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World Food Programme Emergency Report 2006  
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**(A) Highlights****(B) Middle East,Central Asia and Eastern Europe:** (1) Lebanon**(C) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Congo, DR (3) Ethiopia (4) Kenya (5) Rwanda (6) Somalia (7) Sudan (8) Tanzania (9) Uganda**(D) West Africa:** (1) Cote d'Ivoire (2) Liberia (3) Niger**(E) Southern Africa:** (1) Angola (2) Lesotho (3) Madagascar (4) Malawi (5) Mozambique (6) Namibia (7) Swaziland (8) Zambia (9) Zimbabwe**(F) Asia:** (1) Afghanistan (2) Myanmar (3) Timor Leste**(G) Latin America and Caribbean:** (1) Bolivia (2) Ecuador (3) Guatemala**(A) Highlights**

- (a) A total of 565,000 war-affected persons benefited from WFP's food aid in Lebanon, mainly IDPs, during and after their displacement. Some 151,000 returning refugees received food aid on their return from Syria. Overall, WFP food aid has assisted some 716,000 Lebanese so far.
- (b) The flooding in Ethiopia and Somalia has resulted in deaths, missing persons, displacement of people and devastation of properties.
- (c) WFP food distributions in Kinshasa, DR Congo were either postponed or cancelled due to insecurity following the announcement of the presidential elections.
- (d) An estimated 950,000 people in Karamoja region, Uganda are at risk and about 500,000 may be in need of food assistance in 2007 should the rains fail in September/October 2006.
- (e) In El Fasher, dispatches during the reporting period (20-26 August) amounted to 2,151 tons, benefiting 148,651 beneficiaries. These figures bring the cumulative monthly totals to 7,215 tons (64 percent of the planned monthly tonnage) targeting 444,918 beneficiaries.

**(B) Middle East,Central Asia and Eastern Europe:** (1) Lebanon**(1) Lebanon**

- (a) Between 12 July and 14 August, Lebanon was subject to sustained, heavy shelling and air strikes. A UN-brokered ceasefire came into effect on 14 August following a UN Security Council Resolution calling for an immediate cessation of all hostilities.
- (b) During the reporting period (21-27 August), there were no serious breaches of the ceasefire. Hizbollah in the meantime has indicated that it would not carry out military actions without consultations with the Government of Lebanon (GoL). The Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) continued expanding their presence in the south of Lebanon.
- (c) UNIFIL troops are also being deployed, although the deployment is slow with some reports indicating that it could take as long as 3 months for its completion. In the meantime, there is strong opposition to the deployment of the UNIFIL troops along the

Syrian border with Lebanon. It was indicated that Syria would close its borders with Lebanon if the UNIFIL forces were deployed along the borders.

- (d) The large number of unexploded ordnance (UXOs), cluster bombs and submunitions remains a serious concern in the conflict affected areas of Lebanon. As at 27 August, there are over 330 cluster bomb sites already identified by the UN Mine Action Coordination Center (UNMACC). Daily mine awareness workshops are carried out at WFP offices for UN and NGO staff. In addition, 13 new teams are expected to arrive in Lebanon by the end of the coming week to build capacity for necessary activities.
- (e) The blockade by the Government of Israel on Lebanese ports and airports is limiting the supply of basic essential goods, including fuel and hampering economic recovery in Lebanon. WFP has been providing assistance with notifications for all vessel movements into Lebanon.
- (f) As per the latest HRC update on 27 August, the number of total displaced has declined to less than 256,000. It was reported however, that a portion of the displaced still fear returning as a result of UXOs, mines, cluster bombs and submunitions. In addition, FAO indicated that as a result of the widespread contamination of UXOs, crops cannot be harvested in some areas in the south of Lebanon.
- (g) The UN is finalizing a revised Flash Appeal to change its focus from addressing the humanitarian needs during the conflict to the post-conflict humanitarian priorities and activities. The period of the appeal will remain the same, up to 24 October 2006, but its value will likely be decreased to US\$ 110 million, with the remaining funding gap reduced to below US\$ 10 million.
- (h) WFP also launched a regional emergency operation (EMOP) and three separate special operations (SOs) to provide logistic and ICT support to the humanitarian community in Lebanon for a three-month duration.
- (i) WFP has already set up a humanitarian and logistics hub in Tyre. Convoys are already being sent from both Beirut and Tyre. Currently, the main focus of the relief operations is in the south, with the aim to reach as many of the war-affected locations and populations as fast as possible. Substantial food aid programmes are also being implemented in the southern suburbs of Beirut. Returning displaced persons and refugees, especially those who lost their houses and income, are the main WFP beneficiaries.
- (j) A total of 565,000 war-affected persons benefited from WFP's food aid in Lebanon, mainly IDPs, during and after their displacement. Some 151,000 returning refugees received food aid on their return from Syria. Overall, WFP food aid has assisted some 716,000 Lebanese so far.
- (k) WFP's Regional Director for the Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe arrived on 22 August in Lebanon. During the visit, high-level meetings were held with several GoL Ministries who indicated that the GoL would hope to rely on WFP to help identify food aid needs in Lebanon based on the WFP's comprehensive food security assessment and to help it devise a strategy to assist those in need. The above mentioned assessment started on 26 August and the results are expected around 10 September.
- (l) WFP has established an arrangement with a bakery to provide bread to vulnerable families in the southern suburbs of Beirut. In the south of Lebanon, WFP flour has been processed into bread by five bakeries.
- (m) To expedite the turnaround of trucks and increase the competitiveness of transport, the Logistics Cluster has decided on 28 August 2006 to introduce contracting on commercial terms to the main destinations within Lebanon. This will improve efficiency by directly removing the need for convoys and notifications.

- (n) A bilateral agreement was signed between WFP and GoL on 24 August, for the international procurement and shipping of 12,300 tons of wheat to Beirut with a value of US\$3.1 million. WFP assisted swiftly with the organization in view of the difficulties in importing basic necessity goods into the country. The WFP-chartered vessel, MV Majestic, arrived in Beirut Port on 27 August and successfully completed offloading the wheat on 28 August.
- (o) As at 27 August, the donor community's response to the current operations has been prompt and swift.

**(C) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Congo, DR (3) Ethiopia (4) Kenya (5) Rwanda (6) Somalia (7) Sudan (8) Tanzania (9) Uganda

### **(1) Burundi**

- (a) The Regional Summit for Heads of State tentatively scheduled on 29 August to discuss how to unblock the pending negotiations between Front for National Liberation (FNL) and the Burundian Government has been postponed to 7 September. This was announced on 27 August by the South African mediator in the negotiation process.
- (b) A three-day WFP mission to Ngozi included visits to the UNHCR site for Rwandan asylum seekers in Musasa and the Red Cross site for Burundians expelled from Tanzania. The mission learned the number of Rwandan asylum seekers decreased considerably from 20,000 to 6,000 although the voluntary repatriation process slowed down from 1,000 to 200 persons per week. The UNHCR screening process continues although only 105 people have so far received refugee status. It was also noted that 632 Burundians had infiltrated the caseload of Rwandans and are now being repatriated to their places of origin.
- (c) The caseload of Burundians expelled from Tanzania stands at 599; however the majority have gone back to their areas of origin. There are currently 170 persons in the camp managed by the Burundian Red Cross. WFP provides biscuits upon arrival at the transit camp. The government is providing food aid while they wait for reintegration with their families. The situation needs to be closely monitored.
- (d) UNHCR reported that more than 1,700 Burundians returned last week, bringing the total number of returnees for August 2006 to 7,334. The number of returnees started to increase in May 2006 and reached 3,000 persons in July 2006.
- (e) To prepare for the launching of the coming seed protection rations (SPRs) campaign starting in September, WFP conducted missions to various provinces including Ngozi, Karusi, Muyinga, Bubanza, Ruyigi, Makamba and Kirundo.
- (f) Between 21 and 27 August, WFP distributed a total of 320 tons to 63,248 beneficiaries through implementing partners. Distributions to returnees included both Burundian and Rwandan asylum seekers returning home as well as those staying in the transit camp. An urgent delivery of pulses and salt is needed to cover the forthcoming SPRs distributions.

### **(2) Congo, DR**

- (a) After three days of heavy fighting in Gombe (Kinshasa) between militants of the two most popular presidential candidates following proclamation of the presidential elections results, the UN Mission in the DR Congo (MONUC) held a meeting with the two leaders in an effort to restore calm to the city. Both leaders signed a cease-fire agreement in the presence of the Secretary General's Special Representative and other high-ranking officials of the mission who served as facilitators.
- (b) Four female hostages taken by Front Démocratique pour la Libération du Rwanda

(FDLR) forces on 12 August were assaulted during the period of their stay in the rebel camp. South Kivu has a proliferation of armed factions and accounts for the highest number of rape cases in DRC. However, WFP has managed to assist rape victims through specialized institutions such as hospitals and NGOs involved in providing micro-credit to victims, who are normally rejected by family members and communities after the incident.

- (c) The report on a school feeding evaluation carried out in Tshangu district indicated school age children who are not in school have developed different coping mechanisms; boys sell nail varnish as their main occupation and girls use prostitution as a means of resisting shock. The report also noted that food assistance provided by WFP yielded positive results; 72 percent of girls completed primary school against 26 percent prior to the launching of the school-feeding project.
- (d) WFP Kinshasa distributed 59 tons of the planned 63 tons to 22,282 beneficiaries. The three-day gun battle in Kinshasa hindered the delivery of food items to targeted beneficiaries. Most distributions were postponed or cancelled due to insecurity.
- (e) The August food distributions to 43,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Gethy camp was completed after 8,600 families received over 386 tons of food commodities. 1,789 IDP families in Kagaba also benefited from 77 tons of food aid for a period of 30 days. WFP also undertook a mission to Gethy and Aveba to evaluate the humanitarian and security situation of IDPs and returnees. 15,207 IDPs were identified by WFP during an evaluation mission to Aveba.
- (f) The humanitarian community has registered over 39,400 IDP families in six of the eight territories in South Kivu. However, persistent insecurity has made access to IDPs problematic. Food aid monitors supervised food distribution to IDPs in which 1,017 families benefited from 42 tons of food aid.
- (g) In Goma, WFP undertook monitoring and evaluation of nutrition programs in Kiwanja. Causes of malnutrition noted by the WFP included insecurity, poor medical care, social injustice, eating habits and abandonment of children. WFP distributed 11 tons of food aid to 955 beneficiaries comprising malnourished children, victims of sexual violence and ex-child-soldiers.
- (h) Distribution of 75 tons of food commodities to IDPs in Mutabi/Dubie began during the week beginning 21 August. Meanwhile, distribution of 169 tons of food commodities to 556 food-for-work (FFW) beneficiaries was completed. A total of one ton of food was delivered to Swampa and Manono by UNHAS. This was the very first airlift carried out by the humanitarian flight in the region. A total of 104 tons of food was delivered to three partners for onward distribution to vulnerable people targeted for feeding.

### **(3) Ethiopia**

- (a) The number of districts concerned by floods in the country has increased from 30 as of last week to at least 43 in eight regions. Likewise, the number of flood-affected people increased from 196,000 to 226,000. Of these, close to 52,000 people are displaced and nearly all of them are in temporary shelters and are receiving both food and non-food assistance. The number of persons killed and missing by the floods has remained stable at 624 and 244 respectively. The districts affected during this last week include Alamata and Raya Azebo in Tigray region; Dara, Kobo, Kemise town, Antsokia Gemza and Efratana in Ahmara region; Dugda Bora, Boset and Goba in Oromiya region and Gewane in Afar region. A Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency (DPPA) led multi-agency mission is currently assessing the flooded areas of Somali region and more information will be available shortly.
- (b) Significant increases in the numbers of people affected by flood have been reported particularly from Amhara and Afar regions. In Amhara region, the number of people

affected increased from 74,000 a week ago to 92,000. In a recent press conference, Ahmara region has appealed to the Federal Government as well as to the international humanitarian partners to enhance their support for the rapidly growing number of flood victims in the region as the situation is getting beyond its means. In Afar region, one additional district, Gewane, has been flooded last week. Even those districts that were affected earlier (Dulecha, Amibara and Buremudayitu (all in zone 3) are now reporting increased levels of flooding. This is most probably the impact of water discharged from Koka Dam.

- (c) The decision of releasing water from two (Koka and Gilgel Gibe) of the 5 major dams of the country has been taken recently for the safety of the hydro power stations these dams serve as well as the communities in their vicinity . The Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples' region (SNNPR) is expressing concern that the number of flood victims in the affected areas of South Omo could well rise to 20,000 shortly given the current level of Omo River following the discharge of water from the Gilgel Gibe dam. Relief operations using helicopters in South Omo Zone terminated last week. Thus, most of the affected people in the area are being reached by small motor boats.
- (d) So far, the response from the DPPA to the current flood emergency has been the dispatch of 584 tons of food, and other non food items for about 63,194 flood victims. Furthermore, on 30 August DPPA allocated 203 tons of food (15 days ration) and 20 rolls of plastic sheeting for about 23,800 flood victims in zone three of Afar region who have been relocated to secure places from areas along Awash River. DPPA also allocated 18.5 of mixed food commodities to 2,000 flood victims in Bale zone of Oromiya region.
- (e) The DPPA also continues the relief food dispatches to the areas affected by drought. In Somali region, 39 percent of the sixth round of relief food allocation has been transported. Dispatches are nearly finalized to the zones of Afder and Liben and are ongoing to all the other zones. The dispatches of a special allocation made by WFP for the flood victims in Mustahil district of Gode zone have been finalized. The general relief food from the sixth round of allocation has also started to arrive to Mustahil district which will bring further relief to the flood victims. WFP field monitors are currently checking food arrivals and distributions in Mustahil.
- (f) DPPA has released the report of the mid-year multi-agency emergency needs' assessment. According to the report, the number of people needing emergency food assistance reached at 2.8 million in August, and should reduce to 1.9 million by December 2006. Out of these, about 63 percent are located in the pastoral areas of Somali and Afar regions and in the Borena zone of Oromiya region while the remaining 37 percent are from the cropping areas in Oromiya, Dire Dawa administration (including the flood victims), Amhara and SNNPR. The flood victims from South West and West Shewa of Oromiya have been included in the document. The total food aid requirements to address these needs amount to 235,140 tons (gross). Considering existing stocks and arrivals of commodities, the net shortfall to meet relief needs for the period August-December is 160,441 tons.
- (g) In addition to this, the federal government has launched a Joint Government and Humanitarian Partners Flash Appeal for the 2006 flood disaster in Ethiopia seeking a total of US\$ 27,099,526 to meet the emerging needs including a total of 10,178 tons of emergency relief food worth US\$ 5,184,673. Overall, the food shortfall is some 170,610 tons. Urgent donor contributions are sought to fill this gap.
- (h) Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) is spreading across the country at a fast rate despite continued efforts by government and partners to restrain it. Currently, AWD cases have been observed in at least 38 districts of 5 regions of the country (Oromiya, SNNPR, Amhara, Gambella and Addis Ababa). The most recent information reports 16,555

cases and 196 deaths related to the disease. The government has recently started sensitization programs on the promotion of personal hygiene, environmental sanitation, among others, to help reduce the impact of the outbreak.

#### **(4) Kenya**

- (a) The preliminary results of the long rains assessment in the drought-affected districts of Kenya show modest improvements in food security, particularly in marginal agricultural areas in the southeast and coastal districts. A reduction in target numbers is expected. While livestock prices have risen and are close to seasonal norms, productivity of livestock is low, after normal reproductive patterns were disrupted by the drought.
- (b) Food security in most pastoral areas remains precarious and pastoralists' food security is sustained, for the most part, by food aid provided through the emergency operation (EMOP). The Kenya EMOP is scheduled to continue through February 2007.
- (c) The dispatch of the long awaited 25,000 tons of commercially procured maize started on 19 August from the port of Mombasa. Distributions started in all EMOP districts, providing full food baskets. The completion of the August distribution cycle is expected by mid-September. In order to make up for prior delays in dispatches and distributions, the EMOP team intends to organise the September distribution immediately after. The pipeline for non-cereals is fairly healthy, while that for cereals is still of great concern. Stocks will run out in October 2006.
- (d) Recent in-kind pledges have reduced the resource shortfall to approximately 31 percent. However, more pledges are urgently required, particularly with respect to cereals, to address the projected pipeline break.

#### **(5) Rwanda**

- (a) The general food security situation in the eastern province has stabilized. The restriction on the excessive sale of food crops has resulted in the availability of food at the household level. However, the prices of staple commodities such as beans, cassava, Irish and sweet potatoes remain more than 20 percent higher than the same period last year since their availability in the market is scarce. In Ngoma district, strong wind with heavy hailstorm destroyed 100 houses as well as banana plantations and trees. The affected people are launching an appeal for assistance.
- (b) Two food-for-work (FFW) projects were launched in one of the most drought affected districts of Bugesera to address food insecurity. A total of 1,101 families will be assisted in Rwabusoro and Akagera for maize cultivation in marshlands with three months' food assistance.
- (c) The number of Congolese and Burundian refugees remains stable at 41,405 and 2,196, respectively.
- (d) In collaboration with UNHCR, general refugee verification was carried out in Kigeme camp and new ration cards were issued to the beneficiary households. In Gihembe camp, 317 tons of mixed food commodities were distributed to 17,465 refugees. In Nyabiheke camp, 87 tons of food commodities were delivered and distribution is scheduled for end of August. A total of 22 tons of food commodities were delivered to Nkamira transit centre and distribution will also start end of August.
- (e) A total of 99 returnees from DRC arrived at Nkamira and Nyagatare transit camps out of which four cases were rejected. A three-month ration consisting of 5 tons was distributed to returnees before their departure to home communities. 59 Rwandan asylum seekers returned from Burundi, mostly to Kibingo and Mugombwa in the southern provinces of Rwanda.
- (f) 633 Rwandans expelled from Tanzania were registered in Kiyanzi transit camp. The

number of those accommodated in temporary tents stands at 1,243. Another 480 potential returnees are waiting on the other side of the border in Tanzania. The Government of Rwanda has so far re-settled 520 returnees in different sectors out of the 1,763 who have entered the country so far. On 25 August 2006, WFP provided a second round of assistance comprising 18 tons of food as a one-month ration for 1,000 people as requested by the government.

## **(6) Somalia**

- (a) The security situation on the border of Puntland and central Somalia is still tense, due to a build up of armed forces along the border by the Puntland State authorities and the Islamic Courts Union (ICU). Ethiopian advisors are reportedly assisting the Puntland forces.
- (b) The main seaport in Mogadishu was officially reopened on 23 August 2006 after over 11 years of closure due to political instability. The beach port of El Ma'an, 30 km north of the city has been used as an alternative since 1995. The reopening of the deep seaport will ease the difficulties faced by aid agencies in delivering assistance to needy Somalis. The port management announced that vessels up to 8,000 tons may dock at the seaport. WFP is planning to undertake an assessment of the seaport before it starts using the facility to move relief cargo for south and central Somalia.
- (c) WFP has so far pre-positioned about 23,600 tons in Somalia and an additional pre-positioning of 3,500 tons in Mogadishu for Bay and Bakool regions and 2,830 tons to El Waak for Gedo region continues. This will facilitate quick and effective food delivery to food distribution points when general food distributions resume at the end of September.
- (d) The heavy rain that started on 28 August in Mogadishu has caused severe flooding and devastation of houses and property in the capital. Two children are reported to have died and hundreds of displaced persons who sought refuge in Mogadishu have lost their makeshift homes to the floods. It is estimated that about 2,000 people have either had their homes destroyed or been forced to abandon them. The ICU that controls Mogadishu and some other key areas in the south has called for assistance to the victims. WFP in Mogadishu is assessing the situation to determine the extent of damage and the nature of assistance that may be needed.
- (e) The floods from Shabelle River have also increased, blocking the main road linking the provincial town of Jowhar to Mogadishu. The water level of the river has risen to one meter causing the river to burst its bank. Efforts to use sand bags by villagers to prevent flooding did not help much. The river also flooded large areas of southern Middle Shabelle Region.
- (f) A mission to inaugurate four school canteens in Awdal and Hargeisa regions of Somaliland was undertaken on 23 August 2006. The four school canteens were co-funded by WFP and UNHCR and implemented by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The mission included WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNOPS, UNESCO and Ministry of Education (MOE).

## **(7) Sudan**

- (a) Update on the flood situation: Khartoum: Areas affected by the floods so far include Red Sea, Sinnar, Kassala, White Nile, Khartoum and Northern State/River Nile. Kassala: In Kassala, the Gash river continues to threaten Kassala town following heavy rains reported in the Eritrean highlands. Furthermore, due to partial collapse of the western banks of Gash river, south to Wager town, water flooded and affected seven villages in the area in addition to around 23 villages east to Wager. WFP joined an inter-agency mission to Wager in Kassala state together with OCHA, UNICEF, GOAL, Sudanese

Red Crescent, Ministry of Health and KCCW. According to the mission report, the populations in the affected villages have been completely isolated with no access to basic services and requirements except those brought from Wagar town, located 5-12 km from these villages. WFP is closely monitoring the situation in coordination with the concerned governmental bodies and humanitarian organizations. Red Sea: In Tokar, Red Sea, floods have displaced some 1,500 households who have found shelter in 12 schools. OXFAM completed registration of the affected people and started distribution of non-food items. However, WFP, UNICEF and OCHA have not been granted access to Tokar to date. WFP plans to provide 170 tons of food commodities, to the flood-affected households in Tokar when access is granted. WFP will also participate in a joint Government/UN/NGO mission on 29 August to the affected areas. Sinnar: Floods were also reported in Sinnar, Singa and Dindir areas being the most affected. An estimated 60,000 persons were reportedly displaced. The WFP office in White Nile state prepares for a joint assessment in Sinnar with the Sudanese Red Crescent in the first week of September to assess the situation on the ground and identify needs. Blue Nile: A village located 3-4 km of Damazine was reportedly flooded. Information on the number of affected was not available. WFP and the Humanitarian Aid Commission undertook a verification and registration exercise in Hay Almak affected area in which a total of 114 people were registered. WFP will distribute one-month rations totalling 2 tons to the affected people.

- (b) At the Khartoum level, WFP has established an internal taskforce to closely monitor the situation and to exchange information with concerned government authorities and humanitarian agencies. Additionally, WFP is on standby to participate in joint assessments with counterparts and to provide food assistance whenever required.
- (c) Mounting insecurity continues across the entire Darfur region. There are no signs that the current escalation in instability is about to improve in the near future. Furthermore, relations between Darfurians and the African Union are at an all-time low with insecurity seriously affecting mobility of humanitarian organisations, limiting their operations and reducing access to beneficiaries.
- (d) There are increasing and sustained reports of a strengthening of military troops and assets in both South and North Darfur. In light of this, WFP in South Darfur is monitoring certain areas perceived as high risk should the conflict increase and access become even more limited. Work has therefore begun with Cooperating Partners on a contingency plan to cover such areas, including the major IDP camps. WFP and Cooperating Partners are currently considering the prospect of issuing double rations as a precautionary and pre-emptive measure.
- (e) Nyala: Banditry incidents have continued during the reporting period, with heads of cattle looted in Bilel, southeast of Nyala. Culprits are believed to be from Kalma Camp, further prompting fear of the presence of criminal gangs there. Kalma Camp continues to cause concern as a result of the ongoing cattle theft in surrounding areas, the camp's size and tribal composition and the fact that Government of Sudan police are banned from entering. All elements point to potential and increasing instability. An attack on a commercial vehicle by armed tribesmen was reported north of Gereida resulting in one fatality. On 19 August, Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC) reported the looting of 23 bags of sugar and 5 bags of cereal by unknown gunmen in El Deain Town Camp. As the first occurrence of its kind in camps in the area, the incident has caused considerable concern as a possible indicator of the potential rise in crimes of this nature. An investigation is ongoing.
- (f) El Fasher: Security remains unpredictable particularly in the 'Birmaza Triangle'. All humanitarian activities here have now largely ceased, although German Agro Action (GAA) is operating in and around the towns of Mellit and Kutum. The areas of Kulkul and Sayeh are noted as particularly tense. A mission was undertaken by WFP, other

UN agencies and NGOs, to meet with leaders in Um Sidr to review the current suspension of activities in North Darfur, re-establish contact with the political leadership and discuss issues such as command structure, the feasibility of resuming operations and the upcoming emergency food security and nutrition assessment (EFSNA). Population movement is being seen into the camps close to El Fasher as a result of recent insecurity, specifically into Zamzam Camp and Kassab Camp (Kutum). Two WFP trucks carrying three rubhalls and 7 tons of food were hijacked on the road between El Fasher and Kabkabiya (South Darfur) on 24 August, marking a continuation in a series of attacks on humanitarian vehicles and personnel in that area. The release of the trucks is still being negotiated by UNDSS and WFP. Insecurity has also affected the planned pre-harvest seasonal monitoring rapid assessment, led by the Ministry of Agriculture. To date only one team, consisting of WFP, Ministry of Agriculture, CHF International and Relief International (RI) in Kabkabiya, has been able to conduct the exercise.

- (g) El Geneina: Overall, the security situation continues to be unfavourable for humanitarian operations with decreased mobility and increased inaccessibility due to incidents of insecurity. Indeed, the situation is reported to be deteriorating with little hope of improvement in the short or medium term. The lack of security incidents against the humanitarian community this week should not be misconstrued – this is due only to lack of mobility and extreme caution.
- (h) South Sudan: Jonglei: Two demonstrations took place in Bor, Jonglei state and Juba, Bahr El Jebel during the reporting period (20-26 August). Employees of the Local Council in Bor, Jonglei demonstrated to demand for unpaid wages. Subsequently, movement of UN staff was restricted in the area. In Juba, a group of students demonstrated to demand payment of salaries for university professors. Both demonstrations were contained by the police. Lakes: A WFP vehicle was commandeered by some SPLA soldiers in an area located two kilometres from Akot Camp in Cuibet, Lakes State. WFP reported the incident to the SPLA Commander in Rumbek for investigation. Road construction engineers reported harassment of contracted workers by some SPLA soldiers at the work site in Wako, Lakes State due to perceived delays in road construction work. This subsequently resulted in the obstruction of work. WFP is addressing the matter with the Governor of Lakes state and the SPLA leadership in Rumbek. Upper Nile: The Security Level in Malakal, Upper Nile and surrounding areas was raised to Level Three, following increased tensions between some local militias and the SPLA. Restriction of movement of at night for UN staff and vehicles is currently in force. Warrap: Local authorities in Warrap state reported the displacement of about 45,000 persons to Majakliet, Thiek Thou, Lunyaker Liethnom as a result of inter-clan fighting along the eastern and western border. Verification of these IDPs has been hampered by prevailing insecurity in these areas.
- (i) Preparations continue for the emergency food security and nutrition assessment (EFSNA) and field visits are scheduled to start on 2 September, although the current security situation may well limit or delay access.
- (j) Nyala: A total of 1,889 tons of mixed relief commodities were dispatched to various locations in both South and West Darfur during the reporting period. Deliveries were completed in Mosey-B, Karere/Sakley, Al Salam, Otash Sector A to D, Otash New Site, Khor Abashi, Kurunjee and Kas. Dispatches are in progress to Gereida, Hasa Hisa (Zalingi) and Al Karanik (Zallingi). Insecurity continues to hamper deliveries in some locations.
- (k) El Fasher: Dispatches during the week amounted to 2,151 tons, benefiting 148,651 beneficiaries. These figures bring the cumulative monthly totals to 7,215 tons (64 percent of the planned monthly tonnage) targeting 444,918 beneficiaries.

- (l) El Geneina: As of 26 August, the cumulative monthly dispatch to various locations in the state was 3,843 tons of assorted food commodities, representing 111 percent of the month's requirement and benefiting over 208,000 beneficiaries. Of this amount, 393 tons was for pre-positioning purposes in Mornie and Habila warehouses for September distribution. During the reporting week, a total of 395 tons was dispatched to 14,284 beneficiaries. Current stocks in all El Geneina warehouses are reported to be sufficient for September requirements. Although a possible shortfall was indicated for October, this is expected to be minimised by the 1,065 tons of various food commodities on diverted trucks now arriving from Nyala (South Darfur) and El Fasher (North Darfur).
- (m) South Sudan: WFP dispatched 1,230 tons of food to South Sudan of which 1,140 tons were delivered by road (945 tons from El Obeid, North Kordofan and 195 tons from Lokichoggio, Kenya) while 90 tons was dispatched by air from Lokichoggio to different locations in Lakes, Upper Nile and Western Bahr El Ghazal states. Additionally, the WFP fleet in South Sudan transported about 274 tons of food commodities from the following hubs; Wau, Western Bahr El Ghazal, Rumbek, Lakes and Malakal, Upper Nile.
- (n) Nyala: On 23 August, a joint team from WFP and World Vision completed a headcount and registration exercise in Yara, consisting of eleven villages. The total population was 5,160 individuals. The aim of the headcount was to ascertain possible intervention under the Food for Seeds Protection programme. The Mukjar Field Office, in conjunction with CARE International, registered 3,000 beneficiaries considered to be the most vulnerable in Garsilla. Assistance will be provided to cover three months rations commencing this month. The Food for Education programme has been relaunched for the academic year 2006-2007. Tearfund, in collaboration with SUDO (Sudan Social Development Organisation), completed the first phase of the blanket supplementary feeding activity for 6,679 children in El Firdos and Abu Matariq (El Daein). Meanwhile, the second phase of blanket supplementary feeding was conducted during the week in El Neem, Khor Omer and El Firdos.
- (o) El Fasher: Distributions are ongoing in Zamzam and Abu Shouk Camps and in the Tawilla area of El Fasher. In Kabkabiya locality, distribution was completed in Saraf Omra.
- (p) El Geneina: Under General Food Distribution (GDF), WFP and Save the Children US distributed a total of 212 tons of assorted food commodities to 13,275 beneficiaries in Mornie Camp. No distributions took place this week under GFD in El Geneina or Kulbus, as August rations were distributed during the previous reporting week and in July respectively.
- (q) South Sudan: WFP distributed about 2,740 tons of food to some 20,870 beneficiaries in Southern Sudan during the reporting week; about 180 tons of food was distributed to 42,750 beneficiaries in Warrap and Northern Bahr El Ghazal States; 90 tons to 7,060 beneficiaries in Jonglei; 240 tons to 16,460 beneficiaries in Upper Nile; 600 tons to 39,900 beneficiaries in Lakes; 430 tons to 32,720 beneficiaries in Western Bahr El Ghazal, 650 tons to 59,390 beneficiaries in Unity, 470 tons to 18,940 beneficiaries in Central Equatoria and 80 tons to 6,000 beneficiaries in Eastern Equatoria.
- (r) WFP delivered 18 tons of food to 322 patients in three health centres in Lakes state run by the Diocese of Rumbek (DOR), Baptist mission and Norwegian Red Cross. Some two tons of food was delivered to World Vision International (WVI) supplementary feeding centres in Ajiép and Lunyaker, Northern Bahr El Ghazal to benefit 530 beneficiaries.
- (s) Another 2 tons of food was delivered in support of school feeding activities in Agangrial, Cuiebet County, Lakes run by (DOR) to benefit 329 primary school children. Some 19 tons of food was delivered to Save the Children-UK and Amurt for about 2,400 children

in five primary schools in Northern Bahr El Ghazal. In addition, 596 primary schools children received about 3 tons of food at Barurud rural primary schools, Western Bahr el Ghazal run by Hope Agency for Relief and Development (HARD). About 90 tons was allocated to AMURT-Switzerland to support the construction of six schools in Aweil East involving about 615 participants. In addition, three food-for-work projects around Mabior, Jonglei, implemented by CARE International, received about 29 tons of food to assist 303 persons participating in excavating culverts and road rehabilitation.

- (t) South Sudan Rehabilitation and Relief Commission (SSRRC) alerted the humanitarian agencies of the deteriorating food security situation of returnees in Aweil East, Northern Bahr El Ghazal. An inter-agency rapid assessment is underway to verify the situation.
- (u) WFP distributed 372 tons to 26,615 returnees in South Sudan; 229 tons to 15,464 returnees in Western Bahr El Ghazal; 5 tons to 384 returnees in Lakes; 59 tons to 4,315 returnees in Warrap and Northern Bahr El Ghazal; 70 tons to 5,746 returnees in Unity and; 9 tons to 706 returnees in Eastern Equatoria. In Western Bahr El Ghazal, 51 returnees who arrived from Khartoum were verified and registered by SSRRC. WFP provided about 3 tons of food to cover their three-month requirements.
- (v) WFP plans to participate in an inter-agency mission to assess the needs of displaced populations in Mvolo and Mundri East counties, Western Equatoria. The inter-agency assessment, is led by OCHA with the participation of UNMIS, UNICEF, SSRRC, and NPA.
- (w) East Sudan: A total of 233 Eritrean asylum seekers arrived at Wad Sharefey reception camp in Kassala during the reporting week. WFP provides asylum seekers with food assistance until the refugee status determination exercise is completed by UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees (COR) prior to receiving assistance in Kilo 26 camp. Additionally, some 45 Somali asylum seekers arrived from Ethiopia into Gedaref State through Lugudi/Ashira border entry point.
- (x) WFP, UNHCR, the Commission of Refugees and NGOs in Kassala have agreed on the final itinerary for the upcoming nutrition survey scheduled to take place during the first week of September.
- (y) In its efforts to strengthen coordination with government authorities, WFP met with the state Minister of Education in Red Sea state and discussed, among other issues, the implementation of school feeding activities. WFP and the Ministry will undertake joint monitoring in all new schools at the beginning of September. The Minister highlighted the significance of fulfilling obligations by the state government by providing storage/kitchen facilities in schools.
- (z) During the reporting period, WFP dispatched 148 tons of assorted commodities to the Ministry of Social Affairs local warehouses in Sinkat locality for distribution to 3,300 beneficiaries under food-for-work activities. Activities include literacy training for women, home economics, nutrition, sewing, handcrafts and textile weaving. The project aims at contributing to improving nutrition levels and health among children, raise awareness on harmful practices, boost women's self-reliance, provide knowledge in running income-generating projects and improve household food security.
- (aa) A total of 398 tons of food was distributed to 10,968 beneficiaries through food-for-recovery activities in Halaieb.
- (ab) Three Areas: A joint assessment comprising of WFP, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education commenced in Muglad area, Abyei. The assessment team, which has completed 12 schools so far, is expected to conclude the exercise next week. Assessment findings indicated an increase of 13,168 students compared with the original caseload of 9,235 students. Furthermore, there is a 37 percent increase in the total number of students enrolled in all primary and secondary schools. In the three

primary schools of Abyei area there is a 133 percent increase in enrolment. This could be attributed to the increase in the number of returnee population in Abyei. A similar assessment will be undertaken in Meiram by WFP jointly with UNICEF and Mercy Corps in the coming week.

- (ac) During the reporting week, WFP distributed 159 tons of assorted commodities to 3,593 returnees, 853 vulnerable local residents in Damazine, Blue Nile, through general food distribution. In Gaissan locality, 51 tons of food commodities were distributed to 962 returnees to cover their requirements from August through October 2006.
- (ad) A WFP school feeding programme is expected to commence in Kurmuk locality, Blue Nile State, in September after the signing of the joint Memorandum of Understanding between WFP and its Cooperating Partner. Under this project, WFP will provide 46 tons of food to a total of 3,200 pupils in 9 schools in Kurmuk to cover their requirements from September through November 2006.
- (ae) WFP, in coordination with FAO, held a consultation meeting with the Humanitarian Aid Commission in North Kordofan state and discussed the strategic plan for the food security intervention in 2007.
- (af) ADRA and IOM continue to register and provide food and non-food items to returnees at Kosti harbour in White Nile state. During the week, ADRA registered 410 persons (137 households) travelling to Malakal, Upper Nile and Juba, Bahr El Jebel.
- (ag) The nutrition survey planned to be undertaken in Kosti, White Nile by WFP and ADRA is scheduled to take place from 29 August to 2 September. The survey includes all IDP camps in Kosti and Rabak in White Nile state.
- (ah) Emergency Operation 10503.0: In 2006, WFP aimed to feed more than 6 million people in Sudan. Due to a lack of timely contributions earlier this year, WFP was forced to cut food rations by half in May in order to ensure that food stocks would not run out during the hunger season. Because of the six-month time frame to reach hungry people in remote and insecure areas in Sudan, current food supplies are now running short; WFP estimates that food stocks will completely run out in January. Contributions are required immediately to ensure that WFP will be able to deliver full rations in the first months of 2007 and preposition food in anticipation of the 2007 hunger and rainy season. With confirmed contributions of US\$ 545 million - or 73 percent of the required US\$ 746 million - WFP is facing an immediate shortfall of US\$ 200 million. Unless contributions are secured soon, WFP will be forced to reduce rations as early as October in order to stretch current stocks from January to March 2007.
- (ai) The situation is further complicated by the need to immediately begin the process of prepositioning more food before the next hungry season begins in May 2007. By prepositioning food in 2006, WFP was less reliant on expensive air drops, delivering food more efficiently and more expediently to needy people who would have normally been cut off. WFP requires donors to make additional commitments of US\$ 200 million by the end of 2006 in order to get food in the pipeline well ahead of the coming rainy season, when logistics networks get cut off.
- (aj) Humanitarian Air Service (WFP-HAS) Special Operation 10181.3: The Special Operation requirements for 2006 are US\$ 27 million of which 80 percent has so far been resourced by the EC, CHF and USAID. Additional donor support to meet the 20 per cent shortfall is vital, particularly for air operations in Darfur where air transport is often the only safe and possible means of accessing locations.
- (ak) Emergency Road Repair and Mine Clearance Special Operation 10368.0: The requirements for 2006 are almost fully funded with only a three percent shortfall following recent contributions from the Government of Sudan and the Multi Donor Trust Fund (MTDF). This is providing WFP a major opportunity to commence planned road

works under Phase III.

## **(8) Tanzania**

- (a) Between 1 and 22 August, a total of 5,511 Burundian refugees repatriated according to updated figures from UNHCR. This is by far the highest number of returnees since January, with the second highest being 2,974 returnees last month. By the end of the month, UNHCR expects the number to have increased to more than 7,000, which will be the highest since the end of October 2005. The promotion of voluntary repatriation to Burundi in June is among other reasons given for the increase. A total of 450 refugees repatriated to DR Congo as of 29 August.
- (b) As of 28 August, WFP increased the Kcal provided to refugees from 1,442 to 1,500. As a result, refugees are provided with 71 percent Kcal of the approved ration level. It is expected that WFP will continue distributing reduced rations until additional resources are contributed to WFP.
- (c) WFP has approved a project to support capacity building training on storage and reduction of post-harvest losses to village officers, NGOs and representatives from farmer associations in 16 villages in Kigoma and Kagera regions. Currently, only about 5 percent of the targeted households apply improved food storage techniques. The remaining 95 percent use unimproved methods and poor storage facilities, knowledge and capacity to manage post-harvest losses. Post-harvest losses account for about 20-30 percent of the total harvest in Tanzania. The project is funded by the UN Human Security Trust Fund for western Tanzania and will be carried out in cooperation with UNIDO. The training is expected to start next month.
- (d) General food distribution covers 331,907 registered refugees. During the past week (24 - 30 August), WFP distributed 1,034 tons of food through general distribution, supplementary and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. Around 5,700 food insecure and otherwise vulnerable Tanzanians in 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-training and vulnerable feeding.
- (e) An estimated shortfall of 24,639 tons (US\$ 13.4 million) exists up to the end of June 2007.

## **(9) Uganda**

- (a) The Government of Uganda (GoU) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) have agreed to cease hostilities, effective 29 August 2006, following a truce that was signed on 26 July in Juba, Southern Sudan. As a result, the Uganda People's Defence Forces have halted military operations against the LRA in northern Uganda and Southern Sudan. Furthermore, the GoU has guaranteed the LRA safe passage to two assembly points in Southern Sudan.
- (b) The food security situation in the Karamoja region remains worrying and requires close monitoring. Following relatively good rains in August, the crop is recovering from the July dry spell. Recovery will only be complete if the rains continue through September and October. An estimated 950,000 people are at risk and about 500,000 may be in need of food assistance in 2007 should the rains fail in September/October. The Greater Horn of Africa (GHA) Climate Outlook forum is expected to provide a forecast for the September-December rains which will provide the basis for WFP's decision making on contingency planning and programming. There is concern about the vulnerable population, mainly in the urban centres who do not engage in much agriculture and are not gainfully employed by virtue of their vulnerability. They will require immediate assistance.

- (c) UNDP led an inter-agency early recovery assessment in six parishes in Aloi sub-county, Lira district from 24-28 August 2006. The voluntary movement of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the camps to the villages continues in Lira district owing to improved security and search for better access to land.
- (d) A WHO mission visited Adjumani district on 23 August to follow-up progress on cholera containment. The mission visited WFP sub office (SO) to clarify items sponsored by WFP in containing cholera to avoid double funding. Pakelle SO continues to provide food support to cholera patients admitted at the cholera treatment centre in Ciforo Health Centre. Cumulative deaths stand at 13 and infections increased to 134 persons.
- (e) Seed distributions were completed in all new IDP settlements. A total of 2,814 households from five camps (Labongo-ogali, Guruguru, Minakulu St. Thomas, Minakulu Okwi and Oroko) benefited from 25 tons of seeds. At the Labora seed multiplication site, 20 acres were planted with maize and beans while 4 acres were planted with sesame.
- (f) WFP food distribution continues to reach 1.45 million displaced persons, 165,000 refugees and other vulnerable persons. During the past week, WFP distributed 3,239 tons of food assistance to 306,213 persons including IDPs sheltering in camps in Gulu, Pader, Kitgum and Lira districts, refugees, children in nutrition centres and other vulnerable persons.

**(D) West Africa:** (1) Cote d'Ivoire (2) Liberia (3) Niger

**(1) Cote d'Ivoire**

- (a) Ahead of the summit in New York between key stake holders in the Ivorian conflict and the UN on the 15 September, arguments over the status of the current political regime after October 31 continue to make headway in Côte d'Ivoire.
- (b) During the reporting period (23–29 August), the security situation remained relatively calm all over the country except in the western region of Man. Ethnic tensions and clashes between the indigenous Guéré community and the Burkinabès in villages along the highway between Duekoué and Bangolo, in the buffer zone held by ONUCI, led to the displacement of 120 families and wounded 2 women. UN agencies including WFP and international NGOs are looking into helping them with immediate needs.
- (c) The 201 families in Fengolo who abandoned their farms and plantations due to fear of reprisal caused by the disappearance of 6 persons in June will be included in the WFP/FAO joint vegetable garden program beginning in September. WFP will also assist them with food for work (FFW) rations for a period of three months. During the reporting period, WFP Sub-Office in Guiglo distributed 109 tons of assorted food commodities to 6,790 internally displaced persons in the camp of CATD.
- (d) Preparations of the in-depth assessment to prepare the 2007/2008 protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) in Côte d'Ivoire are underway.
- (e) As of August 29, 2006, the regional PRRO (Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Mali) has received a total of US\$ 35.1 million against the operational needs of US\$ 50.1 million (29.7% shortfall or US\$ 14.9 million against operational requirements). Additional funding is urgently needed as serious pipeline breaks are occurring in October and November. 5,200 tons of assorted food commodities are urgently needed to fill in the gap.

**(2) Liberia**

- (a) The general security situation over the reporting period (21-27 August) remained calm but volatile due to criminal activities. Torrential rains continue to damage roads and

bridges, posing logistics challenges to humanitarian operations in some parts of the country, especially in the south-east and north-west.

- (b) The regular UNHCR voluntary repatriation of Liberian returnees continued during the reporting period. WFP distributed a total of 66 tons of food to some 1,967 returnees at different distribution centers located in Montserrado, Bong, Bomi, Capemount, Gbarpolu, Grand Gedeh and Lofa counties. As of 25 August over 90% of the total returnees repatriated by UNHCR (78,000 people) had received their four month resettlement food package in full.
- (c) During the reporting period, WFP and partners distributed a total of 97 tons of food to 6,285 beneficiaries in support of food for work and food for training activities in the various counties. A total of 774 tons of food was dispatched during the reporting period to various WFP sub-offices and partner warehouses in continuation of the August distribution circle
- (d) The WFP Liberia operation (West Africa Costal PRRO 10064.3) still has a total food shortfall of 4,705 tons valued at US\$ 3.6 million over the next six months. Major food shortfalls affecting all commodities are expected to start in January 2007. Additional pledges and resources are needed to avert shortfalls of 3,060 tons of cereals, 180 tons of pulses, 596 tons of corn-soya blend, and 251 tons of salt and 71 tons of sugar, from August through January 2007.

### **(3) Niger**

- (a) Niger experienced abundant rainfall over recent weeks resulting in flooded fields in some regions. Appreciable levels of rainfall will need to continue throughout the planting season to ensure crops reach full maturity. Of the 3.8 million people who are food insecure, the highest rates of food insecurity are in the regions of Dosso, Tahoua and Tillaberi.
- (b) So far since the beginning of 2006, a total of 23,132 tons of food have been dispatched by WFP, reaching a total of 1.7 million beneficiaries.
- (c) On 25 August WFP and the Government of Niger launched targeted free food distributions in line with the current National Food Security Mechanism (NFSM) plan of action to address the situation of the 1.8 million people who are severely food insecure. At least 650,000 people will benefit from two rounds of distributions totalling 16,000 tons. Half the food is being provided by WFP. 200,000 people not covered by targeted distributions are benefiting from the restocking or creation of village cereal banks.
- (d) Food distributions started within a blanket supplementary feeding operation for 234,000 children under 3 years old in the most remote areas of Tahoua, Zinder and Maradi regions. WFP is undertaking the distributions in collaboration with UNICEF and NGO partners.
- (e) Following heavy rains and floods in the department of Bilma (Agadez), WFP organised food distributions (30 tons) to assist 200 affected households.
- (f) From 2-21 August, WFP collaborated with CILSS and FEWS NET to produce a report on the socio-economic impact of avian influenza in Niger.
- (g) The resourcing level of the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) amounts to a total of US\$ 29.08 million, representing 77% of the PRRO requirements and 41,471 tons of food aid. The resourcing level of the country program amounts to US\$ 22.39 million representing 57% of its total requirements. A budget revision is currently underway in order to introduce a new activity (discharge ration) and accommodate an increase in commodity requirements.

### **(E) Southern Africa: (1) Angola (2) Lesotho (3) Madagascar (4) Malawi (5) Mozambique (6)**

Namibia (7) Swaziland (8) Zambia (9) Zimbabwe

### **(1) Angola**

- (a) In Angola, the annual FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission report noted that cereal production had declined by 15.5 percent from last year, to about 742,000 tons, mainly as a result of poor rainfall distribution. As a result, the country will experience a cereal deficit of approximately 843,000 tons. According to key informants, the maize harvest in the center and south ranged between 40 percent and 70 percent of normal. Additionally, some sources indicate that only 20 percent of households are expecting a harvest from the drought-resistant crops planted as a hedge against failed maize and bean crops. The mission noted that despite the progress registered in the country's food security over the past few years, returning refugees and IDPs are among the most food insecure groups. It is generally accepted that rural households in vulnerable districts will exhaust their household maize stocks by September. There is an expectation that there will be a sharp increase in the numbers of malnourished children of less than five years of age. Other vulnerable groups include female-headed households, HIV/AIDS patients and their dependants, as well as the elderly. Approximately 800,000 persons will require some assistance until the next harvest in May 2007.

### **(2) Lesotho**

- (a) From 4-28 August 2006, WFP and Cooperating Partners provided food to 75,778 people. Beneficiaries were participants in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, mother and childcare, orphans and other vulnerable children's programmes, vulnerable group feeding and Food-for-Work and Food-for-Assets projects.
- (b) Mid-year crop reviews indicate that this year's grain harvest is about 6 percent higher than last year. Lesotho produced 133,000 tons of cereals, which together with carryover stocks, amounts to about 155,000 tons of available cereal compared with a domestic consumption need of 383,000 tons. However, vulnerability remains widespread among the country's poorest.
- (c) Heavy snow continued in the highlands areas of Maseru, Mafeteng, Mohale's Hoek, Thaba-Tseka, Mokhotlong and Qacha's Nek during August. According to the Disaster Management Authority, 13 people and approximately 1,000 animals have died due to the extreme weather.

### **(3) Madagascar**

- (a) The early warning system covering southern Madagascar reveals the prolonged dry spell in 22 counties of the southern province of Tulear is affecting over 300,000 people. According to the Africa Weather Hazards Benefits Assessment, rainfall was dramatically reduced during late February and March, resulting in the development of drought and crop losses across the region. The situation is not expected to improve until rains begin in late 2006. Repeated floods in the coastal areas during 2005, recent insect infestation, cyclones and now drought have caused food security to deteriorate steadily. WFP is closely monitoring the situation.

### **(4) Malawi**

- (a) The country recorded its best harvest in five years, with an estimated surplus of 500,000 tons of cereal from a total harvest of 2.6 million tons. However, a number of isolated areas had a poor season and household access to food will be undermined by low incomes. In addition, last year's poor harvest eroded many household assets, as families were reduced to selling possessions to buy food.

- (b) The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) estimates that about 833,000 people will not have adequate access to food, while the situation for a further 147,800 people will need to be watched until the next harvest; worsening economic conditions such as high maize prices will also push the 'watch' population below their needs. The affected people will need roughly 57,300 tons of cereals to meet their annual requirements. While Malawi may not need to import maize this year, there is an urgent need for markets to function to their full potential in moving food from surplus to deficit areas.

#### **(5) Mozambique**

- (a) The mid-year Vulnerability Assessment Committee (VAC) report on food security and vulnerability indicates food security and nutrition improved substantially after the mid-year harvest, and the need for food aid should drop by 30 percent among non-critical vulnerable groups. However, the MVAC stressed that the availability of maize does not guarantee food security given regional differences in production, and that at the household level, local pockets of food and nutritional insecurity will occur from October 2006 onwards. The country produced 2.3 million tons of cereal including carryover stock compared with a national requirement of 2.6 million tons. WFP is currently feeding a monthly average of 500,000 beneficiaries

#### **(6) Namibia**

- (a) The first community household survey (CHS) to be conducted by WFP in Namibia started in mid-July; the report is expected to be released in September. The CHS will collect livelihood and food security data from approximately 600 households (including non-WFP beneficiaries). This exercise will also serve as a baseline for the food assistance programme.

#### **(7) Swaziland**

- (a) Unlike other countries in the region, Swaziland saw a decreased maize harvest this year. Results of the mid-year vulnerability assessment exercise indicate that cereal production declined compared with 2005, primarily due to poor and unevenly distributed rainfall and the impact of HIV/AIDS on the country's most vulnerable population. Production and carryover stock totaled about 81,000 tons of cereal compared with a consumption requirement of 195,000 tons. Chronic food insecurity persists throughout the country owing to declining income-earning opportunities and remittances, high levels of unemployment and HIV/AIDS prevalence. WFP is feeding about 200,000 people a month, targeting HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and mother-and-child health clinics, programmes for orphans and other vulnerable children, and primary school-feeding.

#### **(8) Zambia**

- (a) The agricultural season was generally good with widespread rainfall, despite the late onset of rains in parts of the north and east. In some low-lying areas, excessive rains adversely affected crops. Nonetheless, cereal production increased by 64 percent over last year's production. Together with carryover stock, the country broke even with consumption needs at approximately 1.6 million tons. However, a current concern is the high volume of maize sales by rural households at very low prices due to their immediate need for cash and the limited marketing options. Despite this year's improved crop production, household food security will continue to be impacted by HIV/AIDS. WFP's current assistance is reaching 450,000 people a month.

#### **(9) Zimbabwe**

- (a) According to WFP field reports, some households in the eastern and south-eastern districts are rapidly exhausting their cereal stocks. Households are reducing the number of meals and meal proportions as a coping mechanism to preserve their limited supplies. Reports from Bulawayo urban indicate unavailability of maize grain and maize meal due to the lack of maize grain distributions by the Grain Marketing Board (GMB, the state-owned supplier of commercial maize) for the past two weeks. However, limited quantities can be obtained on the parallel market at a 25 percent price increase compared to mid-August.
- (b) In August, approximately 800,000 food insecure people will benefit from WFP targeted programmes. Interventions include assistance for mobile and vulnerable persons, home-based care for the chronically ill, support for orphans and vulnerable children, school feeding and family child health and nutrition support. New pledges of some 80,000 tons in priority commodities are urgently required to meet anticipated shortfalls during the period of September 2006 through July 2007. Without these pledges WFP will have to further reduce programme coverage in the coming months.

**(F) Asia:** (1) Afghanistan (2) Myanmar (3) Timor Leste

**(1) Afghanistan**

- (a) The security situation has remained volatile, particularly in the southern, south-eastern and eastern regions. Coalition and government military operations against insurgents continued in the south resulting in the movement of civilian populations to safer areas.
- (b) From 24 to 30 August WFP assisted 156,700 people with 3,060 tons of food across the country. In response to the drought emergency, WFP distributed 1,570 tons of mixed commodities to 42,400 affected individuals in the southern and northern parts of the country.
- (c) For the Government-UN joint drought appeal launched in July 2006, WFP has so far received contributions totalling US\$ 32 million, equivalent to 53,000 tons of mixed commodities, against the appeal of US\$ 49.9 million (81,000 tons of food).
- (d) On 24 August, authorities in Helmand province appealed for emergency assistance for nearly 3,000 displaced households. In response, WFP started the delivery of 260 tons of food to the targeted internally placed persons (IDPs) who have settled in Lashkargah, the capital of Helmand.
- (e) Due to the deteriorating security in Ghazni province, food assistance could not be delivered in three of the four flood-affected districts. Due to threats of insurgent attacks, WFP was only able to distribute 16 tons of the 68 tons of food committed for Jaghuri district. WFP is in consultation with the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) to find ways for a secure and timely distribution in these insecure areas.
- (f) In the northern city of Mazari Sharif, WFP assisted 26,000 drought and flood affected people with 1,310 tons of food.

**(2) Myanmar**

- (a) WFP and UNHCR Myanmar have signed a joint plan of action in Yangon.
- (b) A FAO and WFP joint food insecurity and vulnerability information mapping system (FIVIMS) team arrived on 24 August to undertake a three month mission.
- (c) A pilot nutrition project at the early childhood care and development centres has started with nutrition education, blended food preparation demonstrations and food distribution in the northern and southern Shan states.
- (d) Under the emergency operation (EMOP) 10345.1, a total of 420 tons of rice was

dispatched to sub-offices for food for work (FFW), food for training (FFT), food for education (FFE) and vulnerable group feeding (VGF). Under the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10066.2, a total of 391 tons of rice was dispatched to Maungdaw and Magway sub-offices during the reporting period (17–30 August).

- (e) The EMOP is currently 71% resourced and the PRRO resources stand at 78%, hence there are still unmet resource needs up to the end of the year.

### **(3) Timor Leste**

- (a) There was another upsurge in violence during the reporting period (11-24 August). Some offices and vehicles belonging to international organizations, including the UN, were subject to isolated attacks of rock throwing. Despite the spike in violence, WFP operations were unaffected during the reporting period. The outlook for the near term is less than optimistic. With the drawdown of the international military forces, the international police are struggling to contain the violence in Dili.
- (b) UNOTIL's mandate was extended to 25 August, after the Security Council postponed by a week a decision on how to restructure the UN Mission in Timor-Leste.
- (c) High level political pressure is mounting for the immediate closure of certain IDP camps in Dili and the early shut down of others. WFP and other UN agencies are working closely with the Government on its Simu Malu program to ensure that the return and re-integration of IDPs is done on a voluntary basis and within a reasonable timeframe.
- (d) A total of 1,273 tons in emergency food assistance has been provided to some 158,309 beneficiaries since early June 2006. From August 11-24, WFP dispatched 60 tons of rice, 45 tons of mung beans and 12 tons of vegetable oil to Aileu, Oecussi, Manatuto and Ermera districts.
- (e) In August-September 2006, WFP will provide supplementary feeding to an estimated 3,239 pregnant women, 2,932 lactating women, and 15,383 children under the age of 5 in the six districts of Ainaro, Baucau, Bobonaro, Cova Lima, Liquica and Oecussi. From August 11-24, 28 tons of CSB and 2 tons each of oil and sugar were dispatched to Bobonaro and Ainaro districts for the mother-and-child health (MCH) program.
- (f) During the first half of the 2006 academic year starting September, WFP-assisted school feeding activities are expected to cover 60,670 primary school children in 237 schools across the seven districts of Ainaro, Baucau, Bobonaro, Cova Lima, Dili-Atauro, Liquica and Oecussi.
- (g) There will be a rice shortfall of 191 tons in September and 5,684 tons over the November 2006 - February 2007 period. The pipeline for beans will break in November, with a shortfall of 283 tons. During the November 2006 - February 2007 period, there will be a beans shortfall of 680 tons. The protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) in Timor-Leste is now 78.8% resourced.
- (h) The emergency food security assessment (EFSA) in 12 of Timor-Leste's 13 districts (except Dili) has begun and is expected to be completed on 4 September.

### **(G) Latin America and Caribbean: (1) Bolivia (2) Ecuador (3) Guatemala**

#### **(1) Bolivia**

- (a) During the reporting period (15-30 August), forest fires affected large extensions of the lowlands, but were suffocated by recent rains. Assessment missions did not report needs for food aid.
- (b) 56 tons of food have been distributed to 970 families in the Department of Santa Cruz, Municipalities of Cuatro Cañadas, Pailón, Okinawa and San Julián.

- (c) The shortage of diesel supply in the country and a transport strike affected WFP operations, forcing an interruption of food distributions of the Country Programme.
- (d) A joint mission between WFP and some donor representatives was carried out to the floods affected areas in Santa Cruz. It was confirmed that the families that returned to their communities are facing a high risk of new floods since the Rio Grande River is still diverted. The mission also confirmed that vast areas and many towns are still covered with the sediments brought by the river. Hence, this land can not be cultivated in the next 4-5 years.
- (e) WFP has initiated food for work (FFW) activities with the families that returned to their communities.
- (f) 57% of the total needs of the emergency operation (EMOP) have been funded. Pipeline breaks are expected to initiate in November 2006.

## **(2) Ecuador**

- (a) According to the National Geophysical Institute of Ecuador the seismic activity of the Tungurahua has been low during the past days. Lava flows however, have been registered at the northwest flank of the volcano and descended through Cusúa and La Hacienda rifts. The threat of a new eruption remains high and the volcano continues to be thoroughly monitored. The provinces of Tungurahua, Chimborazo, and Bolívar remain under UN security phase 1.
- (b) The Government of Ecuador continues to assist the affected areas, especially shelters. The emergency is also being addressed with national resources with the support of the United Nations and international humanitarian aid organizations.
- (c) The WFP Country Office in Ecuador will respond through an immediate response emergency operation (IR-EMOP) to assist 5,000 families for a period of 3 months, from 1 September until 30 November 2006. The food aid will primarily fulfill the needs of families who are being hosted in temporary shelters, as they lost all means of subsistence at the moment. It will alleviate their economic situation and allow them to direct remaining resources towards rehabilitation of productive assets.
- (d) As a decision of the UNCT and taking into account the cooperation agreements of each UN agency with the government, the UN and the other relief organizations are working according to the cluster approach. WFP continues to lead and coordinate with local authorities and COEs regarding food security and food assistance.

## **(3) Guatemala**

- (a) During the last UN Disaster Management Team meeting, WFP was proposed and agreed upon as the leader of the UN Emergency Technical Team.
- (b) As a follow up to the WFP Contingency Plan for Guatemala, three portable warehouses (500 tons capacity each) have been purchased. These warehouses will be pre-positioned in case of emergencies in Retalhuleu, Santa Rosa and Huehuetenango and will be managed by WFP.
- (c) Food for work (FFW) requests are being prepared for the Departments of Huehuetenango, Jutiapa, Quetzaltenango, El Quiche and Totonicapan. FFW distributions will take place during the next week in San Marcos, Solola and Chimaltenango.
- (d) A total of 128 tons of food were dispatched for emergency operation (EMOP) distributions in temporary shelters in the department of San Marcos.
- (e) The EMOP 10497 continues with a 31.8% shortfall with US\$ 9,610,428 received in contributions from the US \$14,095,271 requested in October 2005.

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

**WFP Weekly Emergency Report**

The WFP Weekly Emergency Report can be obtained at [www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org)

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