Libya Project No. 200261 "Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Augmentation and Coordination in response to the crisis in Libya"

B/R No.: 3

BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR THE APPROVAL OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR

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

APPROVAL

Regional Director

Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
9,047,988	171,560	9,219,548
2,333,526	404,313	2,737,839
796,706	40,311	837,017
12,178,220	616,184	12,794,404
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TYPE OF REVISION

Additional DSC	Additional ODOC	🔀 Extension in time	Change in project orientation
Other			

DISTRIBUTION: DED Chief, ODLT Chief, RMBP, ODXR, ODXP Country Director OD Registry Director, ODI (ICT operations <u>only</u>)

Director, ODL Director, ODX Regional Director Programme Officer, RMBP Programming Assistant, RMBP Liaison Officer, OD Cairo

Director, ERD RB Programme Advisor RB Programme Assistant

NATURE OF REVISION:

To extend the project in time until 30 June 2012 with overall budget increase of US\$ 616,184.

BACKGROUND:

- 1. Libya underwent an unprecedented level of upheaval and violence following the antigovernment protests which began in mid-February 2011. Despite the formal end to the conflict, and the slow stabilization of the political situation under the transitional government, vulnerabilities remain as many people are still displaced.
- 2. Although the situation has evolved, the situation remains volatile, with a number of residual humanitarian needs in Libya. Families seeking to return to their homes are facing new challenges, as infrastructure has been damaged, mines and unexploded ordnance threaten their safety and basic services are still being restored. The international community is therefore still assisting some Libyan communities with humanitarian relief such as food, medical care, water and fuel until Libya's systems are restored and fully operational.
- 3. The humanitarian community has identified the need to continue an ongoing, coordinated logistics response to ensure that humanitarian actors can supply the affected population with the necessary relief items. The highly dynamic nature of this emergency has been characterized by continually and rapidly changing areas of focus due to the evolving security situation. As a result, both the overall community and WFP have had to adjust their response strategies in order to meet the needs of the wider humanitarian community. Taking into consideration lessons learned and experiences from other post-conflict environments, it is expected that the process of reconstruction and reconciliation will be as challenging as the conflict itself.
- 4. WFP, in its role as the lead of the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Sectors, launched this special operation to provide the humanitarian community with adequate logistics and Emergency Telecommunication (ETC) capabilities, as well as coordination mechanisms, to ensure the delivery of relief items to the affected population in Libya and the surrounding countries. The operation was later extended until 29 February 2012, at a total cost of US\$ 12,178,220. This strong coordination mechanism enabled the humanitarian assistance to respond to challenges on the ground.

ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

5. Logistics Cluster Coordination and Information Management: WFP established four Logistics Cluster cells in Benghazi, Libya; Cairo, Egypt; Zarzis, Tunisia; and Valletta, Malta. Regular coordination meetings (in total more than 64) have been held in all four locations, attended by representatives from more than 55 different local and international NGOs, UN agencies, and donor governments. Regular logistics coordination meetings continue to take place in Tripoli, with various UN agencies and NGOs in regular attendance. In order to support operational decision making, since the beginning of the Logistics Cluster operation more than 180 logistics information products have been produced and shared with the humanitarian community through the Logistics Cluster website and the dedicated mailing list. These include maps, regularly updated situation reports, meeting minutes and vital and up-to-date information on ports, airports, roads, customs, and suppliers covering Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Malta. A Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) is also under way in Libya as part of a broader

humanitarian needs assessment mission. Once completed, this will assist humanitarian organizations engaged in the work of early and long-term recovery to make informed decisions concerning their logistics arrangements in Libya following the deactivation of the Logistics Cluster.

- 6. **Storage Services**: To ensure that an efficient and effective logistics operation took place in response to the Libya crisis, especially in locations where available infrastructure was limited, the Logistics Cluster coordinated the provision of warehousing space in Malta, Tunisia and Libya to the humanitarian community. Since 1 May 2011, a total of 3,060 m³ of humanitarian items has been stored in Libya on behalf of 15 organizations at no cost to the user. The facilities served as cargo consolidation points for the humanitarian community, offering short-term transit storage and allowing an unimpeded flow of life-saving relief items to affected communities.
- 7. **Road Transport services**: WFP has been providing the humanitarian community with road transport services on a cost recovery basis from Egypt and Tunisia into and within Libya. In excess of 3,500 m³ of freight has been transported on behalf of 14 organizations.
- 8. **Shipping services:** WFP has been providing shipping services to and between different Libyan ports from various Mediterranean ports, often under highly insecure conditions. This service was made available to the humanitarian community at no cost to the user. Since the beginning of the operation more than 18,130 m³ of goods were transported on behalf of 34 humanitarian organizations on different ships including the WFP-chartered merchant vessel *Fehim Bey*. At the end of October 2011, WFP discontinued its free shipping service to the humanitarian community as the security situation in Libya stabilized and commercial shipping lines began to resume services to Libyan ports and the overland routes west of Benghazi gradually re-opened. In total 539 passengers from approximately 50 different NGOs, UN and donor agencies, and media organizations also made use of the *Fehim Bey*'s passenger service.
- 9. Civil-Military Coordination: A dedicated Civil/Military coordinator with Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe / North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (SHAPE/NATO) based at first in Mons, Belgium and later (from 23 May 2011) in Naples, Italy enabled the Logistics Cluster to liaise effectively with the NATO forces responsible for implementing the no-fly zone and for conducting marine patrols. This ensured the de-confliction of humanitarian cargo moved into Libya by sea and air.
- 10. Emergency Telecommunication Cluster: An assessment for the Emergency Telecommunications requirements to support humanitarian operations was carried out by WFP FITTEST, supported by regional ICT staff. Based on these initial assessments, Common Security Telecommunications and Data Communications services for UN agencies, international NGOs and other humanitarian partners were established and are still being provided both in Benghazi and Tripoli by WFP in its role as lead of the ETC. This ensures that appropriate and sufficient emergency telecommunications capacity is in place to support humanitarian operations, as well as fully functioning data communications capacity to facilitate timely reporting and information exchange for decision-making requirements. Training in all aspects of telecommunications equipment and radio procedures has been provided to more than 120 UN / NGO staff and radio operators so far to ensure efficient utilization of the established communication network.

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION

- 11. The unresolved political situation is making the situation in Libya highly volatile. Humanitarian activities continue and the international humanitarian community has requested WFP to continue their Logistics and ETC support. WFP will therefore continue to monitor events and ensure the special operation continues to address the most immediate needs by continuing its logistics and ETC lead and coordination functions as well as associated support services. Descriptions of the services that will continue to be provided by WFP are given below:
- 12. Logistics Coordination and Information Management: Due to the complex and evolving nature of the Libya crisis, timely and efficient information dissemination is paramount. Strengthening of logistics coordination structures is still needed in several locations as the conflict has divided humanitarian operations in the east from those in the west, making national coordination a challenge. A centralized structure is therefore necessary to enable logistics coordination to take place across the entire operational area and to adapt to evolving circumstances and situations. In order to continue to support operational decision-making, relevant logistics information products, including maps, will continue to be distributed to the humanitarian community through a dedicated Libya Operations page on the Logistics Cluster website and a moderated mailing list.
- 13. **Storage Services:** WFP will support the need for inter-agency storage space to ensure the continued provision of humanitarian assistance. This will ensures an efficient and cost-effective sharing of resources in locations where infrastructure is scarce.
- 14. **Government/Authorities Liaison:** WFP will continue acting as a focal point for logistics and telecommunications matters to interact with governments and authorities across the region on behalf of the entire humanitarian community. Information concerning use, access, and adjusting procedures will be collected and shared.
- 15. Infrastructure Assessment: Since May 2011, WFP led and participated in the Physical Infrastructure and Distribution Networks thematic group in Libya, established by the Secretary-General's Special Advisor as part of a pre-Assessment exercise. The group's objective has been to provide a better understanding of the situation on the ground in Libya, relevant to mission planning, and UN engagement in the country through the early recovery stages. The World Bank has now taken the lead in this field but WFP is still supporting the assessments of transportation networks, market infrastructure, ports, telecommunications and distribution networks.
- 16. Emergency Telecommunications: Given the volatile situation, telecommunications continue to be a challenge for humanitarian operations. With the continuing insecurity throughout the country, emergency telecommunications are essential to support the safety of staff in the field and effective operations for all actors in the emergency. The ETC will continue to support these needs by expanding common security telecommunications services in Tripoli and Benghazi, training UN and NGO staff, supporting the two communication centres, maintaining the newly implemented standardized HF and VHF network across Tripoli and Benghazi, liaising with government authorities in order to finalize legal requirements for radio licences.
- 17. **Compound Management:** Since the onset of the emergency WFP has been managing a humanitarian compound for the UN mission, UN agencies and humanitarian partners in Benghazi, providing its security, electricity and services on a cost recovery basis. WFP will

continue to provide the service to the humanitarian community which is expected gradually to move to other suitable locations once the security situation stabilizes.

- 18. Logistics Capacity Assessment: To assist humanitarian organizations engaged in early and long-term recovery and allow them to make informed decisions concerning logistics arrangements in Libya, WFP will complete the LCA, which is already under way, and which will serve as an essential tool after the deactivation of the Cluster. The assessment will expand to include Tunisia also.
- 19. Joint Global Logistics Cluster Evaluation: WFP will participate in an inter-agency/multi-partner evaluation initiated by the Global Logistics Cluster as a learning exercise ultimately to improve how the Global Logistics Cluster functions on a strategic level and also how humanitarian partners (and in this case WFP as Cluster Lead) can improve clusters operationally in the field. This will ultimately allow for a faster, better tailored and more cost-effective response mechanism for future emergencies. Such an evaluation will also provide management, partners, donors and the Executive Board with evidence of learning and accountability related to North Africa Crisis Logistic Cluster activities and achievements.
- 20. In light of the above elements, the humanitarian community agrees that there is an important need for ETC and Logistics support and coordination to the humanitarian operations in the immediate future. A number of the gaps and constraints identified at the onset of this operation still exist and the operational and coordination structure put in place by WFP is highly relevant and needs to continue in order to allow organizations to carry out their response.
- 21. The increase in budget plan adds DSC and ODOC to the existing 2012 budget, which will result in the 2012 planned needs equalling the gross needs for the SO duration in 2012.
- 22. There are sufficient uncommitted and unallocated funds available under this special operation to ensure implementation of the Logistics and ETC tasks and activities still needed in Libya in the coming months, mainly to cover costs of staff with relevant professional profiles and associated expenditures. This budget revision would therefore not require any additional funding.
- 23. With a four-month extension in time until 30 June 2012, this budget revision is recommended for approval by the Regional Director.