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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Somalia – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

November 13, 2008

Note: The last situation report was dated October 8, 2008.

BACKGROUND

Since 1991, widespread violence, endemic poverty, recurrent droughts, and floods have generated a complex emergency in Somalia. Continued civil strife and inter-clan conflicts have complicated the humanitarian situation and limited access to affected areas. In addition, ongoing fighting since late December 2006 between the Somalia Transitional Federal Government (TFG), Ethiopian forces, and armed militias opposed to the TFG has led to a further deterioration in humanitarian conditions. As a result, approximately 476,000 Somali refugees have fled the country and more than 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are uprooted within Somalia, including long-term IDPs as well as individuals displaced by increased fighting since February 2007.

On November 11, the USAID-supported Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reported that 3.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in Somalia, representing 43 percent of the total population and a 77 percent increase since January 2008. Despite the onset of near-normal September to December *deyr* rains, the affected population is expected to remain highly or extremely food insecure depending on location. The combined effects of consecutive seasons of failed or poor rainfall, continuing conflict, rising inflation, massive displacement, and diarrheal disease outbreaks have severely exacerbated the food security situation and resulted in a significant increase in acute malnutrition rates, according to the 2009 U.N. Consolidated Appeals Process for Somalia. U.N. and partner agencies are coordinating efforts to improve access, but insecurity and targeted attacks against relief staff hinder the provision of emergency assistance to affected populations.

On October 31, 2008, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Michael E. Ranneberger redeclared a disaster in Somalia due to the ongoing complex emergency. In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided nearly \$350 million for emergency food assistance, health, nutrition, livelihoods support, protection, humanitarian coordination and information management, agriculture and food security, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs, as well as refugee assistance and air operations.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Total Population in Need of Emergency Assistance	3.2 million	FEWS NET – November 2008
Urban Caseload	705,000	FEWS NET – November 2008
IDPs since February 2007	870,000	FEWS NET – November 2008
Long-Term IDPs	275,000	FEWS NET – November 2008
Rural Caseload	1,395,000	FEWS NET – November 2008
Somali Refugees in Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen	476,000	UNHCR ¹ Global Trends Report – June 2008

FY 2009 AND FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia.....	\$51,215,015
USAID/FFP² Assistance to Somalia	\$276,915,600
State/PRM³ Assistance to Somalia	\$21,850,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$349,980,615

CURRENT SITUATION

The collective impact of rising food and fuel prices, drought conditions, and widespread insecurity continues to exacerbate food insecurity and malnutrition levels in Somalia. According to FEWS NET, 3.2 million people, or 43 percent of the total

population of Somalia, are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance, representing a 77 percent increase since January 2008. The most affected populations are rural populations in southern and central Somalia. However, FEWS NET also notes that new areas of Somalia are now confronting high levels

¹ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

of food insecurity, including Sool, Nugal, and Togdheer regions in the north. Although early September to December *deyr* rains have replenished water sources and improved browsing conditions in parts of drought-affected Central, Bakool, and Hiran regions, humanitarian emergency conditions continue to deteriorate countrywide, according to FEWS NET.

In addition, targeted attacks against humanitarian workers and renewed fighting in Mogadishu are negatively affecting response efforts and resulting in new displacement, including in Mogadishu and Bay and Bakool regions. Despite restrictions due to insecurity and violence, humanitarian agencies continue to provide critical emergency assistance to drought- and conflict-affected populations throughout Somalia.

Security and Population Movements

Continued insecurity and targeting of humanitarian staff and operations are impeding the provision of emergency relief throughout Somalia and exacerbating the rate of population displacement.

During the week of October 6, two USAID partners suspended activities in Bakool and Bay regions following targeted threats. Suspended programs include health facilities, supplemental feeding programs, and outpatient community-based therapeutic care programs. In addition, the threats forced one of the partners to suspend food aid distributions benefiting 757,000 people throughout southern and central Somalia.

Attacks on U.N. Somali national staff resulted in two deaths in two separate incidents on October 17 and 19 in Marka, Lower Shabelle Region, and Xudur, Bakool Region. Between November 3 to 12, armed assailants killed the Somali national chairperson of a local women's organization in Baydhaba, Bay Region, and the Somali national head of an international NGO in Jamaame, Lower Juba Region; kidnapped a group of six foreign and Somali national aid workers near Dhuusamarreeb, Galgaduud Region; and kidnapped two Catholic nuns in the Kenya border town of El Wak, North Eastern Province. According to the U.N., since the start of the year at least 110 security incidents involving humanitarian staff or assets have occurred and armed assailants have killed at least 30 aid workers in Somalia.

On October 29, five coordinated car bombs detonated in the autonomous Somaliland and Puntland regions, killing at least 30 people, according to the U.N. The bombs targeted intelligence offices in Bossasso, the capital city of Puntland, and the presidential palace, Ethiopian consulate, and U.N. offices in Hargeisa, the capital city of Somaliland. As of October 30, no one had claimed responsibility for the attacks.

On November 12, UNHCR reported that to date in 2008 approximately 26,000 and 52,000 Somali refugees have arrived in Yemen and Kenya, respectively. In total, at least 476,000 Somali refugees are currently residing in Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen. According to UNHCR, nearly 108,000 people have been displaced from Mogadishu due to insecurity since August 1.

In addition, UNHCR reported that 8,000 refugees from Somalia arrived at the Dadaab refugee camps in the North Eastern Province of Kenya in October. Since January 2008, more than 44,000 Somali refugees have registered at the camp. Intended to accommodate 90,000 refugees, the camp now hosts approximately 225,000 people. Negotiations are ongoing between UNHCR and the Government of Kenya to secure land for the construction of additional camps to meet the expanded refugee population needs.

In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, State/PRM has provided a total of \$32.5 million for assistance programs targeting Somali refugees in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen, representing an increase of 170 percent from FY 2007.

Health and Nutrition

FEWS NET continues to report significant nutrition concerns among vulnerable populations, including drought-affected and displaced individuals. According to FEWS NET, malnutrition rates continue to increase, with one in six children under the age of five currently identified as acutely malnourished. In many areas of southern and central Somalia, global acute malnutrition rates exceed 20 percent, significantly above the emergency threshold of 15 percent. The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) estimates that approximately 180,000 children are malnourished in southern and central Somalia and among the IDP population, including more than 26,000 severely malnourished children.

In response, USAID/OFDA implementing partner the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) is supporting two supplementary feeding centers, five outpatient therapeutic centers, and two stabilization centers in Mogadishu that treat an average of 1,400 moderately malnourished and 1,800 severely malnourished children monthly. In addition, UNICEF is providing supplementary food assistance to approximately 10,000 children under the age of five residing in IDP camps in northern Mogadishu each month.

In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$9.4 million for nutrition activities in Somalia, including more than \$4.1 million to UNICEF to support nutrition programs in Mogadishu, Lower and Middle Shabelle regions, and Puntland, that will target children under the age of five with vitamin and protein enriched food supplements.

Emergency Food Assistance

Incidences of piracy off the coast of Somalia continue to impede commercial transport and underscore the need for naval escorts to ensure the delivery of critical humanitarian food assistance. On October 9, pirates unsuccessfully attempted to board a U.N. World Food Program (WFP)-chartered freighter after the vessel had offloaded food aid at the port in Mogadishu.

On October 9, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) defense ministers agreed to dispatch a joint naval task force to combat piracy off the coast of Somalia. The force of seven vessels arrived in the Gulf of Aden on October 28.

On October 23, the Canadian naval frigate that had escorted WFP-contracted vessels transporting food aid to Somalia since August 18 departed the region. From August 18 to October 23, the Canadian ship escorted five WFP-contracted vessels to Mogadishu transporting a total of 36,360 metric tons (MT) of assorted food commodities. The Government of the Netherlands has dispatched a naval vessel to assume escorting responsibilities from the Canadian frigate. The Dutch vessel is scheduled to provide escort services through December 10, after which time a fleet of seven naval ships and air support from the European Union will assume escort responsibilities and replace the NATO task force patrolling the Gulf of Aden.

The USG continues to coordinate with international partners on potential counter-piracy efforts and to secure long-term naval escorts for WFP humanitarian shipments to Somalia.

On November 12, WFP announced that due to insecurity and a shortage of non-cereal food, the U.N. agency only reached 68 percent of the planned 2.4 million food aid beneficiaries countrywide for the month of October.

In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA committed more than \$20 million for the regional purchase of 26,107 MT of maize to support WFP food aid operations targeting an estimated 2 million beneficiaries.

In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, USAID/FFP has provided more than 290,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than \$276 million. In total, USAID/FFP assistance aims to support approximately 3 million Somalis countrywide.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Since August 1, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) has admitted 532 acute watery diarrhea (AWD) patients to the Cholera Treatment Center in Marka, Lower Shabelle Region. Since the establishment of WHO’s Early Warning and Response System in May, WHO has reported more than 5,900 AWD cases in the region, including 25 deaths. The highest concentration of reported cases occurred in Marka District, accounting for 54 percent of the total caseload and 68 percent of total related deaths.

Nearly \$9 million in FY 2008 USAID/OFDA funding supports water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions countrywide, including Mercy Corps programs in Lower Shabelle Region.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

FY 2009			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
	Administrative Support	Countrywide	\$12,572
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$12,572
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	54,910 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$54,338,400
CARE	24,610 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$25,179,200
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$79,517,600
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2009			\$79,530,172
FY 2008			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Adventist Development and relief Agency (ADRA)	Agriculture and Food Security, Risk Reduction, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bay, and Bakool Regions	\$1,500,000

CARE	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Economy and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,100,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bakool, Bay, and Hiran Regions	\$1,022,629
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Medair Swiss	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Shabelle Region	\$893,978
Mercy Corps	Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bari Region	\$599,309
Mercy Corps	Economy and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Regions	\$1,499,998
Mercy USA	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Hiran, Galgadud, Middle Juba, and Middle Shabelle Regions	\$761,347
Merlin	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Galgadud Region	\$576,274
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$300,000
UNHCR	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNICEF	U.N. Common Air Service	Countrywide	\$800,000
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$7,500,346
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Health, Nutrition	Banadir and Lower Shabelle Regions	\$4,124,850
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$697,961
WFP	Regional Food Procurement and Distribution	Countrywide	\$20,100,000
World Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$699,991
World Vision	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$750,000
FEWS NET	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$194,177
	Administrative Support		\$81,583
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$51,202,443
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
CARE	81,030 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Hiran, Gedo, Middle Shabelle, Galgudud, Mudug Regions	\$70,604,900
WFP	130,290 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$126,793,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP³			\$197,398,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance, IDP Protection, Logistics, and Shelter	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
ICRC	Protection, Health, Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$18,150,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$21,850,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008			\$270,450,443

FY 2009 AND FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO DATE	
USAID/OFDA	\$51,215,015
USAID/FFP	\$276,915,600
STATE/PRM	\$21,850,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA	\$349,980,615

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 8, 2008.

² Estimated value of food assistance.



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