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Food Aid Quality Review Quarterly Technical Report No. 2

July 2009 - September 2009

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It was prepared by Tufts University.

Background Information on the Activity

The United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Food for Peace program awarded a contract to Tufts University's Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy in April 2009 to examine the nutritional needs of beneficiary populations across the developing world, and the nutritional quality of commodities currently available to meet those needs.

Scope of the Review

The project involves an assessment of Title II foods mainly intended for use in programs that seek a defined nutrition outcome. The study is reviewing:

- the nutritional value of existing products and their contribution to nutrition-related activities;
- whether these products and activities respond to beneficiary nutritional needs as effectively as they might; and
- how USAID could respond to defined needs better and more cost-effectively through potential changes in product formulation, the range of products provided, and modes of processing, procurement, and distribution to beneficiaries.

Such a review requires consideration of the most up-to-date scientific knowledge on nutritional needs of vulnerable populations (children under two, pregnant/lactating women, persons affected by HIV/AIDS, and other target groups), the state of the art in terms of the composition of foods used in programs that seek to obtain positive nutrition outcomes, and best practice in terms of product formulation (food technology), quality assurance systems, food procurement and distribution, and programming. "Quality" in food aid has implications not only for product specifications but also for program design - how and in what dietary context foods are used, and how impact is assessed - as well as manufacturing process, procurement, packaging and delivery.

Among important issues to be addressed: What guidance does current science provide about the need for inclusion/exclusion, levels and types, of macro and micronutrients in foods provided to highly vulnerable populations? What economic or food technology considerations come into play in seeking to optimize the nutritional content of food aid commodities and get the best nutritional impact for a given level of investment? Should new products or modes of processing, procurement, and distribution be considered for Title II activities? Innovative products will be investigated, as well as the potential for modifications to existing products. Activities to be considered include both non-emergency contexts (mainly maternal and child health and nutrition interventions, Food for Education and PEPFAR-funded programs) and emergency relief.

The review will provide recommendations on, a) how to improve existing products (updating formulations) that are mostly used with defined nutritional outcomes as their goal, b) what kinds of new formulations/products should be considered that would also

be used to support clearly-defined nutritional objectives that are not easily met with existing products, c) how product formulations/specifications can be reviewed and updated in a more systematic and on-going manner, and d) steps needed to ensure quality throughout the value-chain. In addition, the review will provide recommendations related to the programming of these products for maximum and most cost-effective nutritional impact.

Reporting for the period July 1 - September 30, 2009

I. Research for the Technical Papers

Two meetings of the authors' group were held during the quarter; on July 16/17 (full team) and October 13 (partial group), both in Boston. These meetings allowed for substantive interaction among the principal authors, and sharing of progress to date. Beyond face-to-face meetings, the authors have maintained frequent, regular contact via email and on the authors' (password protected) website. An additional meeting was held in Boston on Oct 19, attended by the new Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) (Judy Canhuati), involving the two co-PIs, one of the authors and the newly hired program coordinator (Amelia Reese Masterson). This was intended to update the COTR on progress made, plans for coming months and administrative/budget issues needing attention.

Progress has been steady by all author teams in terms of a) identifying the most recent published and unpublished literature on relevant dimensions of the issues to be addressed, b) interaction with experts in the relevant fields on knowledge gaps and ongoing research relevant to our priorities, and c) collation of data on actual Title II activities and uses of food commodities. In terms of broad directions the following conclusions have been reached:

- ☛ While there is wide disagreement on the value of existing products under Title II for reaching defined nutrition goals, most PVOs continue to see fortified blended foods (mainly CSB) and fortified oil as the main vehicles for delivery of energy density and micronutrients to mothers and small children.
- ☛ The recent focus of much operational attention on a) the treatment of severe acute malnutrition with ready-to-use therapeutic foods, and b) on lipid-based nutrient supplements and powdered home fortificants for the prevention of stunting, has pushed the food aid agenda forwards. Far more agencies and scientists are aware today of the role of Title II activities in pursuing nutrition goals, and of the potential of food products in helping reach such goals. As a result, LNSs and home fortificants may have a place in the Title II commodities list, although that recommendation cannot be made yet.
- ☛ There is broad and increasing agreement that the formulations/specifications of CSB (in particular) should indeed be updated to reflect up-to-date knowledge of nutrient needs of nutritionally vulnerable populations, and the potential for better use of such products in programs targeted to those populations.

- However, updating may also mean streamlining; that is, CSB can be improved as a product in part by simplifying its make-up rather than by ‘adding more’. The key understanding here is that CSB should not be asked to be a single vehicle for all necessary nutrients, nor should it be seen as a one-size-fits-all product in operational terms. Its nutritional impact can be enhanced, but that (intended/expected) impact has to be more narrowly defined in the process, resulting in enhanced operational guidance to implementing partners on appropriate uses of such a product.
- The role of individual foods within an overall food basket, on the one hand, and nutrition/health strategy, on the other hand, also has to be more carefully framed. New products are likely to enter the commodity list, but no one product alone should be expected to resolve all nutritional problems for all population groups. Products better tailored to different outcomes can be anticipated—which may entail a greater focus on performance-based specifications than currently exists.
- Potential for local processing/enhancement of Title II commodities is being explored, as are the costs of various alternative strategies to the delivery of X nutrients to Y beneficiaries.
- Attention to quality control is critical throughout the value chain. Institutional mechanisms for more systematic, ongoing review of product composition as well as safety are being explored.
- As currently programmed, CSB rations per person are highly variable; modification of the product needs to take into account the wide range of quantities provided to any given target population.
- Lack of information on dietary context and on methods of preparation may be a constraint on achieving the most cost effective distribution of foods in Title II programs.

2. The Consultative Process

2.1 Stakeholder surveys

Considerable progress has been made in defining the content of, and pre-testing, a survey on programming issues that will be conducted by the end of 2009. A series of in-depth, extensive interviews have already been conducted by 3 of the authors with key informants in operational agencies. Building on, and going further than, the SUSTAIN NGO survey of 2005, the intent here is to understand more specifically how Title II products are chosen and how they are actually used on the ground when nutritional impact is the explicit intent of programming. The interviews so far have helped fine-tune a formal survey instrument that will be implemented widely among Title II partners and other food aid and nutrition professionals globally.

In addition, many discussions/interviews have also been conducted with experts in the domain of food technology, cost-benefit analysis, and industry representatives. Informal dialogue has, for example, been undertaken with food aid professionals in ECHO (European Union) offices in Brussels and Nairobi, WFP offices in Rome, Bangkok, Panama, Haiti and Ethiopia, and UNICEF in New York. Close interaction has also been

taking place with individuals working for companies such as Nutriset, Tabachnik Corp., Compact, DSM, General Mills, Breedlove, AksoNobel, etc.

2.2 Meetings organized and presentations

- ☛ Dr. Webb held extensive discussions in Haiti (Sept 12-18) on food aid composition and nutrition issues with WFP and UNICEF staff in Port au Prince, as well as with staff of Meds and Food for Kids (in Cap Haitien) and Partners in Health. Considerable interest was expressed around re-formulation issues, quality control (of CSB) and enhanced attention to program design for nutrition interventions (prevention versus cure; moderate versus severe undernutrition, etc.). Data on local production costs and technical constraints were collected.
- ☛ Dr. Sadler held a series of meetings in Ethiopia during August and September with donors and operational agencies to discuss local views on food aid quality, nutrition programming and cost issues.
- ☛ Dr Schlossman, Kelly Horton, and Stacey Burch of GF&N held an informal meeting with representatives from North American Miller's Association (NAMA) to discuss issues relevant to FBF's from their industry perspective and the procurement process for commodities by the US Government.
- ☛ Dr. Schlossman and Leslie Koo (Research Assistant) also attended the FANTA II Review of the Technical Review Manual on PM2A in September, which has relevance to product specification for the prevention of stunting.
- ☛ Dr. Schlossman and members of the Global Food and Nutrition group attended the following meetings on behalf of the project:
 - *32nd National Food Policy Conference: "Assuring a Safe and Nutritious Food Supply: On the Threshold of a New Era in Food Policy" Presented by: Consumer Federation of America and the Grocery Manufacturers Association 9/8/09 – 9/9/09*
 - *Food Aid Consultative Group (FACG) Working Group on Procurement, Meeting 9/16/09*
 - *FACG Working Group on Packaging, Meeting 9/16/09*
 - *FACG Working Group on Prevention of Malnutrition in Under Twos Approach (PM2A), Meeting 9/23/09*
 - *Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance II (FANTA-2) Review of the Technical Reference Materials (TRM) on PM2A 9/23/09*

2.3 Web-Mediated Outreach.

The website has become active. As of Sept 30 it had around 250 individuals registered. Some have recently commented that "By the way, your website is looking great!" [statement made on October 23rd, by US commodity group employee]. The clear degree of interest manifest by this high number of registrants has not yet translated into active participation in the web-mediated discussion pages. However, it appears that this will change (improve) once draft conclusions and recommendations start appearing on the site and we formally request comment. In the meantime, we shall continue to post relevant documents to the site (which are being downloaded by interested parties), and promote more discussion as we go along.

3. Administrative and Budget Issues

3.1 Staffing

- ☛ Research assistants were recruited in support of author group 1 (the technical group assessing the composition of Title II foods under the direction of Nina Schlossman in DC) and author group 3 (the HIV group under direction of Christine Wanke in Boston). A research assistant for author group 2 (the program group assessing at the role of Title II foods in programmatic contexts under the direction of Beatrice Lorge Rogers in Boston) continues to work on the project. An overall research coordinator supporting the PIs was recruited in October. She will provide administrative assistance, support to the web site and the anticipated surveys, and research support to author group 2 and to the preparation of synthesis reports.
- ☛ One of the key authors in the original proposal had to back out of the project (Jack Fiedler). An extensive search was conducted to identify an appropriate replacement, whom we welcomed into the team in September (Jack Bagriansky).

3.2 Budget and Timeline

A slightly revised time-line has been agreed among the authors, and with the COTR (attached as an appendix)—due in part to a realization that the level of effort required to shepherd such a complex review through to completion was under-estimated, and in part to calendar shifts in key meetings where results are due to be presented and discussed.

The co-PIs and author team leaders have devoted a level of effort to this project well above that anticipated in the original design of the project. This is in part the result of the high level of interest among stakeholders, resulting in extensive substantive discussions and meetings exceeding those originally planned. We have had a representative attend relevant meetings as they arise (in Washington DC and elsewhere), and these have been frequent, as new Technical Guidance is being developed for Title II programs. Breaking issues regarding CSB in the field have also required our frequent attention and comment. Since the project is in early stages, there are funds in the pipeline; we anticipate needing to reallocate some project funds to cover more of the PIs' and author teams' time than originally budgeted. We recommend an overall budget review in the coming months.

4. Plans for the coming quarter (October through December 2009)

- ☛ 2 side-meetings will be held for interested stakeholders in conjunction with the International Conference on Nutrition (ICN) in Bangkok, Oct 4th. These meetings will take up a whole day (agendas attached as an annex). They involve 3 presentations in the morning session and 4 in the afternoon session (involving WFP and FANTA II), and are attended by a total of 73 participants. The presentations are available on the website (www.foodaidquality.org), and a summary of the discussions will be made available on the website soon.

- ☛ An evening meeting/reception was also organized at ICN on Oct 7th. All expert panelists and authors are invited for a briefing on recent developments and updates, and the meeting is also open to anyone else interested in mixing with some of those authors and experts present.
- ☛ It is planned to implement the stakeholder survey on programming issues before end 2009. Analysis of responses will be conducted in early 2010.
- ☛ Qualitative interviews with senior program and logistic staff in the PVOs will continue in this quarter.
- ☛ We have begun to develop information matrices to serve as a basis for product cost comparisons. These will be refined and finalized in the coming quarter.
- ☛ Costing of alternative program options will be conducted after the results of the stakeholder survey on programming issues is completed.
- ☛ A joint meeting with USAID and USDA personnel will be held in Washington, DC to discuss FAQR progress and receive input for planning.

Annex I:

**Food Aid Quality Review
Tufts University**

Timeline 2009-2011 (revised October 2009)

Table I: Work Plan and Project Deliverables				
Year; Project Month	Month	Project Activity	Meetings	Deliverables
2009 1	April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire staff • Set up web site • Post/disseminate notices of web site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Side meeting: Food Aid Conference, Kansas City • FASEB Experimental Biology, New Orleans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management team and USAID COTR agree on mechanism for reporting on performance monitoring
2	May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin collection and review of Title II program documents (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory Authors' Group Meeting • Side meeting: WFP Executive Board, Rome • Side meeting: Micronutrient Forum, Beijing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call
3	June		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Aid Consultative Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call
4	July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin work on papers 1, 2, HIV 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene First Authors Meeting, Tufts, Boston 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report • Monthly contact call • Qualitative Interview Guidelines, List of people to be interviewed
5	August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue work on papers 1, 2, HIV 3 • Prepare summaries of program documents • Hire Staff (grad students) • Begin Qualitative Interviews • Review food aid commodity specs & compliance 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call

Table 1: Work Plan and Project Deliverables

Year; Project Month	Month	Project Activity	Meetings	Deliverables
6	September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete summaries of program documents (MYAPs, DAPs, Summary docs) • Complete review of food aid commodity specs & compliance • Continue qualitative interviews 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call
7	October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post summaries of program documents on website (MAPs, DAPs, evaluations) • Speaking with HIV stakeholders and post on website • Continue work on papers 1, 2, HIV 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Congress of Nutrition: Bangkok, Thailand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call • Agenda for ICN Side Meeting • Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report
8	November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing papers 1, 2, HIV 3 • Obtain IRB qualitative approval for surveys • Develop and pretest surveys • <u>First mailing of surveys</u> • Tracking survey responses • Develop qualitative interview guide for HIV stakeholders • Speaking with HIV stakeholders • Continue HIV qualitative interviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First joint meeting of USAID/USDA key officials: Washington, D.C. (late Oct.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call • Survey instruments for programming, final
9	December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 • First reminder on surveys 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call

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Year; Project Month	Month	Project Activity	Meetings	Deliverables
2010 10	Jan 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on Preliminary Drafts for Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 • Second reminder emailed to survey participants • Survey follow-ups with key contacts • Tracking survey responses continues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Author Team Meeting • Second joint USDA/USAID meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report • Monthly contact call
11	Feb 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Drafts for Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 • Third reminder emailed to survey participants • Tracking Survey responses continues • Begin to compile survey results • Begin work on Symposium Proposal to present FAQR findings at Experimental Biology Conference 2011 (EB2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Expert Panel and Author Team Joint Meeting • Face-to-face meeting with Industry and Operational stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Drafts for Papers 1, 2, HIV 3
12	Mar 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate Survey Results into Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 • Submit Symposium Proposal for EB2011 • Send Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 to Expert Panel and COTR • Post Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 on website for comment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Aid Consultative Group: presentation of preliminary conclusions of 1, 2 and HIV 3; get input for Paper 4 (Synthesis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call

Table 1: Work Plan and Project Deliverables

Year; Project Month	Month	Project Activity	Meetings	Deliverables
13	Apr 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key experts to read & review papers Incorporate feedback on Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second meeting of USAID/USDA in Washington or in Kansas City, KS Side Meeting at Experimental Biology: Anaheim, CA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report Monthly contact call Plan for side meeting for EB
14	May 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Drafts Papers 1, 2 HIV 3 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly contact call Complete Drafts: Papers 1, 2 HIV 3
15	Jun 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin writing Paper 4 (Synthesis) Finalize Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report Monthly contact call
16	Jul 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin preparation for Final Report Draft of Paper 4 (Synthesis) sent to Expert Panel and COTR for feedback; post on website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third meeting of USAID/USDA officials: Washington, D.C. (Prep for final report) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly contact call Send Final Papers 1, 2, HIV 3 to USAID
17	Aug 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate feedback on Paper 4 (Synthesis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Food Aid Donors Conference, Kansas City August 2-4. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly contact call Draft of Paper 4 (Synthesis)
18	Sept 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin preparation of project descriptions for follow-on projects and studies Finalize Paper 4 (Synthesis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second Joint Expert Panel and Author Team meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report Monthly contact call Submit Paper 4 (Synthesis) to USAID

Table I: Work Plan and Project Deliverables

Year; Project Month	Month	Project Activity	Meetings	Deliverables
19	Oct 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings and preparation of follow-on projects and studies • Writing Final Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Aid Consultative Group presentation of Paper 4 (Synthesis) • Advocacy Meeting (to disseminate advocacy process) • Tentative: UNSCN meeting, Bangkok, Thailand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Final Report • Monthly contact call
20	Nov 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing Final Report: draft ready for comment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourth meeting of USAID/USDA in Washington to discuss contents of Final Report • Second Industry and Operational stakeholder meetings • ADA FNCE meeting: Boston, MA (HIV/AIDS symposium) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call
21	Dec 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate stakeholder input and other feedback into Final Report • Completed Final Report • Begin to formulate formal proposals for follow-on projects doing new product development and testing 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Report sent to USAID • Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report • Monthly contact call
2011 22	<i>Jan 2011</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare proposals for follow-on projects and studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Aid Consultative Group: presentation of Final Report conclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Follow-up Project Proposals • Monthly contact call

Table I: Work Plan and Project Deliverables

Year; Project Month	Month	Project Activity	Meetings	Deliverables
23	<i>Feb 2011</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with stakeholders, follow up • Prepare for CROI symposium • Planning for follow up work: new commodities, bioavailability studies, field tests, etc. • Project proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV/AIDS Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI): run symposium; disseminate results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly contact call • Submit Follow-up Project Proposals to USAID
24	<i>Mar 2011</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with stakeholders, follow up • Planning for follow up work: new commodities, bioavailability studies, field tests, etc. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Technical Report; Quarterly Financial Report • Monthly contact call
Future Activities	<i>April 2011</i> <i>June 2011</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symposium at Experimental Biology 2011 • “FAQR Launch Meeting,” Feinstein International Center, organized by IHSA, Tufts University 	

Annex 2: Example of Meeting Agendas**Food Aid Quality Review
Stakeholder Meetings at the International Congress of Nutrition**

Sunday October 4, 2009
Windsor Suites Hotel, Bangkok, Morakot room 2

Agenda

9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Programming Food for Nutrition Objectives

This session will draw on the collective experience of participants to answer the following questions.

- What are the current and potential contributions of fortified blended foods (FBFs) such as CSB/WSB in Title II food assistance programs, in the context of donated food, to meeting their nutritional goals with respect to their varying target groups?
- What is known about the specific uses of FBFs by beneficiaries in emergency and non-emergency settings? (dietary context, methods of preparation, intrahousehold allocation, complementary nutrition education, consumption/sale/barter)
- What are the most appropriate uses for these foods and to which beneficiary groups should they be targeted?
- What are the logistical challenges of programming Title II food, and what are the potential challenges and benefits of alternative procurement and processing methods?

Opening Presentations (max. 10 mins. each)

1. Bea Rogers: Introduction and key issues
2. Tina van den Briel: WFP's perspectives on the use of food for nutrition objectives
3. Gilles Bergeron: Advice from FANTA on programming food for nutrition objectives
4. Bea Rogers: Summary of program reviews to date; implications and emerging issues for programming of FBFs and other foods.

Open discussion: Suggested topics to be covered, in addition to questions listed above:

- How should nutritional effectiveness of FBFs and of food assistance programs be defined and measured?
- What is known about dietary context and food provisioning? About beneficiaries' uses?
- Should the programming of FBFs be standardized (ration size; target groups; complementary services, complementary foods)? Examples:
 - Preparation with/without fortified oil, methods of cooking.

- Need for education of beneficiaries regarding preparation, intrahousehold allocation
- Preventive versus therapeutic uses
- Possibility of tailoring programs based on the availability of other foods (from food aid or from the market or home production)
- What aspects of programming act as facilitators of or barriers to nutritional effectiveness?
- What are the advantages and challenges of developing special FBFs for particular target groups (e.g., under 2, 2-5, pregnant/lactating, PLHIV and TB and differing levels of nutritional status)
 - Targeting
 - Logistics and management
 - Cost
- What are the advantages and challenges of local and regional procurement?
- What are potential solutions to problems of pipeline breaks, quality control, and spoilage?

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

45 years of CSB: now what?

Aims of the session:

- Discussion of the continued uses of CSB/WSB (and other fortified blended foods) – to whom, why and how?
- Is it the product(s) or the programming that most influences effectiveness?
- How could the product(s) be improved? Are there industry or technology ‘fixes’ that could make a large impact on CSB/WSB cost or effectiveness?
- What effect does the new focus on RUT/SFs, home fortificants, LBNSs have on the need for efforts to improve or modify CSB/WSB?

Opening Presentations (max. 10 mins. each)

1. Patrick Webb: Introduction, overview of key issues
2. Tina van den Briel with Werner Schultink: WFP and UNICEF new directions in the specifications of FBFs- tailoring to <2s.
3. Nina Schlossman: Trends in use, industry concerns regarding production, distribution and quality control.
4. Gilles Bergeron, speaking for Tony Castleman: FBFs in HIV- and other illness-related programs; research on effectiveness

Open discussion: Suggested topics to be covered:

- Would a re-tailored CSB/WSB with new levels of micronutrients and macronutrients still have a useful role to play?
- What are the common problems faced by users?

- Relative cost issues, e.g., if the only Title II food available for <2s and pregnant women costs, say, 10 times more than CSB/WSB, how will that affect program design and beneficiary case-load choices?
- Given current programming uses of food for nutrition, should CSB be targeted ONLY to children 2 to 10y and ONLY for prevention (not treatment)? [with something else devised for children <2]
- Does CSB/WSB have a role to play as an easy-to-eat food in HIV/TB programming? If so, would it still need to be changed?
- What are the main elements of CSB/WSB that absolutely require to be changed:
 - Levels of micronutrients
 - Type/range of micronutrients
 - Low energy density
 - High phytates
 - Processing and production, e.g., extrusion vs. other options
- Are there elements of CSB/WSB that absolutely should not be changed?

Refreshments will be available a half hour before the start of each meeting.