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**FOOD FOR PEACE  
INFORMATION BULLETIN (FFPIB)**

**Date:** December 22, 2008

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** USAID/Washington and Overseas Distribution Lists  
& Implementing Partners

**FROM:** DCHA/FFP/D, Jeff Borns, Director

**SUBJECT:** Commodity Price and Ocean Freight Rate Estimates Updates

FFPIB 09-05

**I. Purpose**

This is to inform all Title II Implementing Partners of the Office of Food for Peace's revised policy on updating Commodity Price and Ocean Freight Rate Estimates.

**II. Summary**

Beginning in December 2008, FFP will begin updating commodity price and ocean freight rate (processed and bulk) estimates on approximately the 17<sup>th</sup> of every other month. Additionally, as ocean freight rates vary significantly by trade route, the rates for both processed and bulk commodities will be broken down into 5 trade routes, with each route having its own specific processed and bulk rate. The trade routes are: Central America/Caribbean, Central/Eastern Africa, Red Sea, South East



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Asia and West Africa. For countries not covered by these routes the packaged commodity rate will be based on a global rate provided by OAA/Transportation and the bulk commodity rate will be based on a weighted average of the five established routes. Please consult the attached list detailing which trade routes specific countries fall under.

These new rates will be included in the commodity calculator, found at:

<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/agriculture-and-food-security/food-assistance/resources/implementation-tools>

Please make sure to use the most recent version of the commodity calculator when submitting proposals.

For further information on the Commodity Price and Ocean Freight Rate Estimates please contact Greg Olson, [golson@usaid.gov](mailto:golson@usaid.gov)

For further information on the Commodity Calculator please contact Cecilia Chang, [cchang@amexdc.com](mailto:cchang@amexdc.com)