



Amir Mahmoud Abdulla
Deputy Executive Director

World Food Programme

Biography

Amir Mahmoud Abdulla became the Deputy Executive Director of the World Food Programme in March 2009.

Mr Abdulla is currently based in New York and oversees the WFP offices of Addis Ababa, Geneva and New York. Mr Abdulla is responsible for coordinating WFP's activities and relationships within the UN system, including the many summits and events in 2015 and 2016.

Before moving to New York, Mr Abdulla was the Chief Operating Officer (COO), overseeing the WFP Regional Directors and Directors of Emergency and Field Security and was responsible for leading WFP's extensive field operations.

Prior to becoming the Deputy Executive Director, Mr Abdulla was WFP's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) from January 2008. During his tenure as CFO he led WFP's successful implementation of IPSAS (International Public Sector Accounting Standards), the first large-scale adoption of IPSAS within the UN system.

Mr Abdulla's career at WFP began as a logistics officer in 1991. He then went on to serve in a variety of field and headquarters posts.

From 2000 to 2001, he was Project Manager for WINGS, WFP's corporate information management system, and successfully led the implementation of an integrated Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution using SAP software.

From 2001 to 2004, Mr Abdulla served as Director of Budget, and in 2004, Mr Abdulla was named Regional Director for the Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe Bureau. He served there until July 2006, when he took up the post of Regional Director for Southern Africa until his return to headquarters in 2008.

Prior to joining WFP, he was a Branch Manager in Juba and Port Sudan for the shipping and forwarding company Transintra, and Assistant Area Manager for engineering company, Burmeister & Wain Scandinavian Contractor, in the Sudan. Mr Abdulla also taught at the American School and Comboni College in Khartoum.

A national of the Sudan and the United Kingdom, Mr Abdulla was born in Khartoum, Sudan, in 1957. He is a graduate of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London University, reading Electrical Engineering and graduating in June 1978 with a BSc Honours degree and ACGI Associate of The City & Guilds of London Institute. He is married with three grown children.