ANNEX 1 ECHO E-SINGLE FORM

Section 3.1.2 - Assessment methodology [CONTINUED]

Programme monitoring

WFP conducts regular programme monitoring in assisted locations to verify the implementation of WFP activities, measure the impact of the assistance provided and gather data on households' food security.

WFP conducts direct-monitoring of its activities where the security situation permits to ensure that assistance reaches beneficiaries through dedicated monitoring teams, consisting of nineteen staff members based in five offices across Syria. In highly insecure areas monitoring is conducted by Project Facilitators from Third Party Monitoring companies that are contracted and trained to conduct such monitoring exercise both inside Syria and cross borders.

Monitoring activities are implemented through both on-site and post-distribution visits using systematic data collection tools for the selected indicators to inform on progress and achievement of results, through process, output and outcome monitoring. This enables WFP to rely on regular and timely updates on the food security situation in Syria, which, in turn, inform programmatic choices and enables evidence-based implementation adjustments. In particular, outcome monitoring, performed using the the Post Distribution Monitoring tool administered to randomly selected households two weeks after food distribution, enables WFP to keep track of food security indicators including food consumption levels, dietary diversity and coping strategies applied by beneficiaries. In addition, data collected using tool include beneficiary perceptions regarding crosscutting indicators such as gender and decision making on utilization of food assistance.

Market Assessments

Due to the fact that most of Syrians depend on market purchase as primary source of their food requirements, WFP Syria established a market monitoring system in October 2014 and have been producing and disseminating a market watch report on a monthly basis. The main purpose of the market watch is to monitor market conditions, track changes on prices of essential commodities and investigate issues affecting markets and thereby assess the impact on food security conditions of the population in Syria.

The market monitoring system uses the standard market analysis tools and methods developed by WFP HQ VAM. It uses both primary and secondary data. Primary data is collected from 27 major market across the country. The secondary information is gathered from various sources that include CBS and different web-based resources including FAO.

Results of the market monitoring are published on the monthly market watch report. The content of the report includes Inflation and Consumer Price Index (CPI), wholesale prices of essential commodities including wheat and wheat flour, availability/supply situation, retail prices of wheat and wheat flour, terms of trade between labour and wheat flour as well as between livestock and wheat flour, international food market prices and summary of trends of prices. The monthly market

monitoring/watch reports can be found at $\underline{\text{http://www.wfp.org/content/Syria-monthly-market-watch-2015}}$

3.1.3 Problem, needs and risk analysis

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This lack of infrastructure burdens an already weakened education system, and contributes to additional barriers to child education. When the conflict started, Syria had a net enrolment ratio of 99 percent. According to preliminary results of the "Syria Education Sector Analysis 2014-2015", and data from the Education Management Information System (EMIS), aggregate enrolment and attendance rates have sharply declined since the onset of the crisis. At the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year, 3.7 million children were enrolled in primary schools representing a 33 percent decrease in enrolment from pre-crisis rates; the most significant negative trends have occurred in Rural Damascus, Damascus, Aleppo, Dar'a, Quneitra and Homs. Currently, approximately 2 million children are not attending school in stark contrast to 0.9 million in the first year of the conflict. Over two million children inside Syria are either out of school or attending classes irregularly. This number had peaked to 2.8 million in 2012, and decreased subsequently due to the outflow of migrants from the country. Overall, attendance rates have also shown downward trends over the past five years, with the worst cases showing drops by 70 percent. Particularly, in hard-to-reach areas children are most at risk of dropping out of the formal education system, with attendance rates registering rates well below the national average.

4.6 - Contingency measures (plan B/mitigating actions to be taken if risks and assumptions materialised)

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- **5. Unstable, irregular and insufficient funding.** Ensuring an adequate level of funding in a predictable and consistent manner remains a challenge in the face of multiple global crises and over-stretched donor resources. WFP will continue to broaden its donor base to include non-traditional donors. Improved targeting will inform WFP prioritization and contingency plans, should it prove necessary to scale back assistance.
- 6. Manipulation of aid for political, military or financial gain. In order to protect the humanitarian space and uphold humanitarian principles, WFP continues to adopt a conflict-sensitive approach to its humanitarian assistance. WFP's continued presence in Syria obliges it to work with partners to deliver food assistance to Syrians in need in all parts of the country. Within the framework of UNSC resolutions 2139, 2165, 2191 and 2258 WFP has been increasing cross-border and cross-line deliveries to provide food assistance in hard to reach areas. Monitoring activities have been strengthened to detect aid diversions and track the unintended impact of WFP assistance on the conflict. WFP will continue to seek ways to complement peace building efforts.
- 7. <u>Constraints to humanitarian access</u>. WFP continues to support the efforts of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) to advocate for unimpeded access to provide humanitarian assistance in all areas of greatest needs. Special measures are being taken to ensure the safe passage of humanitarian convoys, both cross-line and cross-border. To the extent possible, WFP verifies food security information through beneficiary contact monitoring at distribution sites, tracking

- food prices, and triangulation of data from different sources. Subject to security and other conditions, WFP is continually seeking to extend the reach of these activities.
- **8.** <u>Limited capacity of Cooperating Partners</u>. Efforts will continue to be made to strengthen capacities of local implementing partners, including through the provision of equipment and specific trainings as necessary.
- 9. Looting or misappropriation of WFP food. WFP applies the highest standards of security to its operations and closely monitors the situation on ground to assess risk levels. Through its partners, and strategic field presence in Aleppo, Homs, Tartous, Lattakia and Qamishly, WFP has established a solid reputation and will continue to engage with local authorities and community leaders to ensure safe passage of humanitarian assistance. At the same time, WFP has expanded its contracted transporters, ensuring the best possible access to, knowledge of, and acceptance in target locations. In hotspot areas, inter-agency convoys will continue to be efficiently used. Alternative means of delivery, including deliveries from Turkey and other alternative overland corridors and packaging outside of Syria, allows WFP to circumnavigate some of the most highrisk areas. When deliveries reach an area subject to particular security concerns, WFP urges partners to expedite the distribution of the supplies, and avoid storing stocks in insecure areas to minimise the risk of misappropriation of WFP items in the event of shifts in control patterns. In addition, following instances of aid misappropriation, WFP suspended all activities in ISIL controlled areas, as partners are unable to operate independently and neutrally in these areas.
- 10. Negative media portrayal of WFP and its cooperating partners: In all public communications, WFP will continue to highlight its neutral and independent humanitarian mandate, and that of its cooperating partners. Outreach efforts will continue to increase awareness of WFP's mandate.