

BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR THE APPROVAL OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR

	<u>Initials</u>	<u>In Date</u>	<u>Out Date</u>	<u>Reason For Delay</u>
<u>ORIGINATOR</u>				
Country Office or Regional Bureau on behalf of Country OfficeJTD..... Niger CD	..6 March 2009..

CLEARANCE

Programme Officer, OMXP
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APPROVAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Director
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PROJECT: "Provision of safe, efficient and sufficient air transport services to the humanitarian community in Niger"

	Previous Budget	Revision	New Budget
ODOC	US\$ 3,494,056	US\$1,839,745	US\$5,333,801
DSC	US\$ 541,812	US\$ 160,827	US\$ 702,639
ISC	US\$ 282,510	US\$ 140,040	US\$ 422,550
Total WFP cost (US\$)	US\$ 4,318,378	US\$ 2,140,612	US\$ 6,458,990

TYPE OF REVISION:

Additional DSC
 Additional ODOC
 Extension in time
 Change in project orientation
 Other

NATURE OF REVISION:

This B/R is for a budget increase for the extension of the operation through 31 December 2009.
ODOC: US\$1,839,745; DSC US\$160,827 and ISC US\$140,040

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:**Project background**

Following a rapid deterioration of the security situation in parts of Niger during 2007 and into 2008 (including car-jacking, armed robberies, existence of anti-personnel mines and anti-tank devices on certain roads), as well as the lack of safe and reliable commercial airlines, the Special Operation 10734 was approved in early 2008 in order to provide "safe, efficient and sufficient air transport services in Niger and within the sub-region".

The operation started in June 2008. Since then the security situation has further deteriorated in many parts of the country, resulting in the increase of the UN DSS security phases throughout Niger in December 2009.

Objectives

The main objective of this budget revision is to continue with the provision of a safe, efficient and sufficient air transport service to humanitarian staff of over 50 UN Agencies and NGOs, as well as to donor representatives, who provide humanitarian assistance to thousands of beneficiaries in Niger, especially in areas affected by insecurity.

In addition, the extension of this S.O. will enable the continuation of an evacuation capability either for medical emergencies involving humanitarian staff or for security reasons.

Recommendations

An enlarged UNHAS-Niger User Group meeting highlighted the reliability and necessity of the air service and therefore the need to maintain this operation in Niger. Following this request from the User Group, in addition to the already agreed partial cost recovery system (which now generates \$ 40,000 per month from ticket sales), the UN Country Team has recommended to OCHA/NY to dedicate US\$ 1.1 million of the US\$ 4 million allocated from the CERF "Under funded grants" window for Niger in 2009.

The approval of this B/R will provide the framework to continue this UNHAS Special Operation up to the end of 2009 in Niger.

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