

## **Biography: John Powell**

John Powell has 3 decades of experience in dealing with international humanitarian operations and development activities. After a 19 year career with the UN World Food Programme (WFP) he retired in 2009 as Deputy Executive Director. Previously, he led WFP's Strategy and Policy Division; and its operations in Asia and Eastern Europe, serving as Regional Director for Asia in Bangkok, Thailand and Regional Manager for West and Central Asia in Islamabad, Pakistan.

John worked with the World Bank as a Country Officer in the Latin America and Caribbean Region; and earlier as Assistant Director-General in Australia's overseas aid agency. Since retirement he has been engaged by WFP on an array of assignments such as preparing protracted relief and recovery operations in Pakistan, with a focus on the tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, and a new Country Programme for Egypt. He has also been engaged by an international NGO to help improve programme planning and delivery, mainly in Africa. He holds a BA and is a Barrister of the High Court of Australia.