



**World Food Programme**

### BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR APPROVAL BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF

5) To:	Division	Room	Approval and Date
Mr. Jim Harvey Chief of Staff	OED	6G36	
4) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Ms. Elisabeth Rasmusson Assistant Executive Director	PG	6G72	
3) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Mr. Manoj Juneja Assistant Executive Director	RM	6G00	
2) Through:	Division	Room	Signature and Date
Mr. Ramiro Lopes da Silva Assistant Executive Director	OS	6G62	
1) From:	Regional Bureau	Signature and Date	
Ms. Denise Brown Regional Director	RBD		

### Chad Special Operation 200785 BR No. 01

PROJECT	Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
CD&A (US\$)	18,174,633	15,857,353	34,031,986
DSC (US\$)	1,069,722	1,105,301	2,175,023
ISC (US\$)	1,347,105	1,187,386	2,534,491
<b>Total WFP cost (US\$)</b>	<b>20,591,459</b>	<b>18,150,041</b>	<b>38,741,500</b>

#### TYPE OF REVISION

☒ Additional DSC orientation    
 ☒ Additional CD&A    
 ☒ Extension in time    
 ☐ Change in project

☐ Other

#### NATURE OF REVISION:

Budget Revision One (BR 01) to Special Operation 200785, 'Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Chad' seeks to extend the project in time for 12 months in order to ensure the continued provision of air transport services to the humanitarian community until 31 December 2016, with a subsequent total budget increase of **US\$18,150,041**. The original budget was approved for US\$20,591,459 for the period 01 January - 31 December 2015.



## **BACKGROUND:**

1. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) was established in Chad in 2004 to provide a link from N'Djamena to distant project sites mainly in south-eastern parts of the country. Humanitarian needs have remained high in the Abeche and Goz Beida regions and aid organizations have maintained presence carrying out large-scale humanitarian efforts necessitating the need for UNHAS which is especially important during the annual five-month rainy season when many locations become inaccessible by road due to flooding.
2. Recently, fighting in Nigeria and turmoil in Central African Republic (C.A.R.) have affected the country's stability with hundreds of thousands of refugees who have entered Chad, further stretching its already burdened hosts. The escalation of violence in C.A.R. has forced large numbers of people to flee to neighbouring Chad, whilst the grave security situation in the Lake Chad basin has led to numerous population movements in the Lac region in the western parts of the country.
3. The humanitarian situation has significantly deteriorated in Western Chad as a result of armed conflict in north-eastern Nigeria due to the Boko Haram insurgency. The second and third quarters of 2015 have seen an ever-increasing number of asymmetric attacks on small towns and settlements across Chad's Lac region. These attacks are causing continued population movements with 77,000 people displaced since the start of the Nigerian crisis according to OCHA. This includes 14,000 refugees of whom 7,000 live in Dar es Salaam refugee camp, 11,000 returnees and 52,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) living either in spontaneous sites or in host communities.<sup>1</sup>
4. All are in need of humanitarian assistance with the most immediate needs being shelter, NFIs, access to health and WASH services, and food security. In addition, the closure of the border with Nigeria has led to the near collapse of the livestock market affecting the income and purchasing power of pastoral households. Given the impact of both the conflict related and seasonal factors such as the rainy season, UNHAS is crucial for relief workers to access areas of humanitarian intervention in the Lac and surrounding regions of Chad.
5. The entire country continues to face a complex emergency as a result of massive population displacements, chronic food insecurity, malnutrition, natural hazards, epidemics and other health emergencies. The humanitarian community's response efforts are constrained due to insecurity, vast distances and poor road conditions not only in the western parts but also in eastern Chad. The ability of aid organizations to continue responding effectively to the needs of the affected population will depend on undisrupted access, hence the need for a reliable air service.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TO DATE:**

6. In 2015, some 100 user organizations comprising NGOs, UN agencies, donor organizations and diplomatic missions relied on UNHAS to implement and monitor humanitarian activities in Chad. Between January and October, the service transported 17,894 passengers and 98 mt of light cargo. It also carried out 71 medical evacuations and one security relocation. Furthermore, a joint partnership with the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency

<sup>1</sup> ACAPS, Global Emergency Overview, Snapshot 28 October – 03 November 2015, p.47



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(MSB) and the Government of Chad enabled the rehabilitation of the Goz Beida airstrip – the busiest UNHAS destination in the Dar Sila region. This will ensure continued access for aid organizations supporting refugees, IDPs and food insecure communities in the region throughout the year.

7. In March 2015, UNHAS conducted two surveys, a Passenger Satisfaction Survey (PSS) and a Provision of Access Satisfaction Survey (PASS). As part of efforts to further improve its service delivery, during the first half of the year UNHAS reorganized its flight schedule in order to better respond to the humanitarian community's renewed focus on refugee operations in the Lake Chad region following an influx of refugees fleeing insurgency attacks in neighbouring Nigeria.

### **JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:**

8. This budget revision to continue the provision of air services in order to facilitate humanitarian staff travel to various locations in Chad is deemed necessary due to the following factors:

- a. Continuous Need for Humanitarian Assistance:

Chad is located in an unstable geopolitical neighbourhood with successive waves of instability and conflict causing large-scale population movements into the country. As of September 2015, Chad hosted the world's seventh largest refugee population with the majority in camps in the south-eastern and western parts of the country. Food insecurity and malnutrition affect millions of people and are concentrated in the Sahelian belt. Some 3.4 million people are reported to be food insecure, including 403,000 who are severely food insecure and depend on aid for survival. Furthermore, the population is exposed to a high prevalence of disease such as cholera and measles that have a potential to become epidemics given lack of access to clean water and sanitation. Humanitarian needs are highest amongst IDPs. It is estimated that 90 percent of the internally displaced in the Lac region do not have access to latrines, only 5 percent have access to safe drinking water and 90 percent have not received shelter support.<sup>2</sup> Relief workers' ability to reach the most vulnerable will rely on common air services provided by UNHAS.

- b. Continued Demand

As of the end of October, 100 user organizations comprising NGOs, UN agencies, donor organizations and diplomatic missions relied on UNHAS to implement and monitor their activities in Chad. The continued need for UNHAS to support the implementation of humanitarian activities in the country was, amongst others, recognized during the Steering Committee (SC) meeting held in N'Djamena in May 2015. Until the end of July 2015, UNHAS operated with three fixed-wing aircraft. An additional asset was added to the fleet in the following month and will be maintained in 2016 as the demand for air services is expected to remain generally high in eastern Chad with increased demand anticipated in western Chad as a result of the Nigerian crisis. Passenger loads between N'Djamena and Bol, UNHAS' busiest destination in western Chad, have more than tripled between May and October 2015 from 71 to 216 humanitarian staff.

<sup>2</sup> ACAPS, Global Emergency Overview, Snapshot 28 October – 03 November 2015, pp.48-49



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### c. Lack of Alternative Means of Transport:

Humanitarian access to populations in need of assistance is hazardous and time-consuming due to the prevailing security situation and poor road conditions. Travel by surface means is also adversely affected by seasonal weather with numerous roads being closed during the five-month rainy season. Conditions are further aggravated by unavailability of accommodation facilities along the roads and acts of banditry, particularly in eastern Chad. Since July 2012, Chad's national airline has been grounded by the local Civil Aviation Authority following an ICAO audit. There are currently no commercial air service providers in the country that meet international aviation safety standards. Complimentary air services provided by ICRC, mainly for their own staff, and ECHO Flight are no longer operational, rendering UNHAS the only means for the humanitarian community in Chad to access project sites promptly.

9. In 2016, the operational fleet will comprise of four fixed-wing aircraft. Of this, two are certified for 37 passenger seats and two have a capacity of up to 12 seats. The assets will be positioned strategically in N'Djamena, Abeche and Goz Beida and tasked appropriately to effectively respond to humanitarian needs in the country.
10. In line with WFP's Strategic Results Framework, the objectives of the Special Operation 200785 for 2016 will remain as follows:
  - To provide NGOs, UN agencies, donor organizations and diplomatic missions in Chad with safe, effective and efficient access to beneficiaries and project implementation sites;
  - To transport light cargo such as medical supplies, high energy foods and information and communications technology equipment; and
  - To provide adequate capacity for evacuations of humanitarian staff.
11. The project's key performance indicators will remain unchanged and will include the following targets for 2016 :
  - Number of Needs Assessments carried out (target: 4);
  - Number of passengers transported (target: 24,000)
  - Percentage of passenger bookings served (target: 95 percent);<sup>3</sup>
  - Amount of light cargo transported (target: 120,000 kg);
  - Number of organizations using the service (target: 120);
  - Number of destinations served (target: 19);
  - Response to medical and security evacuations duly requested (target: 100 percent)
12. The specifics of the implementation of this project will be constantly reviewed and tailored to changing realities on the ground according to the needs of the humanitarian community.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

In light of the above, this budget revision for extension in time for twelve months, until 31 December 2016 with a subsequent budget increase of **US\$18,150,041** is recommended for approval by the Chief of Staff, with the budget provided.

<sup>3</sup> This does not include unserved bookings due to flight cancellations resulting from bad weather or insecurity.

## Annex A

### UNHAS Chad Routes as of 2015

