



## **NATURE OF REVISION:**

- Extension in time of the project to include the period 1<sup>st</sup> January - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012
- An increase in ODOC and DSC to support the activities detailed below.

## **BACKGROUND:**

1. Yemen is facing an increasingly complex and deteriorating humanitarian situation. The effects of the political stalemate, civil unrest and soaring food and fuel prices are exacerbating an already complicated and critical humanitarian situation. The political stalemate has intensified with the recent violent armed clashes between government forces, anti-government protestors and tribal elements. The conflict between non state actors and the government in Sa'ada governorate led to massive displacements. It is currently under the control of Al Houthis and is no longer part of the government control. Similarly, Al Qaida elements continue to fight government forces in Abyan governorate, southern Yemen, which has led to large displacements of people to Aden and other governorates in the south. All these elements continue to add new shocks to an already critically humanitarian crisis in the country. The Humanitarian Country Team has therefore requested the continuation of the Logistics Cluster activities, focusing on enhanced emergency preparedness and response, provision of an information sharing platform, strengthened coordination, fuel provision to humanitarian agencies during the crisis, air passenger service to secure regular movement of staff and materials and advocacy for smooth importation of relief goods.
2. The Logistics Cluster was originally activated in support of the humanitarian operations in Sa'ada and has provided since May 2010 air services to Sa'ada for the humanitarian actors in Yemen. Given the problems in traveling by road from Sana'a to Sa'ada with its tribal insecurity, carjacking, low level clashes, kidnappings, internal grievances, landmines, unexploded ordinance and overall poor road conditions air travel is the safest and best option for the movement of humanitarian actors. However, since March 2011 the Sa'ada Governorate has been in control of the Al Houthis, resulting is no security clearances being granted for UN flights by the government of Yemen, thus road access has become the primary means of movement once again. Negotiations to resume flights are still ongoing.
3. As a result of the ongoing political crisis, Yemen's economy continues to be effected. One of the most visible effects of the deteriorating economy is the severe scarcity of fuel products. Since June 2011, the Logistics Cluster has been required to fill the gap. As a result three fuel storage facilities have been established in WFP warehouse compounds in Sana'a, Haradh and Aden with a total storage capacity of 380,000 liters serving the humanitarian community. Thirty UN agencies and I/NGOs are presently receiving fuel under the SO.

## **JUSTIFICATION**

4. 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 within Yemen and continue providing an air passenger service to humanitarian aid agencies, facilitating their response countrywide.
5. At the same time the Humanitarian Country Team has intermittently requested ad hoc air charters to/from Sa'ada for the movement and/or evacuation of relief personnel in Sa'ada governorate.

6. Safe and secure access is still a major challenge, limiting the humanitarian organizations' ability to provide regular assistance and hampering the implementation of comprehensive needs assessments in northern Yemen.
7. The fuel crisis continues to impede the humanitarian response in Yemen. Many UN agencies and I/NGOs continue to find it difficult to obtain sufficient supplies of fuel to sustain their operations.
8. WFP — in its capacity of Logistics Cluster Lead Agency — has been tasked by the Humanitarian Country Team to secure access to fuel for the wider humanitarian community until the crisis is resolved.
9. WFP Yemen therefore proposes a Budget Revision with an extension in time for this Special Operation (SO) 200130, thereby continuing the logistics support to the current relief activities for the humanitarian community as outlined below:

## IMPLEMENTATION

10. Four flights per month will be scheduled from Sana'a – Sa'ada, permitting safe access for the humanitarian aid agencies to the north. While WFP is still negotiating for reassuming the service to Sa'ada, alternative routes will be suggested such as UNHAS flights to Haradh district which borders Sa'ada and which remains under government control.
11. The Logistics Cluster will continue providing coordination and information sharing support including GIS mapping to the humanitarian agencies.
12. WFP will continue procuring fuel products from official dealers and supplying them to the recipient organizations on full cost-recovery basis (plus an administrative fee) through Service Level Agreements.
13. The established Logistics Cluster coordination cell in Sana'a will continue chairing regular logistics meetings between the UN and I/NGO focal points.
14. WFP will assign dedicated staff for management of the air passenger service as well as to the fuel provision. The latter will dispense the fuel at each location and ensure that safety standards are adhered to. Standard Administrative and Operating Procedures for WFP Yemen's fuel facilities and use of UNHAS service have been shared with all participating organizations, outlining the user safety guidelines.
15. The attached SO budget details the costs necessary to maintain and operate the UNHAS service, fuel facilities (including staff/equipment and operating costs) and coordination services.

It is envisaged that this service will be required from 1<sup>st</sup> January until 31 December, 2012.

**In light of the above, this budget revision for the extension in time of the project from 1<sup>st</sup> January - 31 December 2012 is recommended for approval by the Deputy Executive Director.**

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