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COUNCIL

Hundred and Thirty-second Session

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REVISION OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)

1. Since 2005 the Executive Board of WFP has been examining the question of the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and considered various reports in that connection, in line with the decision of the High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM) of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, as approved by the General Assembly in July 2006. A third progress report on the implementation of IPSAS was examined by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the FAO Finance Committee. The report proposed amendments to the Programme's General Regulations, General Rules and Financial Regulations. At its 116th Session in October 2006, the Finance Committee, endorsed the proposals contained in the report and noted, *inter alia*, that they focused on the adoption of IPSAS for financial reporting and that a review of the budgetary cycle would be considered at a possible second stage.

At its Second Regular Session in 2006 the Board approved the proposed amendments to 2. the General Regulations, the General Rules and the Financial Regulations. In particular, the Board approved the amendments to WFP's General Regulations and recommended their approval by the designated United Nations and FAO bodies. Under Article XV of the General Regulations of the Programme, amendments to the Regulations are to be submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations and the FAO Conference, through the Economic and Social Council and the Council of FAO, for approval.

The Council is invited to note that, in accordance with applicable provisions and 3. established practice, the same amendments are being referred to the General Assembly of the United Nations, through the Economic and Social Council, for approval.

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4. The Council is invited to endorse the following amendments to the General Regulations of the Programme, and to forward them to the Conference for approval¹:

Article VI (Powers and Functions of the Board), paragraph 2(b)(viii):

- [(b) The Board (...) shall, in particular:]
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"(viii) consider the biennial report on inspections and investigations the annual report of the Inspector-General, and take such action thereon as it considers appropriate."

Article XIV (Financial Arrangements), paragraph 6 (b):

[6. The Executive Director will submit the following to the Executive Board for approval:]

"(b) biennial annual financial statements of WFP, together with the report of the External Auditor;"

5. The Council is also invited to note, for information, the amendments to General Rule VI.1 and General Rule X.8 approved by the Executive Board at its Second Regular Session. These amendments are reproduced in document C 2007/INF/14, "Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board to ECOSOC and the FAO Council on its Activities in 2006, Section I, Matters calling for action by the Council of FAO or brought to its attention", page 2.

¹ These amendments are also presented in C/2007/INF/14, Annual Report of the WFP Executive Board to ECOSOC and the FAO Council on its Activities in 2006, Section I, Matters calling for action by the Council of FAO or brought to its attention, page 2.