAS will be able to sustain the air capacity in order to respond to possible medical and security evacuations if or when requested to do so.

9. The Logistics Cluster will continue coordination and information management activities, to the benefit of the humanitarian community. The Logistics Cluster will work closely with the humanitarian actors and the

Government of Yemen to facilitate and participate in logistics assessment missions to identify and address the gaps and bottlenecks in the logistics response.

Recommendation

This budget revision of Special Operation 200130 - covering the period from 24 November 2010 to 31 May 2011 at a total cost of US\$ 412,041 - is recommended for approval by the Regional Director. A detailed budget is provided.

DISTRIBUTION:

DED and COO

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Chief, RMBP, ODXR, ODXP

Country Director

OD Registry

Director, ODI (ICT operations only)

Director, ODL

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Regional Director

Programme Officer, RMBP

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Liaison Officer, OD Cairo

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RB Programme Advisor

RB Programme Assistant