

Format for Information Note of IR-EMOP Project Document

TO: Laurent Bukera, Head of RMBP **DATE:** 25 February 2011

FROM: Daly Belgasmi, RD, ODC **PAGE 1 OF 4**

CC: David Kaatrud, Director of Emergencies, ODE

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE EMERGENCY OPERATION TUNISIA [EMOP 200256] ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE FLEEING VIOLENCE IN LIBYA PROJECT DOCUMENT

PART 1: INFORMATION NOTE

NATURE OF EMERGENCY:

Location: Tunisia: Ras Djir (Tunisia's border with Libya)

Cause: Civil protests in Libya following the example of neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt countered by harsh military reprisals

Effects:

Death and injuries, migrant workers from Egypt, Tunisia and other countries fleeing from Libya (22,000 crossed into Tunisia in 5 days), potential flight of Libyan nationals as refugees if current situation continues / deteriorates and Libyan nationals are able to move to the border (which is currently impossible)

Total numbers affected and in need of emergency food aid:

The number of potential beneficiaries is estimated at 50,000, coming from the following affected groups:

- Libyan nationals – 6.5 million
- Egyptian migrant workers – 1.5 million
- Tunisian migrant workers – 50,000
- Additional migrant workers of other nationalities (numbers not known)
- Refugees / asylum seekers already in Libya – 20,000

WFP IR EMOP:

Justification for an immediate response, expected impact:

The recent revolution in Tunis started a precedent through much of the Arab world, with the uprising in Egypt, protests in Yemen, Bahrain, Syria, Iran, Algeria and Morocco among others. However when protests started in Libya in mid-February, the situation has evolved very differently, with severe military reprisals against the public as the leadership seeks to prop up its dynasty.

These extensive military attacks with aerial bombing and regular use of live ammunition against the civilian population have caused myriad casualties leaving many dead and even more injured. Increasing numbers of military and police personnel have defected from the government forces with rising numbers of Libyan diplomats also resigning from their posts. While much of the country has fallen to the 'rebels', Tripoli remains under government control with fierce fighting and blockades stopping all movement either into or out of the city.

According to several speeches made by both the Libyan leader and his son, the country is heading to a civil war thus hinting at increasingly violent action to maintain control of the country. The effect would likely be a further deterioration of both security and food security situations with resonating effects in Libya as well as neighbouring countries.

Similarly the first reports of serious food shortages in Libya are now surfacing particularly for vulnerable groups such as young children and pregnant / lactating women, most probably due to the inability to import food and the disruption of transport routes.

WFP is already assessing the longer-term effects on people's food security situation in Tunisia, following a request from the Government (GoT). As for Libya, the ongoing strife could result in humanitarian needs within Libya as well as for people crossing to Tunisia and Egypt. While much of this need will be short-term as migrant workers transit back to their home country, there is a major risk that Libyans fleeing the fighting may have to stay in displacement much longer, either within their own country or as refugees in the neighbouring countries of Tunisia and Egypt. Both neighbouring countries are already in challenging positions to provide support given their own recent revolutions. The longer the conflict within Libya lasts, the more the situation is likely to deteriorate with people unable to meet their food requirements.

Duration of assistance: 24 February – 24 March 2011

Number of beneficiaries and location:

Beneficiaries

The total number of beneficiaries is not yet known as there is a rapid turnover with Tunisian returnees transiting the border to return home, migrant workers of Egyptian and other nationalities fleeing to Tunisia and then waiting for onward transport to their home country and a small, but growing nucleus of Libyan refugees and migrant workers with no means of returning home staying for longer periods. Beneficiaries will come from the following affected groups:

- Libyan nationals – 6.5 million
- Egyptian migrant workers – 1.5 million
- Tunisian migrant workers – 50,000
- Additional migrant workers of other nationalities (numbers not known)
- Refugees / asylum seekers already in Libya – 20,000

Food basket composition and ration levels:

Initial distributions of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) 2100 kcal per person per day				
Commodity	Ration (g/person/day)	Beneficiaries	Duration (days)	MT
HEB	467	50,000	3	80
Total				80.00

Total food aid requirements (mt):

HEB 80 MT

WFP will also provide cash support to WFP's partner, the Tunisian Red Crescent, through ODOC funds to assist with the wet feeding they are currently providing.

Mode of implementation:

Given the ongoing tensions in Tunisia following the revolution, implementation in Tunisia will be done through local partners such as the Tunisian Red Crescent. The Red Crescent will procure food locally with the WFP ODOC funds to complement food donated by the local population and provide one meal per day given that many people are in transit or living in temporary accommodation including tented camps without cooking facilities. This will ensure that the beneficiaries (many of whom are single men) have one proper meal per day.

The TRC will also receive the HEBs when they arrive on the aeroplane at Djerba airport, clear them through customs and store them locally. They will distribute HEB to people crossing the border, many of whom have not eaten for several days before arriving due to the food availability issues within Libya. The biscuits can be eaten in transit for those travelling as well as being distributed to those staying in the camps and temporary accommodation at the border. There will be distribution of HEBs to two groups of people:

- Short term distribution to migrant workers during their transit before onward travel to their home provinces of Tunisia or their home countries. The ease of distribution and transport make HEBs an ideal commodity in this context.
- Short term distribution to Libyan refugees arriving in Tunisia as part of their welcome pack to ensure initial nutrition. Biscuits may then be continued for children and pregnant / lactating women as a nutritional supplement.

WFP will maintain a light team to monitor the distribution and use of commodities as well as perform representational and reporting duties.

While undertaking this food support to people arriving in Tunisia, WFP will also undertake emergency preparedness activities for additional assistance in Libya which is likely to be required once the international community has access.

PART 2: EMOP BUDGET (attached)

Total EMOP budget is US\$499,938 attached as Annex 1.

PART 3: EMOP APPROVAL

1) IRA funding is available to cover EMOP budget

Chief, RMBB: [Name & Signature], Date: --/--/----

2) EMOP is approved

Regional Director, ODC: Daly Belgasmi, Date: 25/02/2011