

World Food Programme Emergency Report 2005  
 Issued Weekly by the United Nations World Food Programme  
 Report No. 49 / 2005 - Date 02 December 2005

**(A) Highlights**

- (B) Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe:** (1) Occupied Palestinian Territories (2) Pakistan (3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)
- (C) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Djibouti (3) Ethiopia (4) Rwanda (5) Somalia (6) Sudan (7) Tanzania (8) Uganda
- (D) West Africa:** (1) Chad (2) Guinea (3) Liberia (4) Niger
- (E) Southern Africa:** (1) Angola (2) Comoros (3) Lesotho (4) Madagascar (5) Malawi (6) Mozambique (7) Swaziland (8) Zambia (9) Zimbabwe
- (F) Asia:** (1) Indonesia (2) Korea (DPR) (3) Maldives (4) Myanmar (5) Sri Lanka
- (G) Latin America and Caribbean:** (1) Bolivia (2) Colombia (3) Cuba (4) Ecuador (5) El Salvador (6) Guatemala (7) Nicaragua

**(A) Highlights**

- (a) To date, the WFP Niger Emergency Operation has reached nearly 3 million beneficiaries, having distributed 53,948 tons.
- (b) In Chad, WFP completes the General Food Distribution cycle for the month of November with a complete food basket.
- (c) WFP has dispatched 23,100 tons of food in Pakistan since the beginning of the operation.
- (d) Between 1 and 27 November, WFP dispatched a total of 35,461 tons of mixed food from logistical hubs to the Darfur region by road which represents 72 percent of the month's distribution target. A further 1,306 tons were dispatched by airlift during the same period.
- (e) In southern Sudan, WFP delivered 4,520 tons of commodities by air from El Obeid to various locations in the South and Transitional Areas during the past week.
- (f) WFP food distribution continues to reach 1.5 million displaced persons, 165,000 refugees and other vulnerable persons in Uganda.
- (g) The United Nations has launched a US\$145 million Appeal for West Africa, covering the needs in 16 countries of the region for 2006. Nearly 70% of the requirements are linked to food aid.

- (B) Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe:** (1) Occupied Palestinian Territories (2) Pakistan (3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)

**(1) Occupied Palestinian Territories**

- (a) November has seen some positive political steps amidst continued violence throughout the territories. The opening of the Rafah crossing, the departure of the settlers, the opening of Marwassi and internal closures all provide an easing of the psychological and humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip.
- (b) The optimism regarding the Palestinian Legislative Council elections planned for 25

January has been tainted by allegations of fraud in the primaries in the Gaza Strip. Voting in West bank is still ongoing. Sharon has in the mean time resigned from the Likud party and will stand as leader of a new party "Kadima" (forward), joined by Shimon Perez (former Labour Party minister). Israeli elections are planned to take place on the 6th of March. Security is expected to remain volatile over the election period.

- (c) During the month of November, a total of 420,000 beneficiaries were reached with 7,500 tons of WFP food.
- (d) The Ministry of Social Affairs is proceeding with the general distribution to Special Hardship Cases (SHC) in rural areas of Southern West Bank, as part of September/October allocations. The distribution of the allocation for the same period has been completed in the Northern Area, while in the Gaza Strip the distributions of the November/December allocations to SHC have been completed.
- (e) In the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Cooperating Partners are in the final stages of the beneficiary selection. The Food for Work/ Food for Training (FFW/T) work plans have almost been completed at the Local Committee level. Once completed, they will be collected and approved by WFP prior to initiating the programme. Actual implementation of FFW/T activities are planned to start in early December.
- (f) Following acknowledgment of the duplication of WFP and UNRWA's assistance to institutions in the West Bank, the two organisations agreed that WFP would take over the responsibility for providing assistance to all eligible institutions in the West Bank. As of the 1st of December, WFP will thus support a total of 110 institutions in the West Bank, and UNRWA will cease their West Bank Institutional Feeding programme.

## **(2) Pakistan**

- (a) The road to Leepa in Muzaffarabad is blocked by a landslide. Tremors have been reported in Mansehra and Batagram. During the reporting period (28 November - 1 December) WFP dispatched 3,351.05 tons of food. In total, WFP has dispatched 23,100.65 tons.
- (b) After an assessment of the situation, WFP and Pakistan authorities have agreed on a clear geographical division of responsibilities for the affected areas. WFP will focus on difficult to reach areas and food distribution in camps, tented schools, hospitals and supplementary feeding for children under five, pregnant and nursing women. This division of responsibilities was implemented as of 1st December.
- (c) In Muzaffarabad, total food dispatches by air and road in November amounted to 1,405 tons and 3,207 tons, respectively. There are currently 13 storage tents erected at two sites - eight at the assembly warehouse site and five at the Airport. Post distribution monitoring for General Food distribution and Emergency School feeding has commenced.
- (d) In Mansehra, airlifts of food commodities to Jabori Valley started on 29 November and are on-going using MI8 helicopters. Dispatches have not been able to take place in some areas due to rain, snow and slippery roads. The Pakistani Army is working to clear the roads.
- (e) In Bagh, snow fall has slowed down deliveries. The month-provisions distributed earlier prior to the road closure will enhance food security at household level. A three months distribution plan for the isolated areas has been prepared.
- (f) Schools have been divided into two groups. Schools located in the winter zone will be closed during the snow season and schools located in summer zones will remain open during the winter. The strategy is to provide a monthly ration of biscuits and dates to the winter zones and to assist continuously the schools in the summer zones. During the reporting period, 529 students received their first rations in seven schools.

- (g) In Shangla/Batagram, 304.66 tons of mixed food was distributed to 17,715 beneficiaries in during the reporting period by WFP Cooperating Partners IRC, HOAP, RI, Save the Children US. Although there is snow in Shangla district the food distribution continues. Pakistani Army and WFP will coordinate further to distribute food to Allai valley.
- (h) In Ghari Habibullah, 1314.110 tons were dispatched during November. The total caseload assessed is 180,288 beneficiaries, who are entitled to receive food rations. One of the local NGOs in the area will carry out the distribution in 213 primary schools with an enrolment of 17,817 students.
- (i) Between 29 November and 1st December, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) airlifted 610.71 tons of food items, 128.17 tons of non-food items and 852 passengers. Since the start of air operations, UNHAS has airlifted 1,923.99 tons of food items, 792.11 tons of non-food items (NFIs) and 8,234 passengers.
- (j) The Emergency Operation (EMOP) is resourced at 37.61 % against the appeal. Special Operation (SO) 10493, "WFP Logistics Support to Relief Operations for the Pakistan Earthquake" is resourced at 42% against the appeal; UNHAS SO 10494 is resourced at 33% against the appeal; UNJLC SO 10495 is resourced at 81% against the appeal.

### **(3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)**

- (a) Parliamentary elections were held in Chechnya on 27 November with a reported turnout of an estimated 70 percent. During the elections, some 24,000 federal and regional troops and police guarded the region's 430 polling stations. Polls closed without any serious incidents. The security situation in Ingushetia, Dagestan and Kabardino-Balkaria remains tense with regular, small-scale attacks, clashes, and explosions.
- (b) In the last two days of November, WFP jointly with Cooperating Partners DRC, CHA and IR started the 10th relief distribution cycle in Ingushetia and reached during these days some 7,957 target beneficiaries residing in the republic. In Chechnya the 10th distribution cycle was also started at the end of November in Groznenski rural district where, through IR, about 111 tons of WFP's food commodities were distributed among 11,046 beneficiaries. In November the Food-for-Education (FFE) programme continued in 411 schools covering 129,173 school children. During the reporting period (16-30 November) WFP through its Cooperating Partners provided 470 tons of food commodities for a continuation of the programme.
- (c) During the reporting period, 546 participants (representing 2,730 beneficiaries) continued implementation of Food-for-Work (FFW) projects for improvement of local infrastructure. During the second half of November, WFP through its Cooperating Partner CHA distributed some 17 tons of food to 154 participants (770 beneficiaries) for works implemented in October. The remaining FFW participants will receive food in December. Within the Food-for-Training (FFT) programme, 25 trainees continued attending vocational courses in Grozny city. WFP also provided the Dining Hall project, which assists about 1,600 vulnerable people in Grozny, with 13 tons of food. About 20 tons of food were provided to 640 TB in- and out patients covered by TB projects implemented by MSF-Holland in Chechnya and WHO in Ingushetia.
- (d) As of end-September, donations reached about 84 per cent of the funding required for the completion of the programme in December 2005. The WFP office is currently in the process of preparing the follow-up 12 months project Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10128.2, starting from January 2006. Within the next six months, WFP expects considerable shortfalls of food commodities unless resources are mobilized soon.

**(C) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Djibouti (3) Ethiopia (4) Rwanda (5) Somalia (6) Sudan (7) Tanzania (8) Uganda

### **(1) Burundi**

- (a) Due to the looming food deficit, WFP, OCHA, FAO, UNICEF and the Ministry of Agriculture jointly underlined the deterioration of food security in the northern provinces. In order to minimize the impact of the food shortages, WFP plans to distribute between 3,500 and 4,000 tons of food monthly in the worst hit areas.
- (b) Field reports indicate that the level of food reserves is very low for the majority of households during this period. In the lowlands of Bugesera and Moso, people are resorting to more extreme coping mechanisms such as one small meal per day, migrating to other areas, and selling/renting their properties to ensure their daily subsistence.
- (c) UNHCR has announced they will continue facilitation of voluntary repatriation for Burundian refugees in exile. As of 27 November, Burundi has welcomed 66,346 returnees in 2005. WFP has been responding to returnees' food needs with a three-month ration package.
- (d) Around 400 people have crossed the border to Cibitoke province in Burundi, fleeing unrest in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Part of these refugees has been transferred to Gasorwe refugee camp, which is already hosting more than 6,000 refugees from DRC. WFP continued to provide food assistance.
- (e) Last week, a strong wind destroyed farms and houses in Muyinga and Makamba provinces, increasing the number of vulnerable households. WFP, in collaboration with other humanitarian organizations, will assess the needs and respond accordingly.
- (f) During the week (21-27 November), WFP distributed 1,159 tons of food aid to 151,515 beneficiaries.

### **(2) Djibouti**

- (a) On 30 November, a convoy of voluntary refugees originating from Somaliland left Djibouti for various destinations in Somaliland. Some 87 families comprised of 392 refugees from Holl Holl camp were repatriated. WFP provided to all refugees a nine-month food package. The next convoy is scheduled to leave around mid-December with some 500 refugees.
- (b) WFP joined other UN agencies and partners in Djibouti in the celebration of the international day dedicated for HIV/AIDS. The main themes were how to prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to child, and how to ensure protection and support to children affected by HIV. All concerned stakeholders agreed that children remain the hidden face of AIDS; as millions of children are becoming orphans the world persists in considering that HIV/AIDS pandemic is especially a problem of adults. Under its development operation, WFP is currently assisting 2,000 pregnant and nursing mothers in Mother-Child-Health (MCH) activities supported through supplementary feeding and 2,000 under five children, including some 1,000 orphans affected by HIV/AIDS, vulnerable children and foster families in the WFP-assisted health centre.

### **(3) Ethiopia**

- (a) While the overall food security situation in the country is stable and improving, some pockets of poor food security exist in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR) and in parts of Somali Region. In the lowland parts of Kembata-Tembaro zone (SNNPR), which have been of concern for some time, food distributions are ongoing. Results from WFP field missions, however, indicate that further assistance is required. Unusual consumption of immature sorghum and increased labour migration are observed at a time of the year when food availability is

normally increasing. Moreover, the food security situation in most of the seven deyr-rain-receiving zones of Somali Region continues to be worrying, with poor pasture and livestock conditions emerging due to poor rainfall. Food is currently being dispatched to areas of concern. However, authorities in Somali Region have requested further food assistance to be given to these areas.

- (b) In addition, the food security situation in the few areas where the meher rains (long rainy season) are estimated to have been poor should be carefully monitored. These areas include central and eastern parts of Oromiya Region and lowland areas in northern and southern Tigray Region and SNNPR. The pre-harvest meher emergency needs assessment mission, currently being undertaken in most parts of the country, will give the full picture of the rain performance and the populations in need of external assistance for the minimum food requirements.
- (c) Meanwhile, nutrition surveys are being carried out jointly by WFP, UNHCR and the government's Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) in Fugnido and Bonga refugee camps, hosting Sudanese refugees. This assessment is a follow-up of nutrition surveys carried out by the same agencies in May, showing serious levels of malnutrition. Preliminary results from Bonga refugee camp now show a decreased Global Acute Malnutrition rate from 19.3 percent in May to 8.3 percent in November. The assessment team has highlighted that the improved situation is a result of the combined actions by WFP, UNHCR and ARRA, including introduction of blanket supplementary feeding, timely arrival and distribution of the general food ration and improved access to health services and clean drinking water in the camp. In order to maintain or improve further these levels of malnutrition, the assessment team is recommending strengthening of nutrition activities like growth monitoring, home visits and recording of nutrition data, as well as relaxation of the criteria of admission and discharges from targeted supplementary feeding programmes currently run in the camp. Results from the assessment in Fugnido refugee camp will be available shortly.
- (d) The pipeline for WFP's refugee operation is sufficient to cover requirements for the next six months. Following this period, new contributions are sought in order to maintain assistance to these vulnerable populations.

#### **(4) Rwanda**

- (a) On 25 November 2005, 167 Congolese (DRC) asylum seekers from Kiziba camp were received in Nkamira transit centre. Most of them were informally living in Kiziba camp, rejected and sent back to Gisenyi to follow the procedures to be accepted as asylum seekers. The total number of asylum seekers in Nkamira transit centre stands now at 1,133 persons.
- (b) Last week, 53 refugees from DRC voluntarily repatriated from Kiziba camp, which brought the refugee figure down to 17,205. Ngarama and Gihembe camps remained stable at 4,753 and 17,248, respectively. The number of Congolese refugees currently sheltered in Rwanda went up to 40,339 from 40,229.
- (c) Voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees continued from Nyamure camp with 54 refugees returning last week. The number of Burundian refugees in Rwanda is currently 2,627.
- (d) No food distribution took place in any of the refugee camps last week.
- (e) The Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC) is constructing accommodation in the existing transit centres at Nyagatare and Nkamira to receive the dependents of ex-combatants from DRC. A World Bank grant will be used to pay for food, non-food items and transportation of dependents of Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) group. United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) will be requested to disseminate information in DRC on

the ex-combatants' returnee package and conditions in Rwanda.

## **(5) Somalia**

- (a) Further to the recent spate of hijackings and subsequent insistence by ship owners of armed escorts for their vessels, low stock levels in Bossaso meant that no distribution could take place during the month of November along the 650 km tsunami affected stretch of Indian Ocean coastline in northeast Somalia. WFP Somalia has, however, identified an alternative way of transporting commodities to Bossaso and plans to complete distribution of some 475 tons of rice, pulses, vegetable oil and blended food to 29,000 beneficiaries in December.

## **(6) Sudan**

- (a) Darfur:
- (b) A convoy of WFP fleet trucks was stopped by rebels in the Khor Abeche, South Darfur area during the reporting period (25 November – 1 December). The rebels proceeded to siphon fuel from the trucks, reportedly as a form of payment for using the road. A number of similar incidents of such payments have been reported recently in various locations in the state.
- (c) Elsewhere in Shearia, reports indicate that two humanitarian vehicles belonging to an INGO working the region were attacked by bandits during the week in Kurji, 40km north of Shearia town. No casualties were reported.
- (d) In West Darfur, two light WFP vehicles were stopped by bandits during a security assessment on the El Geneina-Mornie road. The incident took place near Habiliah Kanari, 20km from El Geneina. Personal possessions were taken although no injuries reported. WFP staff and vehicles returned safely to El Geneina the same day.
- (e) Between 1 and 27 November, WFP dispatched a total of 35,461 tons of mixed food from logistical hubs to the Darfur region by road which represents 72 percent of the month's distribution target. A further 1,306 tons were dispatched by airlift during the same period.
- (f) Stock balances in Darfur remain healthy with current levels able to cover around six weeks of distribution. Following record primary and secondary dispatches in October, WFP has been able to pre-position the majority of its food requirements in Darfur for the remainder of 2005.
- (g) WFP, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education conducted monitoring visits to schools in rural El Fasher (North Darfur) on 21 and 22 November. The 26 schools visited are covered by the food-for-education (FFE) pilot in the state which was launched earlier this month. A total of 10,629 primary pupils (including almost 1,000 preschool children) are currently receiving a mid-morning meal every day under the project.
- (h) In West Darfur, WFP assisted FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture with the annual Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission during the week. WFP provided food security information for the state and logistical support. During the mission the Agricultural Planning Unit stated that the overall rains during the year were good with approximately 736,000 feddans (309,000 hectares) planted with various crops. However, they further estimated that only around 80 percent of this would be harvested, however, due to insecurity and the destruction of crops by the livestock of nomadic groups. The assessment has been completed in South Darfur and is currently ongoing in the North.
- (i) Results from a nutrition survey conducted in North Darfur by ACF revealed an increased caseload of moderate and severe malnutrition amongst newly arrived IDPs in El Salaam camp. In response, WFP food was distributed to 90 family members of beneficiaries of the camp's therapeutic feeding centre. Meanwhile in Kutum, GOAL

reported an increase in cases of severe malnutrition. The increase is attributed to a deterioration of moderately malnourished beneficiaries from Kutum's supplementary feeding programme due to diarrhoea and vomiting. Stable net admissions were reported in both supplementary and therapeutic feeding centres in Abu Shouk camp. In South Darfur, reports received from cooperating partners during the week indicated net decreases admissions in both supplementary and therapeutic feeding centres. In Kass no cases of malnutrition were reported in the camps or surrounding locations. As a result, MSF announced its intention to scale down operations in its supplementary feeding centre. WVI meanwhile distributed almost 100 MT of premixed CSB, oil and sugar to 27,397 under-fives in Kalma camp under its blanket supplementary feeding programme.

- (j) During the reporting period, Cooperating Partner SC-US distributed 389 tons of mixed food as half rations to 18,200 beneficiaries in Gungar, Ras El Feel and Um Joketi in Wadi Salih locality, West Darfur. Distributions in Mornie, Dorti and Sultan House in El Geneina are ongoing. CRS meanwhile distributed 1,492 tons of food to 37,300 beneficiaries in various locations in Kulbus and El Geneina localities covering requirements for November and December. Food for two months totalling 1,505 tons was distributed to almost 38,000 beneficiaries in Garsilla and a further 1,400 tons distributed by partner CARE to over 70,000 beneficiaries in Hasa Hisa and Hamadia camps in Zallengie. Meanwhile in South Darfur, a total of 2,200 tons was distributed to 77,500 beneficiaries in Nyala and Kass localities. In North Darfur, distributions planned for November in the Kutum area were completed during the week with general food distributions in Hamarat. Distribution of food for two months in Kabkabiya was ongoing throughout the reporting week. In Zam Zam, distribution for 8,715 newly arrived IDPs started on 26 November.
- (k) As of 22 November, WFP's Emergency Operation in Darfur (EMOP 10339.1) had received a total of US\$430 million. Cash contributions of US\$29 million are urgently needed to repay outstanding loans.
- (l) The Special Operation (SO 10181.1), valued at US\$24 million in 2005, faces a funding shortfall of US\$6 million. With monthly operating costs of US\$2 million, donor support is vital to allow WFP-HAS to continue to provide services to the humanitarian community in Darfur and throughout Sudan.
- (m) South, East and Transitional Areas:
- (n) Tensions between Eritrea and Ethiopia continued to raise concern among humanitarian agencies. UNHCR, the Commission of Refugees and the Sudanese Red Crescent reported a continuous increase in the number of daily asylum seekers. According to OCHA and UNHCR, an estimated number of 50,000 – 300,000 refugees could enter Sudan in case of military confrontation.
- (o) In Bahr El Jebel, WFP staff in Merkiyo and Helpage international staff were relocated by UNMIS to Juba Town following tribal fighting between the Dinka Bor IDPs and the Mundari around Rokon/Merkivo, West of Juba on 25 November.
- (p) In Eastern Equatoria, on 23 November, unknown gunmen attacked a WFP truck delivering food from Lokichoggio to Boma at Naparalang Village, Kapoeta East County. During the incident, 15 tons of cereals was stolen at gunpoint although no injuries were reported. Meanwhile, WFP activities in Torit County continue to be suspended due to increased security threats from LRA activities.
- (q) WFP distributed 313 tons of assorted food commodities to 18,300 residents in Lotinon/Naita, Nanyamgach, Loile/Pongo, Kuron, Namorupus, Lauro, Loudo and Lorema locations of Eastern Equatoria at half rations for the months of November and December as planned.

- (r) Some 41,000 beneficiaries (including 1,700 returnees) received 678 tons of food aid in Motot, Tangnyang and Walgak in Bieh of Central Upper Nile as well as in Pochalla and Pakam of Jonglei for November and December. In addition, some 1,784 beneficiaries received 32 tons of assorted food aid through food for training and food for education as well as through inpatient and supplementary feeding programmes in Ayod, Walgak, Jiech and Motot.
- (s) WFP and Cordaid jointly distributed 163 tons of food aid to 16,000 beneficiaries including 6,060 returnees/IDPs in Marol Deng Geng. The joint activity was part of the induction for Cordaid staff following a recently signed Field Level Agreement with WFP to distribute food in Aweil North County of Bahr El Ghazal.
- (t) Some 8,800 beneficiaries received 107 tons of assorted food aid in Tam and Padeah of Unity State at half rations for November and December.
- (u) An interagency nutritional survey of IDP camps in Kassala started this week by GOAL, WFP, Sudanese Red Crescent and the Ministry of Health. Teams covered IDP camps of Fedayeib, Amara, Adarman, Fatu, and Gulsa in addition to Beni Amir and Dabelaweit Hadandawa tribal clusters. Health, food security, and child-related questionnaires were used in the survey in addition to the regular child measurements. Results of the survey are expected to help WFP improve its targeting.
- (v) WFP dispatched 97 tons of commodities targeting 5,276 vulnerable beneficiaries in Odi. Food aid will be distributed to the recently registered vulnerable population by the Sudanese Red Crescent in the coming week.
- (w) WFP and SC-US distributed 159 tons of assorted commodities to 8,640 returnees in Abyei town through general food distribution and supplementary feeding activities. WFP further undertook monitoring activities at the distribution centres.
- (x) WHO announced that 491 cases of Yellow Fever have now been reported in South Kordofan, including 126 deaths related to the disease. Children under 15 years account for 29 percent of those affected. Meanwhile, the UNMIS clinic in Kadugli started vaccination procedures for UN staff. WFP also attended an emergency meeting called by SRRC/HAC to mobilize resources to assist the government with a mass immunization campaign against the disease.
- (y) In Kadugli, WFP continued to dispatch food commodities to schools under the Ministry of Education. A total of 17 tons of WFP food was dispatched in preparation for distributions next week. Save the Children-US also distributed 42 tons of WFP food sufficient for three months to eight schools in Dilling. Some 2,771 pupils are expected to benefit from the food aid.
- (z) WFP delivered 4,520 tons of commodities by air from El Obeid to various locations in the South and Transitional Areas during the week. Air deliveries to the South accounted for 80 percent of total. Another 195 tons of assorted food commodities were delivered by air to areas in the South (Nimnim, Jaibor, Bunagok, Dablua, Pulmok, Marol Ding, Tanga Nyang and Nineboli) from Lokichoggio and Rumbek.
- (aa) A total of 1,132 tons of commodities was dispatched from El Obeid by road during the week. Another 3,557 tons of commodities (3,550 MT from Koboko/Tororo and 7 MT from Lokichoggio) were delivered to various destinations in South Sudan. Of the total quantity delivered, 993 tons of assorted commodities was delivered to several locations in South Kordofan where most locations became accessible during the week.
- (ab) A total of 1,035 tons of food commodities was dispatched from Kosti by barge during the week. Of the total, 791 tons and 244 tons were destined for Juba and Malakal respectively. Food delivery to the Zeraf corridor has been delayed as the barge is still operating in the Sobat corridor.
- (ac) The Emergency Operation for the South, East and Transitional Areas urgently requires

US\$41 million to repay internal loans accessed early in 2005 to guarantee a healthy pipeline for the affected population. Cash contributions are specifically required to enable the operation to repay loans and for maximum flexibility.

- (ad) Phase III of WFP's emergency road repairs and mine clearance project in South Sudan faces a funding shortfall of US\$79.7 million. In the absence of funding, the project is now missing the beginning of the dry season for works under Phase III contracts. WFP is urgently seeking additional funding so that the people of Sudan can start harvesting peace dividends. The road project presents enormous opportunities for economic growth, and serves as a platform for social service infrastructure in the South. Meanwhile, WFP awaits an impending grant of €24 million (approximately US\$28 million) from the European Commission through the Multi-Donor Trust Fund.
- (ae) WFP is also requesting for US\$13 million to augment barge capacity in Sudan under the Special Operation 10412.0. Contributions will be used to purchase two passenger barges as well as two pushers and eight cargo barges.

## **(7) Tanzania**

- (a) A total of 1,351 Congolese (DRC) and 3,665 Burundian refugees have voluntarily repatriated to their home countries between 01 and 20 November.
- (b) The results of the 2005 Nutrition Survey have been confirmed by the Joint Assessment Mission (JAM), conducted in November. Despite almost one year of reduced food rations the results indicate a stable nutrition status in the refugee camps. However, the prevalence of anaemia among children under five stays at over 40 percent, and the overall malnutrition continues to remain at high levels as defined by WHO severity classifications. The survey was conducted by WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR and implementing partners covering pregnant and nursing mothers and over 10,000 children in 12 refugee camps.
- (c) General distribution covers 360,382 registered refugees. During the past week, WFP distributed some 1,250 tons of food through general distribution, supplementary and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. Around 7,046 food insecure and otherwise vulnerable Tanzanians in the host communities surrounding the camps were also supported with WFP host community activities, including access to camp-based health care facilities, school feeding, food-for-work, food-for-training and food-for-hospital in-patients.
- (d) Due to resource shortages, no corn-soya-blend (CSB) and salt are being distributed, while rations of pulses are reduced to 80g/day. The rations provide refugees with a daily intake of 1,813 Kcal, or 86 percent of the approved ration level. The current rations will continue to be applied until 02 January 2006.
- (e) A shortfall of 8,976 tons of food (US\$ 5.3 million) remains up to the end of June 2006. While the pipeline situation for the coming six months has improved, WFP is not yet in a position where full rations can be provided.

## **(8) Uganda**

- (a) The security situation in northern Uganda remains unstable. On 23 November, the LRA killed the wife of the Chairman of Paloga sub-county in Kitgum district and abducted two people. On 24 November, rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) abducted four women from their gardens 2kms from Omiya Anyima Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camp in Kitgum district. The women remain in captivity. The LRA are increasingly carrying out criminal activities for personal gain (e.g. ambushing vehicles en route to markets). This poses a threat to humanitarian workers who carry many attractive items in their vehicles.

- (b) The LRA's number two, Vincent Otti, called the BBC via satellite phone on 29 November saying the LRA was ready to talk peace with the Ugandan Government. He also said he would be willing to face justice at the International Criminal Court.
- (c) A WFP-UNHCR Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) is concluding in refugee settlements in western and southwestern Uganda on Friday, 02 December. The mission established a slowly increasing number of refugees entering Uganda from Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- (d) WFP held meetings with local leaders in Bundibugyo this week about a phase-out plan. WFP has formally advised the government that WFP's recovery programme in the district has been successful. WFP has proposed to phase out assistance in late 2006; Bundibugyo has become food secure and all IDPs have returned home.
- (e) The official launch of WFP's HIV/AIDS programme that has been running for four months took place on World AIDS Day in Adjumani district, which hosts both refugees and IDPs. The ceremony was presided over by the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, Moses Ali. WFP has also supported the provision of voluntary testing and counselling services during the national World AIDS Day celebrations in Kitgum district.
- (f) The President's Office has requested WFP to assist 413 displaced Karimojong agro-pastoralists in Kampala as they await resettlement. They are to be provided a three-month 50 percent relief ration.
- (g) WFP food distribution continues to reach 1.5 million displaced persons, 165,000 refugees and other vulnerable persons. During the week, WFP distributed 4,946 tons of relief food assistance to 439,160 persons including IDPs sheltering in camps in Gulu, Kitgum, Pader and Lira districts; refugees; children in nutrition centres; and other vulnerable persons.
- (h) WFP faces a 77,144 tons shortfall through June 2006, valued at US\$ 42 million. Access to land around the IDP camps generally increased in the last 18 months due to a gradual reduction in violent LRA attacks. IDPs should be able to provide 40 percent of their daily food needs starting January 2006, but they will still require 60 percent from external sources until at least the July 2006 harvest. Without this assistance, malnutrition rates would rise and the death rates of young children would increase significantly.

**(D) West Africa:** (1) Chad (2) Guinea (3) Liberia (4) Niger

**(1) Chad**

- (a) During the reporting period (23–30 November), the overall security situation remained fairly calm in eastern Chad. There are reports of continued military presence along the border (Tissi – Daguessa – Ade) to prevent infiltrations of armed groups from the Sudan. Local authorities state that the situation is under control and that humanitarian operations can proceed as usual.
- (b) Following reports of growing tension between local populations and Sudanese refugees settled in the Oure Cassoni camp, the past week witnessed a reinforcement of security measures by the local authorities, namely to control the movements between the camp and the border.
- (c) The WFP/UNHCR targeted caseload for the upcoming distributions totals 201,532 refugees in twelve camps. The registration exercise is still ongoing in some camps and is expected to be completed by the end of December 2005.
- (d) In the Gaga camp, there was a slight increase in the caseload following the registration of some 500 new arrivals from the IDP camp of Mournei in the Sudan. The Gaga camp

is also expected to absorb additional refugees from the over-crowded Bredjing camp.

- (e) During the reporting period, WFP completed the general food distributions in the Oure Cassoni camp, thus concluding the cycle for November. A total of 200,387 beneficiaries were supplied with 3,418 tons of food at full rations. The next distribution cycle is expected to commence on the 2nd of December in the central camps (Farchana) and Gaga. Southern and northern camps will be covered as of the 5th and 14th December, respectively.
- (f) A monthly coordination meeting was held between various humanitarian partners and local authorities in the Biltine region to discuss issues concerning the situation in the refugee camps and the overall security.
- (g) The past week saw an increase in partners' proposals to initiate WFP-supported food-for-work (FFW) activities for the local populations in the Iriba area. The projects submitted include: the construction of 12 classrooms in 6 primary schools under the supervision of ADESK1, the construction of 10 wells under the supervision of AFDI2; a women's literacy programme run by AFDI; and the construction of 4 market gardening wells under the supervision of a local women's association in Iriba. The market gardening project run by ACTED in the Bahai area is making good progress. Participants are currently planting fruit trees and vegetables. In the Farchana area, a water settlement and gardening FFW project run by ADA has seen great success, and beneficiaries are already selling their output in the market.
- (h) Following the School Feeding training session held in Abéché on 15 November 2005, WFP field visits began in eastern Chad to identify new schools and verify whether they meet the WFP criteria for the school feeding program. The mission visited 52 schools in the areas of Abéché, Goz Beida, Farchana and Guereda. The Iriba area is yet to be covered.
- (i) Under the Blanket Supplementary Feeding for local populations, Cooperating Partner IRD (International Relief Development) expects to complete the final distributions by the end of November, after which the programme will be phased out. A total of 139 tons of food have already been distributed to participants.
- (j) Through the Libyan corridor, the two convoys that had been blocked in Ounianga Kebir, carrying 286 tons of sorghum for the Sudan operation and 576 tons of sorghum for the Chad operation, were able to proceed towards Abéché after the problem was resolved with the authorities. A total of 1,465 Mt of wheat, 130 Mt of pulses and 100 Mt of oil are currently en route to Chad via the Douala corridor.
- (k) The setting up of enclosures for WFP extended delivery points (EDPs) is underway in the areas of Farchana, Mille, Guereda and Goz Beida. The fencing of the Abéché transit facility continues to face delays due to a new regulation introduced by the Chadian Government. WFP is negotiating with the concerned authorities to de-block the situation.
- (l) Overall malnutrition levels remain relatively stable within low levels in the refugee camps. ACF-USA has completed a nutritional survey in the Am Nabak camp and is expected to present its results shortly. The survey will also be carried out in the Oure Cassoni and Djabal camps.
- (m) The WFP-supported mobile clinic initiative run by IMC (International Medical Corps) has seen great success in providing medical assistance to the most vulnerable local populations. During the reporting period, a total of 358 patients were treated among the residents of the Kounoungou and Am Nabak areas.
- (n) During the month of November, WFP HAS transported a total of 676 passengers on the N'Djamena-Abéché routing (UN 21W) and 608 passengers on the Abéché-eastern strips routing (UN 23W). Some 4,697 kg of relief supplies and light cargo were uplifted

on both planes.

- (o) Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10327.1 has so far received a total of US\$36.9 million, representing 42.58% of the total requirement. Although commodity requirements are almost covered for the next six months, additional contributions are needed to be confirmed very soon to allow WFP to pre-position food for the rainy season (July to October 2006) well in advance. This is primarily due to the long lead time of delivery to Chad, which takes up to 4-6 months.
- (p) The WFP Humanitarian Air Service (Special Operation 10338.1) remains severely under-resourced, with only US\$1,044,634 so far confirmed against a total US\$7.2 million requirement. Funds are urgently required to permit the air services to continue running after December 2005.

## **(2) Guinea**

- (a) During the reporting period (14-27 November), 480 tons of WFP food was distributed to 35,000 beneficiaries.
- (b) The dispatch of food to schools for the first trimester of the 2005-2006 school year is almost completed, despite serious logistical difficulties due to lack of transport capacity in the N'Zerekore region.
- (c) The repatriation convoys of Liberian refugees have slowly resumed after the second round of elections in Liberia. During the reporting period, only one repatriation convoy was organized with 92 Liberians.
- (d) Between 16 – 24 November, 1,400 of the 3,500 Ivorian refugees in Nonah camp were transferred to Kouankan. WFP provided food for the preparation of hot meals offered to the transferred refugees upon their departure from Nonah and arrival in Kouankan. The transfer of the remaining Ivorian refugees will take place during the following two weeks. Nonah, officially a transit centre, has housed the same Ivorian refugees for the past two years. This transfer will allow UNHCR to have space available should there be an influx of Ivorian refugees.
- (e) Guinean refugee camps now host over 57,000 individuals who are currently being assisted by WFP. The present count includes 3,500 refugees from Ivory Coast and the remainder from Liberia. During the reporting period, a total of 477 tons were distributed to 32,600 beneficiaries during general food distributions in Kountaya, Kola and Lainé camps

## **(3) Liberia**

- (a) During the reporting period (21-27 November), WFP and its Cooperating Partners delivered 1,400 tons of food to 72,000 beneficiaries in various programmes throughout the country. This included general distributions to more than 47,000 IDPs living in camps, as well as distributions for the resettlement of IDPs and returnees, Institutional and Selective Feeding, and Food-for-Work (FFW) programmes.
- (b) In Bong, Bomi, Gbarpolu, Bassa, Bong, Lofa, Grand Gedeh, and Maryland counties, UNICEF, representatives of the Ministry of Education, WFP and its cooperating partners continued their joint assessment of schools with a view to updating enrollment records for the Emergency School Feeding (ESF) programme. Preliminary results clearly show significant variations in the enrollment figures, mostly due to the still ongoing resettlement of large numbers of IDPs. Food distribution for the ESF programme was temporarily suspended in October and part of November due to pipeline constraints. It restarted during the reporting period.

## **(4) Niger**

- 
- (a) To date, the WFP Niger Emergency Operation (EMOP) has reached nearly 3 million beneficiaries, having distributed 53,948 tons of food commodities.
  - (b) In order to meet immediate needs in the country and to bridge supply through to the coming Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), WFP extended its EMOP in time through March. Planned activities through this period will reach a total of over 1.3 million and will include supplementary feeding, a protection ration, and a family ration along with rural development activities including support to cereal banks and Food-for-Work (FFW).
  - (c) Based on the growing body of data which forecasts continuing vulnerability in Niger for the coming year, WFP is positioning itself to launch its PRRO, which will begin in April 2006 and last two years. The project will contain primarily Nutrition, Food for Work, and Cereal Bank activities. Together with partners and the GoN, the results of current assessments will be discussed to determine the most appropriate course of action. Implementation of the project will also be closely coordinated with the programs of the Dispositif and other partners.
  - (d) Working with approximately 20 Cooperating Partners, WFP continues to provide corn-soya blend, oil, and sugar to approximately 500 centres across the country. The food is used to support malnourished children and their families, as well as malnourished pregnant or nursing women.
  - (e) Targeted blanket feedings through MSF (Belgium, Spain and Holland) and in collaboration with UNICEF will be finishing up the second and final round of distributions in the coming days.
  - (f) WFP reports that distribution to vulnerable nomadic populations in the Department of Abalak will begin on December 3rd. Over the following week a total of 350 tons of cereals will be distributed in the villages of Akoubounou, Azeye, Abalak and Tamaye.
  - (g) WFP, UNICEF and WHO in coordination with the Government of Niger are currently undertaking a tripartite mission in Niger to elaborate an integrated nutrition strategy to ensure a complimentary and comprehensive treatment of malnutrition in Niger in the medium term. Some members of the mission were able to visit various CRENIs, CRENAS and CRENAMs in the regions of Tillaberi and Zinder.
  - (h) The FAO/GoN/WFP joint crop and livestock assessment mission is out, and should be presented to Cooperating Partners within the coming weeks.
  - (i) The Niger EMOP 10398.0 is 63% funded, having received 37.3 million US dollars in contributions. The current shortfall is of 21.8 million US dollars, which includes 12 Million US dollars in IRA funds that were advanced to the EMOP. WFP is urgently seeking cash contributions amounting to a minimum of 9.8 million US dollars to avoid a break in the pipeline. Cereals are needed for family support rations, FFW programs and to replenish exhausted cereal banks. Transport lead-times required to bring food into the country make these resourcing needs extremely urgent.
  - (j) WFP participated in the After Action Review (an analysis of the response to the Niger 2004/2005 food crisis) at Niamey's Palais des Congrès. Close to 120 participants were present, representing the Government, the United Nations, the Donor Community and NGOs.
  - (k) WFP's Executive Director Mr. James Morris arrived in Niamey on 28 November. On 29 November, Mr. Morris met with the President and the Prime Minister of Niger, and visited a feeding centre in the outskirts of Niamey. In the afternoon, he met with WFP Niger Staff before heading on to a UN Country Team Meeting and a visit with Donors.
  - (l) A WFP team attended the CC/SAP (GoN Early Warning System) meeting in Maradi from the 22nd to the 25th of November. The main objectives of this meeting were to determine overall vulnerability on a national level, to identify vulnerable zones to be

monitored, and to formulate recommendations for the improvement of continuous monitoring, including organization and coordination.

**(E) Southern Africa:** (1) Angola (2) Comoros (3) Lesotho (4) Madagascar (5) Malawi (6) Mozambique (7) Swaziland (8) Zambia (9) Zimbabwe

### **(1) Angola**

- (a) During November, WFP aimed to distribute 7,000 tons of food to approximately 600,000 people mainly located in the central and south eastern parts of the country. General Food Distributions targeted 32 percent of the beneficiaries, primarily internal and external returnees, refugees and vulnerable residents; 31 percent were engaged in Food for Work and Food for Assets (FFW/FFA) activities; another 30 percent received assistance through School Feeding; and the remaining 7 percent through nutritional and social projects.
- (b) The passenger air service provided by WFP to the humanitarian community in Angola continues to be severely under-funded. Each month an average of 1,200 humanitarian workers from more than 200 NGOs and UN agencies rely on this service to reach remote locations throughout the country. Unless new contributions are received soon, WFP will be forced to reduce flights to the provinces in December. USD500,000 is urgently needed to keep air services in operation for the next three months, while a further USD1.5 million is required to fund the project until the end of 2006.
- (c) The Angola Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation, PRRO 10054.2 – “Support to Return and Resettlement” – remains significantly under funded. The operation will be extended until 31 March, with a new PRRO scheduled to begin on 1 April 2006.
- (d) At the end of the 2005 school year in November, WFP’s School Feeding programme was successful in attaining its main objectives. Results show that despite funding shortfalls and accessibility problems, WFP managed to extend the programme to more than 150,000 primary school children in five provinces, compared to 38,000 children in two provinces last year. The overall attendance rate throughout the 2005 school year was kept above 80 percent and, an equal percentage of attendance for both boys and girls.

### **(2) Comoros**

- (a) Seismic activity continues on Grand Comore as the island struggles to come to grips with the aftermath of Mount Karthala’s volcanic eruption on 24 November 2005. The eruption prompted a mass exodus of villagers living near the mountain. Although ash and smoke emissions have thinned, according to geologists a lava lake is forming in the crater at the volcano’s summit. More than the threat of a lava flow, a lack of clean water has become the island’s biggest concern. Deprived of any significant rivers or streams, a large portion of the population depends on water stored in domestic water tanks. The UN Resident Coordinator reported around 245,000 people living in the area were exposed to volcanic ash and, based on information from the Ministry of Defence, estimated that 175,000 people could be facing shortages of potable water due to contamination. UN agencies are working with local authorities to deliver water supplies to affected populations.

### **(3) Lesotho**

- (a) During 23 to 29 November, WFP and cooperating partners provided food to over 28,000 people. Beneficiaries were participants in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, mother and childcare, orphans and other vulnerable children programmes, as well as Food-for-Work (FFW) and Food-for-Assets (FFA) projects.

**(4) Madagascar**

- (a) In response to the nutritional situation in the 12 municipalities of Vangaindrano District, government agencies, the UN and Cooperating and Implementing partners have initialized distribution activities throughout the affected area. Utilizing WFP food, the National Office of Nutrition has started Food for Work activities in 12 of the targeted municipalities.

**(5) Malawi**

- (a) The food security situation in the north continues to worsen, however interventions by relief organizations are starting in some districts. In the south of the country, the price of maize grain is rising due to the scarcity of grain in ADMARC depots, as well as low supplies in local markets. However, sweet potato is available and is heavily relied upon by food insecure households. Most districts received rain from 24 to 30 November and planting activities are beginning. In addition to maize, farmers are also planting sorghum, millet, cotton and pulses. In many areas, communities have increased their utilization of cassava planting as a coping mechanism and a supplement to the main staple, maize, which has been the subject of sensitization campaigns from NGOs and government ministries.
- (b) Monitoring reports indicate a growing number of young Mozambican children being admitted in to Malawi's Nutrition Rehabilitation Units (NRU). On average 30 percent of the admissions were from families living on the Mozambican side of the border. Some mothers reported walking from 40 to 50 kilometres from Tete Province in order to reach the NRUs.

**(6) Mozambique**

- (a) Drought response distributions are taking place as planned in all provinces of activity, with the exception of Magoé District in Tete Province where transport difficulties have prevented food deliveries.
- (b) Despite various seed fairs organized in many provinces by the Ministry of Agriculture and FAO, many farmers have had limited success planting this season as erratic rains continue in most provinces in the centre and south of the country.

**(7) Swaziland**

- (a) From 22 to 28 November, WFP distributed food to just over 55,000 people with the assistance of Cooperating Partners.
- (b) While the majority of farmers in the country are engaged in land preparation and planting, some farmers lack access to farming inputs due to the unavailability of tractors and/or the resources to hire them. Most farmers are planting maize, despite warnings by the Ministry of Agriculture officials regarding the risks of growing the staple crop under dry conditions. The planted crop has germinated and is currently in good condition, with rains continuing to fall in most parts of the country. In the Lowveld, the condition of vegetation has improved considerably following recent rainfall. As a result, livestock such as cattle, goats and sheep, which were affected by diminished grazing pastures, are slowly recovering.

**(8) Zambia**

- (a) Due to a lack of resources, WFP will be forced to cut refugee rations by 50% from January 2006. Should pipeline projections prevail, all commodities will be finished by the end of March 2006. WFP needs USD9.8 million to provide refugees with food until

December 2006.

- (b) Resourcing for the Protracted Relief and Recovery operation 10310 has improved slightly. However, untimely import and transport delays mean that the Country Office is having to work very hard to avoid a pipeline break in December. Serious import delays have hampered WFP's food distributions over the last month. The government has resolved the sanitary certificate conditions on importation of relief and commercial maize from South Africa. However, the loading capacity in South Africa combined with regional competition for transport has seriously delayed deliveries and compromised WFP's ability to preposition food prior to the rains.
- (c) The Zambia Meteorological Department reports that despite the current drought situation, rainfall predictions for 2005/06 are good. To date, rains have begun in most parts of the country and many farmers are now planting their crops. However, there have been reports of farmers who do not have enough money to buy seeds or fertilizer.
- (d) The government has declared a fishing ban effective Friday, December 2nd to February 28, 2006. The ban has been put in place to combat the alarming deterioration of fish stocks throughout the country.

## **(9) Zimbabwe**

- (a) The food insecurity situation continues as reported in previous weeks, with no improvement in the food security situation, due to high prices, the staple maize being in very short supply, and the farming season hampered by lack of inputs.
- (b) WFP and the Government of Zimbabwe jointly signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 01 December 2005, which sets out the modalities for food aid deliveries by WFP and its Cooperating Partners. While WFP and partners had already begun large scale food distributions in October, consistent with the modalities outlined in the MOU, this agreement represents an important step forward as it formalizes WFP operations in the country and clarifies both WFP and Government's respective responsibilities to ensure the smooth implementation of the programmes. This MoU will run through to the end of June 2006.
- (c) The November 2005 cycle of vulnerable group feeding (VGF) distributions was completed this week. WFP and its partners reached an estimated 2 million people with 20,000 mt of food with plans to expand further in December 2005.
- (d) The Grain Marketing Board's (GMB) food distributions continued to be erratic, with lack of transport and fuel shortages hampering imports and delivery within the country. The distress sales of cattle and goats continue, with the proceeds being used to purchase food, especially grain.
- (e) Rains continued in many areas of the country, encouraging farmers to begin preparing their fields for planting. However, reports from Masvingo District office in south-eastern Zimbabwe indicate that rainfall has been below normal and led to very little farming activity. This situation is worsened by the shortage of agricultural inputs such as seed and fertiliser. In Matabeleland, significant rains were noted; however the lack of inputs and draught power was of serious concern. In Chiredzi District, grazing pastures have improved due to rainfall. Elsewhere livestock are reported thin and weak. In Mberengwa District, there have been complaints of cattle and donkeys dying of hunger and thirst and in Mashonaland District there has been an increase in livestock thefts.
- (f) The Bulawayo sub-office reported the alternative food basket (cereals, pulses, oil) has been quite effective in boosting enrolment and school attendance level. Teachers in Mabhare District acknowledged that pre-school enrolment was increasing due to WFP's school feeding programme. The Mutare sub-office also reported that increased school attendance in Buhera District is attributed to the change in school feeding commodities.

**(F) Asia:** (1) Indonesia (2) Korea (DPR) (3) Maldives (4) Myanmar (5) Sri Lanka**(1) Indonesia**

- (a) An earthquake registering 6.5 on the Richter scale was registered in Simeulue in the evening of 19 November. In Batu Ralang village, the earthquake caused one house fire where five persons were severely burnt. UNHAS evacuated the victims from Simeulue to Medan next morning.
- (b) On 28 November, Bird Flu (H5N1 Avian Influenza) was found to be the cause of death for hundreds of chickens in Banda Aceh. The authorities have responded by culling infected chickens. WFP Indonesia has adequate stocks of Tamiflu for its national and international staff in Aceh.
- (c) Socialization of new beneficiary criteria continued throughout Nagan Raya and Aceh Barat with Head of sub-district and villages, Dinas Sosial, Cooperating Partners, and WFP. Due to the introduction of the beneficiary data provided by the BPDE, Provincial Statistics Department, and an active verification and socialization process of this data by Cooperating Partners, significant decreases in caseloads have taken place in November and further decreases are planned for December. Beneficiaries in urban areas where livelihoods have been restored have been limited to only those IDPs still living in barracks or tents.
- (d) While WFP is continuing its Mother and Child Nutrition (MCN) programme in Pidie, reaching 38,000 pregnant women and nursing mothers in 14 sub-districts, expansion in Aceh Utara is still under discussion. Pending results from the 2nd round of Nutrition Survey, MCN expansion is on hold. Despite this, it is envisioned that Aceh Utara will remain a priority so WFP continues to work with the Department of Health to move forward.
- (e) Currently, WFP is working on next year's pipeline to ensure that food arrivals are on time; the present stock situation shows no shortfalls for the remainder of this year.
- (f) Landing Craft 'Labitra Hanny' is currently loading 280 tons of rice in Banda Aceh for Calang while LCT Sumber Power has already departed for Calang and Nias carrying 330 tons of mixed food commodities.
- (g) Accompanied by the Deputy Country Director, Luna Maya, an Indonesian actress, visited WFP operation in Banda Aceh and Calang during 24-25 November.

**(2) Korea (DPR)**

- (a) No agreement has so far been reached on the status of WFP operations in 2006, although talks between WFP and the DPRK authorities continued in Pyongyang over the week. Consultations with major donors are also being held to come up with a solution which is suitable to all stake-holders. If negotiations are successful, the aim is to implement a more development-focused programme which centres on asset creation through Food-For-Work (FFW) projects, nutritional enhancement through Maternal/Child Health programmes and Local Food Production and educational development through School-Feeding activities.
- (b) As part of our commitment to conclude the current humanitarian operations, WFP stopped providing rations to some beneficiary categories on the West Coast this week. Food distributions to all beneficiaries will be progressively scaled back in the coming weeks although children under six years of age will be assured rations until the end of the year.

**(3) Maldives**

- (a) About 10,000 beneficiaries will receive food in the November/December distribution cycle under the Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) Programme. The beneficiaries include selected IDPs, host communities and affected livelihood groups.

#### **(4) Myanmar**

- (a) In southern Shan State, Phe Kone Township, Government troops have been deployed and are cooperating with the Kayah National Guard in the fight against Kayah National land Party (KNLP). This military offensive is affecting villagers in two village tracts of Khaung Ee and Yee Nwet, though no displacements have been reported by local NGO.
- (b) A fire that started in a slipper factory in Hlaing township in the capital Yangon destroyed over 1,500 houses displacing approximately 7,500 people who now reside in two Government-managed camps. The Ministry of Social Welfare and Resettlement are in control and camps are well established offering shelter, water, food, and health services. Though no request for food assistance has been made, WFP visited the affected areas and the camps in order to be prepared if food assistance would be needed. The Myanmar Red Cross has distributed family kits.
- (c) A food needs assessment mission was carried out in Chin State, located on the Indian border, from 18-24 November by WFP and World Vision. The mission was a follow-up to the initial crop assessment mission conducted in the first week of November. While the final Report has not been finalized, the mission observed that households, engaged in maize production in remote villages, have been adversely affected by the erratic rains during the past monsoon season. The losses in the current maize harvest vary between 60-80%. As various coping mechanisms exist, the situation is not that of a full-blown emergency, but in order to maintain the food security status in maize-producing communities, WFP intends to bridge the food gap of vulnerable households through community based food for work schemes.
- (d) Under Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10345.1 in Shan State, a total of 179.24 tons of rice have been distributed to 12,757 beneficiaries through food-for-education (FFE) and vulnerable group feeding during the reporting period (16 – 30 November). Under the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10066.2 in Magway, a total of 370.91 tons have been distributed to 33,576 beneficiaries through food-for-education (FFE), vulnerable group feeding (VGF) and food-for-work (FFW) activities during the month.

#### **(5) Sri Lanka**

- (a) Presidential candidate Mahinda Rajapakse won the presidential election on 17 November by a narrow margin after very low voter turnout in the North and East. The Court Case regarding P-TOMS, a joint mechanism with the LTTE meant to ensure the effective delivery by the Government of assistance to the tsunami-affected population in the North and East, has been suspended indefinitely. Election Day progressed relatively calmly with no curfew implemented. A number of security incidents were reported, however, before and after the event. Travel restrictions were issued in certain field locations which restricted the number of field missions throughout the period. While WFP offices remained open, distribution and monitoring activities were hampered in several districts due to unavailability of counterpart staff.
- (b) Widespread flooding was experienced during the last part of November – particularly in Jaffna, Killinochchi, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee and parts of Batticaloa and Colombo. The National Disaster Management Committee managed and monitored the assistance to the people displaced by the flood. WFP established contact with the Government, but given the seasonal character of this annual flooding, WFP food assistance was not required. According to official data, an estimated 29,000 families have been affected by

the floods, six people have been killed and some 2,000 homes have been damaged or destroyed. WFP food commodity distribution has also been slowed due to the heavy rains in affected areas during the reporting period.

- (c) Food-for-Work (FFW) training for Government counterparts will be held in Ampara on 3 December.
- (d) Of the planned distribution under the tsunami Emergency Operation (EMOP) of 108,000 tons of food, to date WFP has dispatched over 75,000 tons to affected communities.
- (e) Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) replaced General Food Distribution in October, scaling down targeted distribution to 350,000 beneficiaries. The programme will continue through 31 December 2005. VGF food ration per person per day is composed of 400g of cereals, 60g of pulses, 20g of sugar, 20g of oil and 40g of CSB. From October to December 2005, WFP is planning to distribute 17,485 tons of mixed food commodities under VGF.
- (f) As part of the regular food aid monitoring, beneficiary households and final distribution points, including multi-purpose cooperative societies' retail outlets, schools and clinics were visited in the EMOP districts during the reporting period (17 November – 1 December).
- (g) All ration cards have been completed by the local authorities. Distribution of VGF food commodities has commenced in almost all districts. In addition, WFP is encouraging Government counterparts to speed up pre-positioning of VGF food commodities at district level in order to enable the EMOP to terminate in due time.
- (h) WFP is currently providing fortified Corn Soya Blend (CSB) to nearly 100,000 women and children in health clinics under the EMOP.
- (i) From October to December 2005, Food-for-Work (FFW) activities are paying some 36,500 workers (183,000 beneficiaries) in food rations to rebuild infrastructure and support the resettlement of displaced and relocated persons. The FFW projects include repairs to 470 kilometers of roads, the restoration of 240 irrigation schemes and planting of 213,435 trees. 20 percent of the 441 projects approved in tsunami-affected areas have been completed.
- (j) WFP school-feeding activities are currently covering 397 schools (106,000 school children) in tsunami affected areas. The local department of the Ministry of Health in Jaffna district reported that the nutritional status of school children has improved since School Feeding started in one of its divisions; supporting data will be available shortly. A Food-for-Education (FFE) standardized survey was launched on 28 November 2005, focusing on the new areas under school-feeding and looking at a possible expansion of the programme.
- (k) The first cash transfer from WFP to the Ministry of Relief Rehabilitation and Reconciliation's (MRRR) account was on 7 November. Cash was transferred from MRRR to the Samurdhi Authority's bank account on 17 November. The first distribution of cash to beneficiaries from local banks in Galle, Hambantota and Batticaloa will be organized during the week of 28 November. Cash distribution to beneficiaries will then occur every two weeks.
- (l) Fumigation of WFP warehouses is ongoing. The procurement process for 7,000 tons of rice for the Northern districts is nearing completion and an additional tender is being raised for 1,346 tons of rice.
- (m) Following the Presidential election, MRRR will be disbanded. Its functions will mainly fall under a new ministry, probably that of Ministry of Rebuilding the Nation and Development (under the President).
- (n) The United Nations Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, former United States President Bill Clinton, returned to Sri Lanka on 29 November to review progress

achieved since the tsunami struck the country's coast last December. He met with key members of the Government, the UN and civil society to assess the status of the recovery effort and how best to tackle ongoing challenges, including the quick restoration of livelihoods and the equitable distribution of aid. During a brief discussion with the WFP Country Director, President Clinton expressed his high opinion of WFP as an active and operational agency in Sri Lanka. This visit was President Clinton's second to the country in his capacity as UN Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery.

**(G) Latin America and Caribbean:** (1) Bolivia (2) Colombia (3) Cuba (4) Ecuador (5) El Salvador (6) Guatemala (7) Nicaragua

### **(1) Bolivia**

- (a) The road blockades along the main road connecting the cities of Oruro, Sucre, Potosi and La Paz have been lifted. Negotiations with the government began last week. However, sporadic road blockades have been registered during the weekend on this road.
- (b) Heavy rains have been reported over the city of La Paz causing the flooding of some outskirts last week.
- (c) Food supplies will reach the warehouses in Santa Cruz until December 10, after the last Emergency Operation (EMOP) distribution will take place. Arrangements for this last distribution are being made together with Cooperating Partners Caritas, the Guarani Peoples Association and World Vision, and community leaders. Distributions are planned to last until 31 December 2005.

### **(2) Colombia**

- (a) The situation is calm in the Province of Nariño. The Colombian Institute of Geology and Mining (Ingeominas) has lowered the level of alert from ONE (maximum) to THREE (moderate) in the past two days. The institute indicated that the risk is still high for all communities located in risk areas around the volcano. WFP does not distribute food in this province, but an emergency plan of action among WFP and other UN agencies was prepared in case the volcano erupts and emergency humanitarian aid was required.
- (b) Strong weather conditions have affected 180 municipalities in 26 of the country's 32 provinces. According to Colombian authorities, this has been one of the heaviest rain seasons to hit the country in quarter of a century. More than 95 people have died and at least 370,000 people have been severely affected. The government has stated that that more than 22,000 houses were damaged and at least 1,000 were destroyed. Main rivers, including the Magdalena and the Cauca, have burst their banks, ruining crops and flooding riverside communities. An emergency has been declared in the worst-hit Provinces of Sucre, Córdoba, César, Santander, Norte de Santander, Antioquia, Guajira and Magdalena. WFP Sub Offices in the Provinces of Sucre, Santander and Norte de Santander delivered emergency food aid for most affected people in these regions.
- (c) WFP delivered 373 tons of food in 11 provinces to 31,082 beneficiaries under the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10366, "Assistance to People Displaced by Violence", WFP delivered 373 tons of food in eleven (11) provinces to 31,082 beneficiaries, especially in Food-for-Work (FFW), Food-for-Training (FFT), School and Pre – school feeding programmes, nursing and Expectant Mothers, Nutritional Recovery and Emergency Food Aid.

### **(3) Cuba**

- (a) According to recent media reports, total losses caused by Hurricane Wilma have been

estimated at more than 704 million dollars, and more than 7 thousand houses were affected. In addition, considerable losses of different crops have been reported. The production of tobacco and honey has also been considerably affected.

- (b) Distributions under Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10423.0 and 10473.0 are ongoing, providing support to population in the east part of the country, affected Hurricane Wilma.
- (c) EMOP 10423.0 is resourced at 41%; US\$ 2 millions are urgently needed to meet outstanding requirements. EMOP 10473.0 has been funded with IRA resources; US\$ 400,000 is urgently required to fully refund this project.

#### **(4) Ecuador**

- (a) According to the National Geophysical Institute, a low intensity earthquake of 4.4 on the Richter scale was registered on 23 November, 358kms from Quito in the Amazon Province of Morona Santiago. Moreover, on 24 November, a low intensity earthquake of 4.2 on the Richter scale was also registered 305kms from Quito in the Amazon Province of Morona Santiago.
- (b) Tungurahua Volcano gave small emissions of steam and gas. Likewise, Cotopaxi volcano reported moderate activity.
- (c) The preparation of food rations was completed last week. Food distribution under Emergency Operation (EMOP) 103813.0 started on 28 November and will deliver to UNHCR's local distribution agencies.

#### **(5) El Salvador**

- (a) The number of people in shelters as a result of the volcanic eruption and flooding/landslides caused by Tropical Storm Stan remains stable at 12,000. WFP is coordinating with the local government authorities and NGOs to establish mechanisms for maintaining the food supply to numerous small shelters in addition to the existing "official shelters".
- (b) WFP continues to provide daily food rations to evacuated populations following the Iamatepec volcanic eruption. Agreements are being finalized with NGO partners to cover the recovery phase of the operation; Food for Work (FFW) and Food for Training (FFT) activities focus on crop recovery and activities for the creation of productive assets and disaster mitigation schemes.
- (c) In response to the ongoing nutritional situation and the finalization of the joint GoES/WFP intervention to combat chronic malnutrition in children under 5 years old under the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10212.0, WFP has established a work plan and consequent MOU with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the National Family Secretariat (SNF) to feed beneficiaries in 66 municipalities, identified as of very high prevalence of chronic malnutrition over the next six months. In addition to the nutritional intervention, FFW & FFT activities continue with NGO Cooperating Partners (CPs) - World Vision International, Samaritans Purse and PRODERNOR.
- (d) WFP has requested additional contributions from donors in a second UN joint appeal issued through OCHA. The rehabilitation phase of the emergencies requires 6,190 tons of food at a cost of USD 3,054,256
- (e) The PRRO is facing shortfalls of 9,215 tons over the next six months, with forecasted pipeline breaks for CSB and vegetable oil in December followed by maize and beans in January.
- (f) The current lack of resources will severely limit WFP in its response to the ongoing emergency and recovery effort.

## **(6) Guatemala**

- (a) WFP and an inter-institutional team (NGO's and government counterparts) continue to monitor the targeted municipalities and communities in order to obtain information about families in need of food aid. These missions are also monitoring the food requirement for shelters.
- (b) The distribution scheduled to start on 6th December will deliver 4,000 tons to 45,000 families in 7 departments: San Marcos, Sololá, Escuintla, Santa Rosa, Quetzaltenango, Jutiapa and Quiché. The distribution will be carried out by 4 government agencies and 5 local and international NGO's. WFP is coordinating with government and NGO's counterparts in order to determine their capacity to distribute the food rations to the targeted communities. Some 42% of food commodities will be delivered through local and international NGO's.
- (c) Both the Country Programme (CP) and the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) will continue loaning food commodities to the Emergency Operation (EMOP), thereby prolonging the pipeline breaks. While regional and local purchases are continuing, the CP and PRRO will loan 2,138.36 tons to the EMOP in order to start distribution on December 6.
- (d) Three warehouses (Fraijanes, Chimaltenango, Quetzaltenango) are ready to continue receiving food commodities from all CO programs (CP, PRRO, EMOP). One more warehouse is being negotiated in Amatitlán.
- (e) National government, through the Ministry of Agriculture, awarded WFP on 30 November with the "Ulises Rojas National Order" and the award "Stan Solidarity Heroes" in recognition for its efforts during the Stan emergency.

## **(7) Nicaragua**

- (a) The declaration of a state of disaster in the Municipalities of Wiwilí and Waspam in the Central and Northern Atlantic Region (RAAN) as a result of crop losses caused by rat infestation and flooding remains as the food security situation of the families in these communities is getting worse.
- (b) A joint WFP and Ministry of Agriculture Emergency Food Security Assessment has concluded that 9,000 indigenous people (1,800 families) are in need of relief food aid along the Río Coco in the Municipality of Wiwilí in addition to the 4,450 persons (890 families) already assisted with relief food aid with existing Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) stocks in the neighboring Municipality of Waspam.
- (c) Approximately 10,363 pregnant and lactating women; 11,159 children under two years old; 1,792 vulnerable rural families and 69,746 schoolchildren in the RAAN continue to benefit from the food distributions under PRRO 10212.0.
- (d) The third and final emergency food distribution (PRRO 10212.0 relief component) to 14 communities along the Río Coco has started. In light of the urgent need for relief food aid in the area, WFP will provide air-lift support as well as water and ground transportation. Up to now, a total of 175 tons of food has been distributed in 14 communities to some 890 families (4,450 persons). Furthermore, as part of the inter-agency agricultural rehabilitation plan, seeds and pesticides has been distributed in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture.
- (e) Funds have been allocated against the PRRO 10212.0 in order to attend to an additional 1,800 indigenous families in 24 communities suffering hunger along the Río Coco in the neighboring Municipality of Wiwilí. The first relief food distribution to these families is scheduled for the beginning of December, immediately succeeding the distribution of seeds and pesticides. The relief food distribution is complicated by the

beginning of the dry season, which is lowering the water level of the rivers making the waterways more difficult to manoeuvre. A total of 453 tons will be delivered, covering relief food aid for 90 days for 1,800 families.

- (f) Since PRRO 10212.0 resources have been used to respond to other emergencies, the operation urgently needs resources to avoid pipeline break and continue to provide assistance to families living in areas vulnerable to recurrent shocks. The PRRO 10212.0 will experience shortfalls for the next six months, beginning in February 2006.

**Note:** All tonnage figures in this report refer to metric tons

### **WFP Weekly Emergency Report**

From **David Kaatrud**, Chief of the Analysis, Assessment and Preparedness Service of the United Nations World Food Programme (ODA); also available online at [www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org)<sup>[1]</sup> or go directly to the [WFP Newsroom](#)<sup>[2]</sup>.

Also available by e-mail from **Carlo Scaramella**, Chief of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Branch (ODAP).

[Carlo.Scaramella@wfp.org](mailto:Carlo.Scaramella@wfp.org)

For information on resources, donors are requested to contact **Valerie Sequeira**:

[Valerie.Sequeira@wfp.org](mailto:Valerie.Sequeira@wfp.org)<sup>[4]</sup>

tel: +39 06 6513 2009

Via Cesare Giulio Viola 68, Parco dei Medici, 00148 Rome - Italy

Media queries should be directed to **Brenda Barton** at:

[Brenda.Barton@wfp.org](mailto:Brenda.Barton@wfp.org)

tel: +39 06 6513 2602

Via Cesare Giulio Viola 68, Parco dei Medici, 00148 Rome - Italy

---

1 [www.wfp.org] <http://www.wfp.org>

2 [WFP Newsroom] [http://www.wfp.org/index.asp?section=2&sub\\_section=7&page=../subsections/year .asp?section=18](http://www.wfp.org/index.asp?section=2&sub_section=7&page=../subsections/year.asp?section=18)

4 [Valerie.Sequeira@wfp.org] <mailto:Valerie.Sequeira@wfp.org>