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Executive Board documents are available on WFP's website (https://executiveboard.wfp.org).

Annual performance report for 2018

Draft decision*

The Board approves the annual performance report for 2018 (WFP/EB.A/2019/4-A/Rev.2), noting that it provides a comprehensive record of WFP performance for the year. In accordance with General Regulation VI.3, and pursuant to its decisions 2000/EB.A/2 and 2004/EB.A/11, to resolution E/2013/L.17 of the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the decision adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its 148th Session in 2013, the Board requests that the annual performance report for 2018 be forwarded to the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization, along with the present decision and the Board's decisions and recommendations for 2018.

The Board looks forward to WFP reporting against the targets set in the Corporate Results Framework Part II in next year's Annual Performance Report and encourages WFP to continue to improve the quality of the data used to report on its work.

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^{*} This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the decisions and recommendations document issued at the end of the session.

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¹ Direct link available: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000099356/download/

 $^{^2\, \}text{Direct link available:} \, \text{https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/16355f42-0ca5-47f3-a5d9-50b74711d8e3/download/} \, \text{In the description of the context of the context$

³ Direct link available: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/93e1cea8-1be1-47f3-ab7d-d9a7d714646f/download/

⁴ Direct link available: https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000099398/download/

Foreword by the Executive Director

The year 2018 was one of the most challenging in recent history for WFP and other organizations working to eradicate food insecurity. Following a decade of progress, the number of hungry people increased for the second consecutive year, with conflict the greatest contributing factor.

The United Nations Security Council passed resolution 2417 in May 2018, recognizing the clear links between food insecurity and conflict. This historic agreement, which followed tireless advocacy by WFP and many other partners in the zero hunger movement, also reflects recognition of food security as a fundamental building block for the sustainable development of any nation.

Responding to crises and emergencies and saving lives is WFP's core work and remains an area where it continues to build excellence. In 2018 WFP continued its efforts to avert famine in places such as Yemen, where several million people would have been food-insecure in the absence of humanitarian food assistance.

However, WFP and its partners will not achieve zero hunger unless they collectively also address development for the future in a revitalized and reformed United Nations. While supplying life-saving support in places such as Yemen is essential, WFP cannot be limited to providing only temporary solutions. WFP needs to combine relief with investments in long-term development, working with its partners and with governments. WFP has the necessary skills and expertise for both, and its work will help lay the foundations for long-term stability and peace.

WFP once again attracted record contributions in 2018, totalling USD 7.2 billion compared with USD 6.0 billion in 2017. The USD 1.2 billion increase translates into more meals and food assistance that WFP can deliver each day and has resulted in the lowest funding gap (28 percent) in years. Yet the funding gap of USD 2.8 billion between the USD 10 billion WFP needed for its planned programmes and the USD 7.2 billion it received masks some large inequalities in humanitarian assistance. In particular "forgotten emergencies", which generate relatively little political interest and do not make the headlines, suffer disproportionately from disproportionate gaps, obliging WFP field staff to make heartbreaking decisions about who to feed, who not to feed, or how much to cut rations of people in need. Capacity strengthening suffers a similar fate, forestalling development gains.

Behind these numbers are vulnerable humans – boys and girls, women and men – who have dreams and hopes, and WFP must not let them down. Through its assistance WFP not only saves lives, but changes lives.

This year's annual performance report highlights the valuable work that WFP is doing in Yemen, in the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries, in South Sudan and in 75 other countries. This work includes responses to seven Level 3 and nine Level 2 emergencies that were active during the year. Recognizing the harsh and sometimes dangerous conditions under which it works, WFP mitigates risks and prioritizes staff wellness, while the women and men who work for WFP accept those risks that cannot be eliminated as they seek to improve the lives of the people WFP serves.

To ensure that its programmes are as effective as possible, WFP is fostering a culture of innovation, supported by an extensive infrastructure for supporting innovation and embracing new approaches to its work, including through new digital technologies and cutting-edge humanitarian and development response.

Examples of innovation include WFP's work to scale up the Farm to Market Alliance, an initiative that supports smallholder farmers in producing and selling their crops. The WFP innovation unit supported the development of a Farm to Market Alliance mobile application aimed at helping farmers and representative organizations to aggregate and sell crops more efficiently; order inputs for climate-smart agriculture and post-harvest equipment through a system in which the farmer organizations that make bulk purchases for their members receive automated digital receipts for their bulk payments while individual farmers receive mobile phone text messages confirming their individual payments; track loans for the purchase of inputs; and receive agricultural advisory services.

WFP also uses its unique purchasing power to procure local food for its programmes, therefore contributing to smallholder farmers' livelihoods. Smallholder farmers play a critical role in ending hunger, and institutions like WFP are committed to helping them sustainably engage agricultural markets. In 2018, WFP procured food valued at more than USD 31 million from smallholders in 29 countries, 2 percent of the value of all food procured for 2018.

WFP is simultaneously using food assistance programmes to stimulate local economies by providing cash-based transfers to beneficiaries. In 2018, WFP disbursed USD 1.76 billion in cash-based transfers, an increase of 21 percent from the 2017 figure of USD 1.45 billion. WFP will expand its use of cash-based transfers, with plans to distribute USD 2 billion in 2019. This will increase cash-based transfers as a percentage of total WFP assistance.

School feeding is another area where WFP's programmes continue to have a significant impact. Studies have shown that every dollar invested in school feeding produces a return of up to 10 dollars through expanded and improved education, health and productivity.⁵ For more than 55 years, WFP has partnered with governments to provide school feeding in 100 countries. WFP's ultimate goal is to encourage and facilitate national government ownership and management of these programmes, a transition that has already been made in 44 countries. While there has been major progress in this area, 73 million of the most vulnerable children worldwide still do not receive school meals.⁶

In addition to providing nutritious food, supporting sustainable livelihoods and providing greater access to classrooms for children from poor families, WFP's work also promotes girls' and women's empowerment. In 2018, WFP assisted 16.4 million schoolchildren – 51 percent girls – with meals, snacks and take-home rations.

Corporate efficiency remained a priority in 2018, the first year in which WFP operated at an indirect support cost of 6.5 percent, the lowest rate among United Nations agencies. WFP's independent oversight reports pointed to several examples of operational efficiency such as the successful switch from air-drops to barges for the delivery of food in South Sudan, which saved tens of millions of dollars.

WFP recognizes that its staff is its greatest asset. Eighty-five percent of staff completed the 2018 global staff survey, nearly double the rate in 2012 and the highest rate ever for a large United Nations agency. The survey revealed that 88 percent of WFP staff members are proud to work for WFP and are strongly committed to its work. Survey respondents also highlighted areas for improvement, calling for clearer feedback from and two-way communications with managers, supervisors and other colleagues and a systematic strategy for career advancement. Management is committed to addressing these issues.

⁵ World Food Programme, 2017. Counting the Beans. The True Cost of a Plate of Food Around the World, Rome, WFP https://www1.wfp.org/publications/2017-counting-beans-true-cost-plate-food-around-world

⁶ 'Partnership for Child Development (2018): Memo: Global figures for children in need of School Feeding'

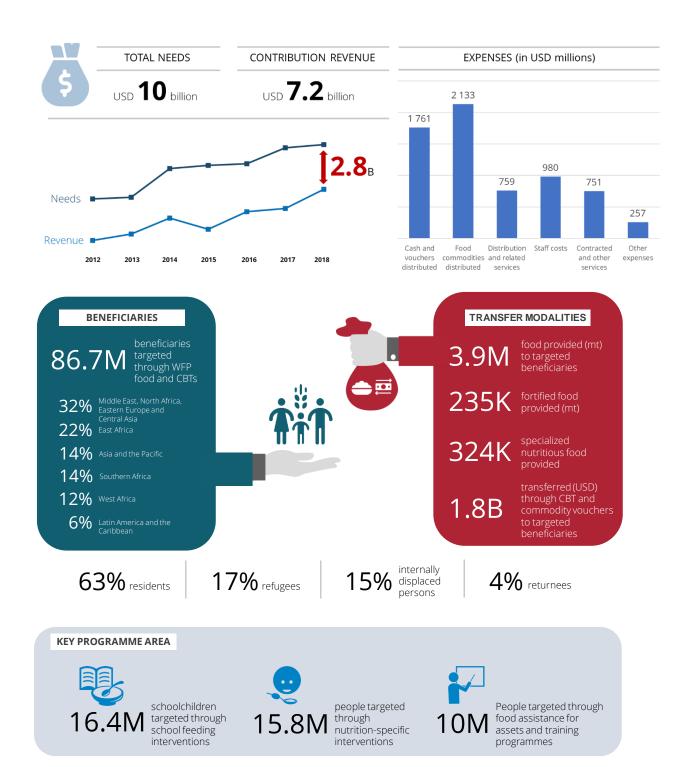
WFP formally reaffirmed its commitment to refuse to tolerate harassment, sexual harassment, abuse of authority or discrimination. WFP is institutionalizing changes that will make it easier for individuals to report harassment and abuse of authority and to protect those most affected. WFP also allocated an additional USD 1.3 million to the budget of the Inspector General and Oversight Office to strengthen its investigations work. WFP recognizes that supporting food security is part of sustainable development and that life-saving and life-changing work in crises and emergencies must be done in a safe and trusted environment; WFP therefore recognizes that there is a need to implement effective strategies for preventing, detecting and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse through a victim-centered approach.

In 2018 WFP made significant efforts to create a more supportive and welcoming work environment for its 17,000 staff members around the world. This included expanding "future international talent" (FIT) pools of pre-screened candidates ready to quickly fill job vacancies as they arise, introducing maternity leave for consultants, and continued efforts to achieve gender workforce parity. It is imperative that we effectively recruit, train and place the organization's most important resource: its staff. I am committed to ensuring WFP is the world's premier institution – public or private – for staff to work.

We must commit ourselves to making WFP the world's most effective and efficient institution. Although many challenges lie ahead, I am convinced that together donors and host governments, fellow United Nations agencies and NGOs, private sector stakeholders, host communities and beneficiaries can achieve the zero hunger world we envision. On behalf of WFP and the millions of people we serve, I count on your support in 2019 and beyond.

WFP in 2018

Saving lives changing lives



Executive summary

Hunger facts: Food insecurity increased primarily because of increasing conflict and climate-related crises over the past two years. The number of hungry people in the world rose to levels last seen a decade ago.

Financial facts: In 2018 WFP's revenue increased by 20 percent to USD 7.2 billion – the highest ever. Eighty-five percent of funding came from the top ten donors and more than half was designated for WFP operations in South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. However, WFP still encountered a significant funding gap of USD 2.8 billion, leading it to suspend or reduce the scope of activities.

Outreach facts: WFP responded to seven Level 3 and nine Level 2 emergencies in 2018. It implemented its first-ever pre-emptive response – preventing a lean season from becoming a large-scale crisis in the Sahel. The school feeding programme provided 16.4 million schoolchildren with nutritious meals in 61 countries, while nutrition programmes reached 15.8 million beneficiaries in 66 countries. Food assistance for assets (FFA) or training programmes assisted 10 million people in 55 countries.

Performance facts: WFP country offices continued to implement country strategic plans. Similarly, WFP's functional area performance was rated "medium" to "high". Despite these achievements, WFP will continually seek to improve its performance.

Part I - Introduction

With ongoing conflicts continuing to fuel large-scale humanitarian crises and record contributions received against increasing needs, WFP's performance in 2018 reflected trends observed in 2017. The 2018 annual performance report analyses these trends, the challenges confronting WFP and its achievements.

Increasing frequency and length of emergencies. The year 2018 was one of the most challenging yet successful years for WFP in recent history. Global hunger increased for the second consecutive year, with the most recent figures indicating that 821 million people are undernourished, of whom 124 million are at crisis levels. More and more countries are confronted with health-related challenges including malnutrition, high stunting and wasting rates, chronic levels of adult obesity and anaemia in women. Armed conflict and increasingly frequent and severe climate-related disasters contributed significantly to global food insecurity and malnutrition. In 2018, conflict or climate-related emergencies were reflected in seven Level 3 and nine Level 2 WFP emergency responses and presented humanitarian access obstacles.

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_4034

