

World Food Programme Emergency Report 2006
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(A) Highlights

- (a) Lebanon - on Wednesday 26 July, WFP organized the first UN convoy consisting of ten trucks to the southern port city of Tyre. The convoy carried 90 tons of WFP wheat flour contributed by the Lebanese Government and other essential relief items provided by UNICEF, WHO and UNWRA. To date, WFP has delivered 255 tons of food commodities (wheat flour, canned meat, Veg. Oil, High Energy Biscuits) to south Lebanon, supplying the following locations: Tyre, Jezzine, Saida, Qana and Tebnine.
- (b) In Geneina, Sudan, 582,680 beneficiaries have received food through general food distribution, which represents 99 per cent of the July target.
- (c) In Ethiopia, flooding of the upper basin of Awash River in Oromiya region affects some 13,000 people. The flood has so far affected 13 districts in Oromiya region.
- (d) Southern Africa - results of the latest 2006 national food security and vulnerability assessment show that despite better harvests across southern Africa, more than three million people would remain short of food because of localized food shortages caused by chronic vulnerability, poverty and the world's highest rates of HIV/AIDS.

(B) Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe: (1) Lebanon (2) occupied Palestinian territories (3) Russian Federation (Caucasus) (4) Syria (5) Tajikistan

(1) Lebanon

- (a) Lebanon has been subject to sustained, heavy shelling and air strikes since 12 of July, particularly targeting southern Lebanon, southern suburbs of Beirut and the Beqaa Valley. On 17 July, the Prime Minister called for a cease-fire, declared the country a disaster zone and appealed to the international community for humanitarian assistance.
- (b) A humanitarian crisis has escalated rapidly as people have been cut off and deprived of their normal means of subsistence with the widespread destruction of both private and public infrastructure, including resident quarters, hospitals, schools, road network, water supplies, bridges, fuel storage, airports, main seaports and food storage and production sites. Air strikes have led to a halt in trade and movement of goods, with skyrocketing

prices as a result, making it impossible to secure essential supplies such as medicine and food.

- (c) Security Phase IV (emergency operations only) remains across the country. As of 31 July, the Government of Lebanon reports that 784 people have been killed and 3,240 people injured. The government also reports 787,649 internally displaced. The majority of the displaced continue to be located in Beirut, Tyre (Sur), Sidon (Saida), the Chouf mountains, and the Alea region. About 150,000 fled to Syria.
- (d) In response to the crisis, the UN launched a Flash Appeal on Monday 24 July, requesting close to US\$ 150 million to provide shelter, food, water, sanitation and medicine to the 800,000 people worst affected by the conflict over the next three months. The humanitarian relief organizations face enormous challenges in reaching vulnerable populations and civilians fleeing war-affected areas.
- (e) The outline of the Humanitarian Operational Plan for Lebanon has been circulated to Cluster Heads to define operational plans for the next two months based on five main projected scenarios. Clusters will define what the priority activities, locations; target population and resource requirements would be for each scenario. The plan will be completed by the end of the week.
- (f) WFP approved a preparedness Emergency Operation on 18 July to allow for an initial team to be deployed to Beirut to assess the emergency food needs and logistics requirements. The initial assessment estimated 260,000 people in Lebanon, and another 50,000 Lebanese refugees in Syria, to be in need of food aid support for three months.
- (g) On 23 July, WFP launched a regional Emergency Operation (10537) to provide the food support, and three separate Special Operations to provide logistic and ICT support to the humanitarian community in Lebanon. WFP has established an office in Beirut and a support structure has been setup in Syria, including logistics facilities. Over 60 national and international staff and 17 stand-by partner staff have already been deployed to Lebanon and Syria.
- (h) The regional Emergency Operation (10537.0 - Food Assistance to Lebanese affected by conflict) aims to provide 10,605 tons of food to 260,000 people displaced within Lebanon, and 50,000 Lebanese seeking refuge in Syria. Food assistance is targeted to IDPs hosted in public buildings and with host families and people in communities who have been cut-off. No accurate figures exist yet on the number of people who have been cut off in South Lebanon because of the conflict. As the conflict continues, people are moving on a daily basis. In Syria, people sheltered in public institutions are assisted.
- (i) Due to the worsening situation, WFP is planning to expand the Emergency Operation to reach 500,000 internally displaced persons in Lebanon. WFP is coordinating its assistance closely with the other partners, in particular ICRC, who also provide food assistance to displaced population.
- (j) WFP is also managing three Special Operations on behalf of the United Nations to facilitate the supply of all humanitarian relief materials to areas in Lebanon. WFP, on behalf of the UN, is providing all logistic facilities to the humanitarian community, which includes: a) The establishment of supply routes into Lebanon through Beirut international airport, Ports of Tripoli, Beirut, Tyre and across the El Aarida border; b) Inside Lebanon, deliveries of humanitarian relief materials carried by a WFP managed UN fleet (including up to 100 short haul trucks); c) Deliveries to offloading points made by UN escorted and managed truck convoys and handed over to NGOs – state institutions; d) Lebanese army and Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) are informed of each convoy's details a minimum of 18 hours ahead of departure. WFP has established a consolidation hub in Cyprus for sea movements and El-Aarida hub in Syria for surface

movements.

- (k) On Wednesday 26 July, WFP organized the first UN convoy consisting of ten trucks to the southern port city of Tyre. The convoy carried 90 tons of WFP wheat flour contributed by the Lebanese Government and other essential relief items provided by UNICEF, WHO and UNWRA. The commodities and goods were received and distributed to IDPs by the local municipalities. Since then, WFP, on behalf of the UN, has successfully organized 9 convoys. Two more convoys were planned for 3 August. Due to the security situation, and limited access, the delivery of relief supplies has been severely restricted to date.
- (l) To date, WFP has delivered 255 tons of food commodities (wheat flour, canned meat, Veg. Oil, High Energy Biscuits) to south Lebanon, supplying the following locations: Tyre, Jezzine, Saida, Qana and Tebnine. Distributions are currently being implemented through municipalities. These convoys have delivered food for an estimated 80,000 people for one week. As of 3rd August 2006, 1,820 tons of food commodities are available in-country. Another 2,734 tons of commodities have been procured and will be available around 10 August.
- (m) WFP established the first and only international land crossing at Arida for regular aid shipments into Lebanon from Syria with a convoy carrying UNICEF and UNHCR relief items.
- (n) The humanitarian situation continues to further deteriorate. Therefore, needs assessments will be carried out in the North and the South of Lebanon simultaneously as soon as safe access is secured. The UN flash appeal will be revised based on update and more in-depth assessments.

(2) occupied Palestinian territories

- (a) The overall security situation in Israel is highly precarious linked to the hostilities in the North. Security; phase 2 was established for Jerusalem and phase 3 in Northern Israel. There are mounting fears of attacks on Tel Aviv
- (b) The Israeli military operation ("summer rain") continues in Gaza. During the reporting period (1-31 July), Israeli forces re-entered in the South of the Gaza Strip and aerial attacks and hostilities continued. The continued escalation with Lebanon on Israel's northern border threatens to affect the security of the whole region and the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) in particular. WFP remains extremely concerned about the high livelihood and food security impacts on the population.
- (c) Seven field trips to Northern, Eastern and Southern Gaza were cancelled in Gaza due to security constraints. Access for international and national staff remains difficult through Erez (passenger crossing between Gaza and Israel) owing to the security procedures. Recent military operations in the area of Erez have prevented all but emergency humanitarian cases from crossing in the past few days.
- (d) Since 20 July the IDF imposed a total external closure on the West Bank due to a high security alert. During the reporting period, WFP signed a local MOU with UNICEF. This will be the entry point in enhancing nutrition surveillance in oPt (leading to the establishment of a nutritional surveillance system).
- (e) WFP has started to increase the number of targeted beneficiaries (West Bank and Gaza Strip) to respond to the increased needs. WFP has brought in 4,097 tons of food to Gaza.
- (f) Under the general food distribution, some 29,382 beneficiaries received some 936 tons of WFP food commodities in the North West Bank. WFP and MSA have agreed to conduct an emergency distribution to 6,400 beneficiaries in the northern governorates of the West Bank. Through food-for-work activities, 71,226 beneficiaries received 905

tons of WFP food in July.

- (g) In the Gaza Strip, 100% of food-for-work/training participants in all five governorates completed the required activities and received their allocated entitlement of food commodities of Nov 05 to June 06.

(3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)

- (a) The level of security incidents throughout the North Caucasus decreased during the reporting period (16-31 July 2006). This may have been an indirect result of the death of Shamil Basaev, as the militants paused to regroup and reconsider their options. Meanwhile in the middle of July the Russian security forces urged Chechen militants “to surrender within two weeks and return to peaceful life”. Following that, some 33 gunmen were reported to have surrendered to federal law-enforcement officers in Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia. The deteriorating situation in South Ossetia moved to centre stage as a number of neighboring republics in the North Caucasus expressed their support for the breakaway republic.
- (b) During the last week of July, VAM external experts and Moscow staff had series of meetings with different stakeholders, including UN agencies, NGOs and donors to provide an overview of the scheduled activity and also to discuss the details of the planned food security assessment.
- (c) In the second fortnight of July, WFP through its cooperating partners DRC, CHA and IR completed the 4th distribution cycle in Chechnya by delivering about 768 tons of food commodities to 76,678 beneficiaries in 4 districts of Chechnya and continued the 3rd distribution cycle through DRC by providing around 20 tons of food to 1,954 IDPs in Ingushetia.
- (d) During the reporting period, 136 participants (representing 680 beneficiaries) of WFP’s agricultural project on sugar beet-root production being implemented in 4 district of Chechnya completed the second weeding cycle. At the end of the month 249 participants (representing 1,245 beneficiaries) managed to start the third weeding cycle.
- (e) WFP released 14 tons of food commodities to support the Dining Hall where daily hot meals are provided for 1,600 most vulnerable population of Grozny city. The TB programme was continued by providing about 10 tons of food to 345 in- and outpatients in Ingushetia through WHO and about 10 tons to about 320 in- and outpatients in Chechnya through MSF-Holland.
- (f) By the end of July, donations reached about 28% of the planned requirement of US\$ 22 million. WFP has appealed for urgently needed additional funds to ensure continuity of basic food distribution to thousands of vulnerable people in Chechnya and Ingushetia.

(4) Syria

- (a) The regional Emergency Operation (10537.0 - Food Assistance to Lebanese affected by conflict) aims to provide 10,605 tons of food to 260,000 people displaced within Lebanon, and 50,000 Lebanese seeking refuge in Syria. In Syria, WFP is complementing the assistance provided by the Syrian Government
- (b) As of 3rd August 2006, some 800 tons of food commodities have been procured. Distributions to some 7,000 displaced Lebanese who are sheltered various accommodations, including schools and other public spaces started on 31 July. WFP intends to increase that number to 11,000 within the next days. Local bakeries are producing 3 tons of bread per day from WFP supplied wheat flour, which is distributed to targeted beneficiaries.

(5) Tajikistan

- (a) On Saturday 29 July, an earthquake of magnitude 5.3 on the Richter scale affected at least five settlements in Kumsangir District and Panj district close to the Afghan border. The same day, another quake (magnitude 5.4 on the Richter scale) struck at 15.57. The epicenter of this quake was 145 km South of the capital Dushanbe, and 55 km. East of Shartuuz. Three people have been reported dead, 19 injured and over 11,000 people have been affected by the quakes.
- (b) The Tajik Government has requested assistance from the UN and wider international community. Immediate needs include tents, blankets, mattresses, food, clothing, fuel, medication and other equipment. WFP conducted an assessment on 30-31 July in three villages in Qumsangir. As part of the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10231.0: Assistance to Food-Insecure Households and Recovery Operations in Tajikistan, WFP is providing some 19 tons of food assistance to over 200 severely affected households.

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

(1) Congo

- (a) During this reporting period, WFP distributed 2 tons of various food commodities to 230 beneficiaries (202 women and 28 men) suffering from HIV/AIDS.

(2) Congo, DR

- (a) Insecurity remains high in the territories of Bunyakiri, Kalehe and Shabunda (South Kivu province). Major incidents reported include the killing of four persons and the kidnapping of four others allegedly by Front Démocratique pour la Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) rebels in Kalehe. Reportedly a FDLR militia was killed after exchange of fire between the Congolese army and FDLR militias in Bunyakiri. In another incident in Shabunda, a six-year old girl was seriously injured when caught in crossfire between the Mai-Mai and Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC) forces. MONUC has announced the deployment of a mixed brigade to replace the 120th brigade of FARDC, which was always in combat with Mai-Mai troops and is also accused by the populace of committing murder and other lesser crimes. During the week, 50 Pakistani soldiers were deployed to Shabunda to take over the security of the population.
- (b) The reporting week (27 July – 2 August) was characterized by political campaigns all around the country but came to a close two days prior to elections. The long-awaited general and presidential elections in DRC finally took place on 30 July 2006. In general, the process was smooth, except for a few isolated incidents in certain areas. One such case was the looting of WFP-supplied non-food items (NFIs) from a school receiving WFP food that was used as a polling station at Mbandaka. The school was attacked by members of a political party who suspected the poll workers of accepting bribes from another candidate during the vote counting.
- (c) During the reporting period, 4,111 militias in Ituri province surrendered their arms and munitions. During discussions organized by the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) and the government, Peter Karim (Rebel Chief) affirmed that he and his men were prepared to disarm under condition that government puts the necessary logistics in place at Kpandruma to host a huge number of combatants. A cease-fire agreement was signed between the two bodies.
- (d) Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) in Ituri province reported 45,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Gethy, 60 kms south of Bunia. An inter-agency mission to Tchomia also reported the presence of 9,800 IDPs in the village.

- (e) WFP provided 184 tons of food aid through its Goma sub-office to over 21,500 vulnerable people in hospitals, nutritional programs and other activities. Meanwhile, NFIs (1,500 pots and 39,500 eating plates) for the school feeding program arrived in Goma from Nairobi, Kenya.
- (f) 102 tons of assorted food was distributed mainly to HIV/AIDS and nutrition programs by WFP Bukavu. Targeted beneficiaries were mostly situated in zones with difficult access.
- (g) Food distribution in Ituri province targeted IDPs and chronically ill persons with 43 tons of food aid. However, Bunia sub-office undertook visits to nutrition centres, hospitals and IDP camps along with WFP Public Information Officer on mission from Nairobi, Kenya.
- (h) 28 tons of food commodities were dispatched from Lubumbashi to Manono and Malemba Nkulu for IDPs in central Katanga. During the week, 16,700 children in Lubumbashi and its environs benefited from WFP food aid.

(3) Ethiopia

- (a) On July 28, flooding of the upper basin of Awash River in Oromiya region is believed to have affected some 13,000 people, though the full extent of the damage and casualties incurred is yet to be assessed. The flood has so far affected 13 districts in southwest Shewa and west Shewa zones of Oromiya region. According to reports from a WFP team deployed to the affected area this week, rescue operations started on August 1-2 and the operation was expanded with the involvement of the military using boats to rescue individuals trapped in their villages. The rescue operation is expected to continue for the next few days. A joint mission from the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Agency and Regional Bureau (DPPA/DPPB) conducted a rapid assessment of the situation on July 31. So far DPPA has dispatched 2 tons of high-energy biscuits to the affected populations, 8,800 plastic cups and plates, 1,800 blankets, 115 tents and 240 jerry cans. A temporary clinic is set up to provide service for the people being temporarily displaced. Local authorities assume that the floods will not adequately recede until the end of September. It is therefore expected that regional authorities will request additional assistance for the population in need. The affected areas are normally flood prone but the flooding happened earlier than usual this time and many residents were caught unprepared. Floods of a similar magnitude only occurred 10 years ago in this area.
- (b) For the on-going relief food distributions under the framework of the 2006 Humanitarian Appeal, transport of the 2006 sixth round of relief food allocations is currently underway. In Oromiya region, half of the month's food allocation has been dispatched so far while in Amhara and Southern Nationalities, Nations and People Region (SNNPR), 74 and 89 percent respectively of the food has been dispatched. The sixth round of food dispatches for Afar, Amhara and Gambella regions is now finalised. In Somali region, where transportation problems continue, 88 percent of the fifth round of food has been dispatched, with dispatches currently continuing in Fik, Gode and Korahe zones. Nevertheless, the sixth round of food has been dispatched to Afder and Liben zones of the same region and will be transported to the remaining zones as soon as delivery of the fifth round food has been completed. Limited transport capacities remain a problem in food deliveries in the Somali region, as well as high levels of insecurity. Military escorts therefore continue to be used for the transportation of food to these areas. The DPPA has also pre-positioned food to areas that are becoming inaccessible during the peak of the ongoing rainy season. 9,000 tons of food have been pre-positioned for relief operations and 18,000 tons are under pre-positioning for the Productive Safety Net's Programme in Amhara, SNNPR, Oromiya and Tigray regions.
- (c) Emergency food has been allocated to people affected by the Acute Watery Diarrhoea

outbreak in Shashemene and Siraro districts of west Arsi zone in Oromiya region. Food allocation have also been made for some 27,500 people displaced by the recent clashes in Borena and Gujji zone of Oromiya region, as well as for some 19,700 IDPs found in Moyale woreda of Somali region, displaced by the same conflict. All allocated food is expected to be delivered to respective sites by next week.

(4) Rwanda

- (a) The prices of staple commodities such as beans, cassava, Irish/sweet potatoes and sorghum remains very high due to the limited availability in the markets even though it is harvest season. Some parts of the country experienced rain showers but it had no implication on agricultural activities.
- (b) In the eastern province, restrictions on the sale of harvests mean that there is more food available at the household level. The end of the quarantine on cattle sales due to the foot and mouth disease has enabled pastoralists in ex-Umutara to start liquidating their assets.
- (c) In order to provide assistance during the forthcoming difficult lean period between two harvest seasons, WFP is planning with partners to initiate food-for-work projects in most food insecure districts covering activities such as crop production in marshlands, erosion control measures and feeder road rehabilitation.
- (d) WFP, UNHCR and the Ministry of Local Government in Nyabiheke camp that is hosting 4,938 refugees from DRC started food ration cards distribution in the names of household female representatives. All other refugees in Rwanda have their cards but the operation was delayed in Nyabiheke, which was only established last year.
- (e) The number of Congolese refugees currently stands at 41,092 while that of Burundians remained at 2,190.
- (f) WFP delivered 79 tons of food to Nyabiheke camp and 19 tons was distributed to 1,200 beneficiaries in Nkamira Transit camp.
- (g) 724 Rwandans (266 families) expelled from Tanzania, including 41 new arrivals, are still hosted in Kiyanzi transit camp and live in 170 temporary tents. Government authorities have so far resettled 356 people in different sectors of the country. 203 have been registered and are waiting for the next tour of resettlement. Local authorities have deployed a medical team for daily follow up of health conditions. 89 vulnerable pregnant/lactating women, 25 malnourished children, 13 HIV/AIDS as well as 10 cases of TB and malaria have been identified for special assistance. WFP has not received any further requests for food assistance after the delivery of 14 tons in June 2006. Rwanda Red Cross (RRC) is still in charge of camp management including the provision of tents, water and sanitation services. The total number of Rwandans who crossed from Tanzania stands at 1,059 out of a potential 50,000. A joint committee has now been established with Rwanda and Tanzania to address this issue in order to find a solution that would respect the rights of this Rwandan population.
- (h) A total of 96 returnees from DRC arrived at Nkamira and Nyagatare transit camps. A three-month ration totalling 5 tons was distributed before returnees were taken to their home communities. In addition, another 330 Rwandan asylum seekers arrived from Burundi. They received an extra one-month food ration given by WFP Burundi.

(5) Somalia

- (a) There was heightened tension in Somalia following the killing of a Transitional Federal Government (TFG) Minister of Constitutional and Federal Affairs and the attack on the head of the Parliamentary Constitutional Affairs Committee, who fortunately survived the attack. The attacks have caused further tension within the TFG. In addition a

massive resignation of the TFG Ministers (40 out of 102 resigned) and the narrow escape of a vote of no confidence on the TFG Prime Minister have further weakened the UN backed TFG

- (b) The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) comprising representatives from various UN agencies operational in Somalia embarked on a mission to Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia on 2 August 2006. WFP was represented by the acting Country Director. The mission met with the Council of Islamic Court Union among others and undertook an observatory assessment of the general humanitarian situation in Mogadishu and nearby areas. The mission flew into Mogadishu using the newly opened Mogadishu International Airport that has been closed for over 11 years due to the political conflict in Somalia. The United Nations Common Air Services (UNCAS) flight was used for the mission, making it one of the few planes that have landed at Mogadishu International Airport since it was reopened in late July. The last time a UN humanitarian team undertook an assessment in Mogadishu was in 2000.
- (c) The preliminary findings from the FAO/Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) led inter-agency post Gu assessment (long rains) have been presented in a workshop held in Hargesia (north east of Somalia) from 23 to 27 July. According to the preliminary report, this year's crop harvest was generally poor although some areas are believed to have performed satisfactorily. This year's harvest production is expected to be slightly better than the 2005 harvest which was adversely affected by the drought in most parts of south and central Somalia. The final report is expected by 28 August and will have more detailed information on the food security situation across Somalia and will be a useful tool for WFP in programming relief food intervention in Somalia.
- (d) The planned second and third rounds of relief food distributions have been completed across southern Somalia. In July, WFP distributed a total of 13,760 tons of assorted food commodities to 561,000 target beneficiaries. Having completed the third round distributions, WFP Somalia has begun to provisionally stop distribution of relief food in Somalia during this Gu harvest season (mid July to September 2006) as planned. However social support projects like the Selective Feeding Programme, Emergency School Feeding, Food-for-work, Food-for-assets, Food-for-training initiatives will continue to receive WFP food support.

(6) Sudan

- (a) During the reporting period (24-30 July), a level of increasing insecurity has been reported in IDP camps in South Darfur while security in the entire Darfur region remains tense with pockets of instability seriously affecting some WFP distributions. This has been seen particularly in the Jebel Moon area of West Darfur and in the northern and north-eastern regions of North Darfur. Violations of the SOFA agreement between the Government and the UN were reported in Kabkabiya in North Darfur and Buram in South Darfur. The Kabkabiya Head of Field Office has been requested, without plausible reason, to leave the location. The issue has been brought to the attention of government authorities in El Fasher and relates to that concerning the UN having to carry "travel permits.
- (b) In South Sudan, the evacuation of staff from the Cooperating partner World Vision International from Thiet to Rumbek areas on 27 July 2006 following internal disagreements has raised concerns about the potential negative impact on WFP operations in the Greater Tonj counties including food distributions to targeted populations in Thiet in August. Discussions to resolve the situation are ongoing both in Thiet and in Aweil East and South in Northern Bahr el Ghazal, which are faced with similar challenges. WFP operations in Bentiu and its surroundings in Unity State remained suspended. This follows the fierce battle that promoted the evacuation of UN

and NGO staff last week. The situation is slowly returning to normalcy as efforts to resolve the situation by UNDSS and State authorities continued. For the third week in a row, tensions in William Village in Lakes State following cattle rustling incidents are negatively impacting WFP relief and recovery activities in the area.

- (c) Despite the resumption of food assistance to the Greater Torit area in South Sudan under armed security after more than three months of suspension, renewed tensions and recent security incidents in Torit and Lafon as well as inaccessibility of the areas due to a wet airstrip raises concerns about the potential negative impact on WFP's operations in the area. So far, airdrops to Pacidi and Lafon planned for the week were suspended. Food interventions are expected to resume in Chukudum and Budi in August following re-installation of law and order by Eastern Equatoria State officials. The two areas require food interventions to bridge the hunger gap. A newly planted landmine on the Juba road at New Kenya, 90km from Kapoeta towards Torit in Eastern Equatoria heightened concerns over safety on Narus for WFP and other humanitarian organizations. Local authorities are due to assess the situation and remove the landmines. Meanwhile, in February 2006, another landmine was planted on the same road.
- (d) The security situation in Abyei remained calm. However, although the first anniversary celebrating John Garang de Mabior death's passed without incident, distributions to returnees were postponed for two days as a precaution.
- (e) Deteriorating road conditions following heavy rains restricted movement in several locations and limited WFP's relief and recovery activities in Blue Nile. Particularly, there are concerns that the Bau, Geissan, Damazine, Rosaries, Kurmuk Challi, Yabus, Wadaga and Mayak and Geissan areas, might become increasingly inaccessible and thus further limit WFP's ability to operate routinely in these areas throughout August. Damazine is considering alternative solutions to distribute the food, which is already pre-positioned in these locations.
- (f) Heavy rains continue to pound the North Kordofan region, with some of the heaviest downfalls witnessed this season occurring during the reporting period hindering monitoring of school feeding project.
- (g) On 25 July Mr Kenro Oshidari, WFP Representative for Sudan arrived in Port Sudan, accompanied by senior staff from WFP. The main purpose of the day visit to Red Sea State was to discuss the implications of the four-month suspension of WFP food distributions and access issues with government authorities (the Wali, Humanitarian Aid Commission, Military Intelligence and National Security). As a result of these discussions, upon submission of a monthly work plan access and free movement was granted by the Wali to three out of the four administrative localities of Rural Port Sudan, Halaeb and Sinkat and subsequently WFP started food dispatches in these areas on 30 July. However, WFP informed the state authorities that food deliveries to Tokar will be on hold pending further discussions with the government.
- (h) As of 30 July, the average daily dispatch from logistical hubs to the Darfur region was 1,023 tons, with a total dispatch of 30,962 tons, representing 109% of the monthly target of 27,950 tons.
- (i) Geneina: Total dispatches from Geneina to various locations in the State this reporting week is 1,391 tons. Dispatches from El-Obeid and Khartoum had to be diverted to Nyala due to seasonal rains impeding crossings of wadi Azoum. Current stocks in field warehouses remain healthy. The cumulative total dispatch for this month is 19,033 tons of which 8,179 tons was for pre-positioning. Total number of beneficiaries having received July General Food Distribution is 582,680, a figure representing 99 per cent of the July target. During the reporting period, CONCERN released the preliminary results of a nutrition survey, implemented in El Geneina in June. Results indicated that Global

Acute Malnutrition (GAM) amongst children aged 6-29 months stands at 16.4 per cent, above the emergency threshold.

- (j) Nyala: A total of 3,936 tons of mixed relief commodities were dispatched to various locations in the area of operations although some deliveries are seriously being hampered by regional insecurity. Deliveries were resumed to several locations around Nyala Town during the reporting period, however, following the receipt of vegetable oil previously in transit. WFP and ALISIE have carried out a headcount in the areas of Haskanita and Umsoona, supported by UMCOR and CORDAID. Results show a total of 26,902 individuals. On 24 July an interagency assessment was conducted of 860 households arriving in Otash camp from Tiwal camp in order to ascertain the level of humanitarian assistance needed. WFP will continue to identify and track new arrivals and monitor distributions to those beneficiaries. The Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) for Sudan is currently in Nyala. This mission aims to assess rehabilitation and transitional recovery needs with the specific objective of outlining a framework for reconstruction. Meetings were held between the mission team, UNMIS and UN agencies, including WFP, to discuss concerns and provide general input to achieving the above. An influx of IDPs were registered in Buram. Due to possible inaccessibility to the area over the next few weeks as a result of insecurity, WFP has delivered emergency rations there for thirty days. The Sudanese Red Crescent is verifying IDP movements with the intention of undertaking food distributions as soon as is possible.
- (k) El Fasher: Dispatches amounting to 2,039 tons of mixed food commodities were made during the week, of this 713 tons were for pre-positioning and 1,326 tons for direct distribution. Deliveries to El Fasher are ongoing but are limited by the already high stock positions in the town. Deliveries out of El Fasher are still reduced due to insecurity. Distribution in Kabkabya town was completed during the reporting period with 1,090 tons of food commodities delivered to 63,230 beneficiaries. General Food Distribution (GFD) for the month was completed in Kassab and Borno camps (Kutum) where 415 tons of food was distributed to 25,994 beneficiaries. Other locations under Kutum Field Office remain “no go” for distribution.
- (l) South: WFP delivered a total of 742 tons of food from El Obeid, Lokichoggio and Kosti, to locations in Warrap, Lakes, Eastern Equatoria and Jonglei states. Of the total tonnage, 193 tons was delivered from El Obeid and Lokichoggio by air, while 549 tons was being delivered by barge from Kosti. WFP distributed some 1,884 tons of food to 109,120 beneficiaries in South Sudan during the reporting week in various states including Central and Eastern Equatoria, Warrap State, Western and Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Lakes, Jonglei and Upper Nile. WFP assisted 7,740 returnees in South Sudan with a total of 171 tons of food in locations in Warrap, Jonglei, Upper Nile, Lakes, Central Equatoria and Western and Northern Bahr el Ghazal states during the week.
- (m) East: a total of 245 tons of mixed food commodities were delivered during the week to Wad Sharifey Refugee Camp for August distribution. Agricultural Seasonal Monitoring mission in Kassala: A team from WFP Khartoum visited Kassala and held a meeting with the State Ministry of Agriculture to present WFP agro-meteorological monitoring activities and highlight key areas of collaboration between the two parties. Discussions were also held with local farmers.
- (n) Three Areas: Deteriorating road conditions following heavy rains restricted movement in several locations and limited WFP’s relief and recovery activities in Blue Nile. Particularly, there are concerns that the Bau, Geissan, Damazine, Rosaries, Kurmuk Challi, Yabus, Wadaga and Mayak and Geissan areas, might become increasingly inaccessible and thus further limit WFP’s ability to operate routinely in these areas throughout August. Damazine is considering alternative solutions to distribute the food, which is already pre-positioned in these locations.

- (o) Food distributions in Abyei: Save the Children US reached a total of 17,657 beneficiaries with 449 tons food in the Meiram and Debab areas. While Debab received one month and the last distribution as per ANA recommendations, Meiram received 3 months distribution at 50% ration for July to September 06 after the confusion arising from beneficiaries registration in May 06 was resolved by WFP, community leaders and beneficiaries representatives. OCHA, SC-US and local authorities attended the meeting. Return movement into South Kordofan has reportedly slowed down due to rains. Heavy rains have also made most returnees' locations inaccessible during the week. However, WFP's Cooperating Partner, CARE International distributed 112 tons of assorted commodities to 5,701 returnees in Kadugli locality. Additionally, over 900 tons of WFP food were distributed to 58,296 beneficiaries in Ferish and Kudi in Kauda to cover two-month requirements. During the reporting week, Kauda received 22 new IDPs from Darfur.
- (p) As of 2 August, the Emergency Operation (10503.0) has received contributions totaling US\$ 539.6 million, approximately 72 percent of the US\$746 million requirement. While recent and generous contributions from donors will make a significant difference to the pipeline outlook for the remainder of 2006, there are increasing concerns of a lack of carryover stocks into 2007. Presently there are no cereals and CSB for January 2007 and even other commodities will not last beyond the first few weeks of 2007. To secure a carryover to meet needs for the first two months, WFP therefore requires the current EMOP to be fully resourced.
- (q) 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. WFP is pleased with the current funding levels and hopes to be fully resourced in order to carry out the air operations until the end of the year. 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.
- (r) Emergency Road Repair and Mine Clearance Special Operation 10368.0: The Government of South Sudan contribution of \$30 million to the operation was finalized this week. This is the first significant contribution made by the Southern Regional government, and a major boost to WFP's project to help rebuild physical infrastructure in Southern Sudan. The contribution will go towards rehabilitation of around 3,000 km of roads, connecting urban centers with neighboring Kenya and Uganda. Another significant contribution of \$3 0 million was also made by the Multi Donor Trust Fund this week, giving WFP a major opportunity to commence planned road works under Phase III and complete this project, albeit delayed after missing the past dry season.

(7) Tanzania

- (a) The WFP refugee operation (PRRO) continues to distribute reduced rations in order to extend resources in anticipation of a pipeline break. Refugees are provided with a daily intake of 1,531 Kcal, which is 73 percent of the approved ration level. It is expected that WFP will continue distributing reduced rations until additional resource are contributed to WFP.
- (b) A total of 4,284 refugees (2,974 Burundians and 1,310 Congolese) have voluntarily repatriated to their home between 1 and 31 July 2006. The Burundian repatriation is so far the highest in numbers this year. The number of Burundian refugees who repatriated in July 2006 more than doubled as compared to June 2006 repatriation statistics in which 1,404 Burundians and 478 Congolese repatriated. Three movements were facilitated to DRC during the month of July.
- (c) In July 2006, a total of 68 new arrivals (32 from Burundi, 34 from DRC and 2 from

Rwanda) were received in western Tanzania refugee camps.

- (d) The first "Come and Talk Visit" from Burundi took place, which included the Governor of Muyinga, staff members of various NGOs working in Burundi, former refugees and UNHCR staff members, who made a two-day visit to Lukole camps in Ngara district. The objective was linked to the promotion of voluntary repatriation by sharing information with refugees about the conditions in areas of return to enable them to take an informed decision about voluntary repatriation. Likewise, from 25 to 29 July, a total of 45 Burundian refugees from Kibondo camps participated in the so-called "Go and See Visit" to Ruyigi and Cancuzo provinces in Burundi.
- (e) General food distribution covers 341,925 registered refugees. During the past week (27 July – 2 August), WFP distributed 1,002 tons of food commodities through general distribution, supplementary and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. Around 8,400 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, home based care, food-for-training and vulnerable feeding.
- (f) A shortfall of 33,418 tons (US\$ 20.6 million) exists up to the end of June 2007.

(8) Uganda

- (a) Peace talks between the Government of Uganda (GoU) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels in Juba which adjourned on 24 July for one week to allow for consultations are yet to resume. The Government of Southern Sudan is mediating the talks that are aimed at ending over 20 years of armed conflict in northern Uganda. The GoU delegation is led by the Minister of Internal Affairs. Both parties have so far discussed a number of issues, including cessation of hostilities, reconciliation and accountability. On Monday, 31 July Uganda's Minister of Foreign Affairs, briefed ambassadors accredited to Uganda on the progress of the peace talks.
- (b) WFP hosted the UNICEF Deputy Country Representative on 25 July 2006 at the Soroti sub-office. The representative was briefed on activities supported by WFP in Teso sub-region and the need to extend UNICEF's support in areas where WFP is already operating. The representative appreciated WFP's efforts towards education and maternal child health and nutrition in the region and would like WFP to extend its support to early childhood development, which UNICEF plans to begin supporting in Teso sub-region.
- (c) WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with UNICEF on 31 July 2006 to allow UNICEF join WFP compounds in Moroto, Karamoja. A similar agreement was signed earlier between WFP and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- (d) WFP, in conjunction with the Lira District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC), UNHCR, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) and opinion leaders of Bala Stock Farm internally displaced persons (IDPs) Camp, conducted a sensitization meeting on resettlement. WFP will provide a three-month resettlement food ration totalling 420 tons to 15,558 beneficiaries in early August
- (e) During the past week (27 July - 2 August), 1,887 assorted tree seedlings were delivered to five schools in Kaberamaido district and two schools in Soroti district for the establishment of school woodlots. Each of the seven schools will plant 800 seedlings. Over 40 acres of land have been ploughed to-date under WFP's seed multiplication project in Labora, Gulu District.
- (f) During the week under review, a mission from the Refugee Eligibility Committee conducted a verification exercise in Kyaka II refugee settlement in Kyenjojo district,

south-western Uganda; 140 asylum seekers, mostly from DR Congo, were granted refugee status.

- (g) WFP food distribution continues to reach 1.45 million displaced persons, 165,000 refugees and other vulnerable persons. During the past week, WFP distributed 2,743 tons of food assistance to 320,382 persons including IDPs sheltering in camps in Gulu, Pader, Kitgum and Lira districts, refugees, children in nutrition centres and other vulnerable persons.
- (h) WFP's pipeline shortfall through December 2006 is 2,281 tons (US\$ 1.2 million). WFP is taking advantage of the more competitive grain prices and is scaling up local purchase of maize. The pipeline situation has lately improved with additional contributions from several donors.

(D) West Africa: (1) Cote d'Ivoire (2) Niger (3) Sierra Leone

(1) Cote d'Ivoire

- (a) During the reporting period (25 July to 01 August 2006), the security situation remained relatively calm. However, violent clashes between rioting elements of the maritime police and the Group de Patriots pour la Paix (GPP) almost paralyzed activities in the administrative centre of Plateau in Abidjan on Monday, July 31 2006. The UN Special Representative for Elections in CIV, Gerard Stoudmann was attacked on July 26 by the Young Patriots in front of the Prime Minister's Office in the presence of the Presidential security guards. Also, some banditry and armed robberies have been reported in the Korhogo area in the north. About 150 militiamen handed over their weapons in Guiglo marking the beginning the dismantlement and the disarmament process of some 2000 to 4000 militiamen in western Cote d'Ivoire.
- (b) Malnutrition cases of children under 5 are on the rise in the central town of Seguéla. The Unicef representative in the area reported that this increase is customary during the rainy season and is mainly due to some taboos and cultural beliefs of the people and not due to food shortage.
- (c) Over 3,670 tons of different food commodities were distributed to 348,955 beneficiaries during the month of July. Lean season distributions aimed at alleviating short term hunger of vulnerable populations during the hunger season has begun in the west, centre and north of the country. On site and beneficiary contact monitoring for seed protection distributions are ongoing in the west by the WFP Sub-Office of Man. WFP has been distributing food to vulnerable farmers who received seeds and tools from FAO in the west and north of the country.
- (d) WFP Côte d'Ivoire is currently facing slight pipeline breaks as the quantity of cereal available in the country doesn't seem to be sufficient to complete the distributions planned in August. WFP is currently doing physical inventory of Cooperating Partner stocks for possible redistribution. As of 30th July 2006, the regional PRRO operation (Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina, Ghana, Mali) has received a total of US \$ 35.1 million against the operational needs of US\$ 50.1 million (29.7% shortfall against operational requirements). Additional funding is required in order to avoid pipeline breaks.

(2) Niger

- (a) Based on the joint food security assessment (done by SAP, INS, SIMA, WFP, FEWS-NET, FAO and the European Commission), the agreed plan of actions within the National Food Security Mechanism (NFSM) to address the situation of the 1.8 million people severely food insecure includes: general food distributions to 700,000 beneficiaries; discharge ration through therapeutic and supplementary feeding centres to 1.4 million beneficiaries; cereal banks to reduce the risk of excessive price

fluctuations in regions not well served by the private market (200,000 beneficiaries).

- (b) The general food distribution will consist of a first round of 100 kg of cereals per household and a second round of 50 kg of cereals per household. Completion date is estimated to be mid-October. Distributions within the blanket supplementary feeding operation will start as soon as the on-going registration and sensitisation phase is completed. The operation targets 234,000 children under 3 years old in the most remote areas of Tahoua, Zinder and Maradi regions.
- (c) Since the beginning of the year, through the different operations (Emergency Operation, Protracted Relief and Rehabilitation Operation and Country Programme) more than 880,000 beneficiaries have received food aid through therapeutic and supplementary feeding centres; rural development activities have benefited to more than 540,000 beneficiaries; some 57,000 children have received food rations through school feeding activity; take home rations distributed to mothers of girls enrolled in schools benefited to an additional 54,000 beneficiaries. Overall, since the beginning of the year, WFP has distributed about 20,218 tons of food commodities to 1.5 million beneficiaries.
- (d) With the current in-country stocks, commodities in transit and scheduled arrivals in August, September and October, WFP will cover the PRRO requirements including additional food commodities required to cover the agreed plan of actions within the NFSM. However in order to accommodate the resource transfer from the Emergency Operation and the increased food basket, WFP Niger will elaborate a budget revision.
- (e) New contributions have significantly increased the resourcing level of the PRRO. A total of US\$ 27.26 million has now been received, representing 73% of the PRRO requirements. The current shortfall is US\$ 10.06 million or 27% of the PRRO requirements.
- (f) The resourcing level of the Country Programme also increased and amounts to US\$ 21.58 million US dollars representing 55% of its total requirements. The current shortfall is US\$ 17.13 million or 45% of the CP requirements.
- (g) After 2 to 4 weeks delay, seasonal rains have finally started in major parts of the country. Crop recovery will strongly depend on the performance of on-going rains. Joint markets monitoring by SIMA, Fews Net and WFP bulletin covering the period from 16 June to 2 July indicates that cereal prices are generally stable and below the last five years average.
- (h) The communication focal points of the different UN Agencies as well as the NGO community met on 20 July to exchange on the best way to communicate positively on nutrition and food security in Niger. It was decided to elaborate a joint paper on communication. UNICEF is coordinating the elaboration of the document that will be presented to the Minister of Communication.

(3) Sierra Leone

- (a) The security situation generally remained calm during the reporting period (1-31 July). The capital of Sierra Leone, Freetown, was hit by one of the worst water shortages in four decades, according to the country's water supply authority. For three weeks the city plunged into serious water shortage difficulties, which also raised fears of a cholera outbreak. Prices for commercial drinking water rose radically. In a bid to stretch the little available water, a rationing system has been introduced on alternate days.
- (b) During the reporting period, WFP Sierra Leone distributed 871 tons of assorted food commodities to 123,501 beneficiaries.
- (c) A total of 16 tons of Corn Soya Blend take-home rations were provided for 6,624 girls in 108 schools in all fourteen chiefdoms in Kailahun district. The above mentioned beneficiaries were also part of the 55,000 pupils in Kailahun district who received one

hot meal every school day in the month of July.

- (d) WFP and UNHCR organised a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) in Sierra Leone from 1st to 10th July 2006, which also involved the Government's National Commission for Social Action (NaCSA), NGOs and other UN organizations. The objectives included, a review of the implementation of the food, non-food, and repatriation assistance strategies since October 2004; and to highlight lessons learned that could contribute to the final phase-out Programme. The assessment also aimed to propose a detailed repatriation process and phase-out programme, to prevent interruption in the humanitarian assistance provided for the Liberian refugees that would remain in the camps beyond December 2006.
- (e) The WFP Country Office conducted a mid-term review of its intervention in the Emergency School Feeding (ESF) and the support to basic education programmes, from 2nd to 7th July in Kailahun, Pujehun, Koinadugu, Tonkolili and Kambia districts. The ESF programme started in January 2005 as part of the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operations (PRRO 10064.3), to end in December this year. Support for Basic Education - Activity 1 under the Country Programme (CP 10333.0) – started in September 2005 to end in December 2007. Within these projects, currently beneficiary pupils/trainees total 255,379 in 929 schools/non-formal institutions, which receive one hot meal daily. Of this number 22,666 girls in 288 schools also receive take-home rations.
- (f) A mid-term review of the Country Programme (CP) Activity 2, Integrated Maternal & Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme, also started on 18th July to end on 8th August which includes the operational districts of Tonkolili, Koinadugu, Kailahun, Bombali, Bonthe, Port Loko, Pujehun, Bo and Kambia. The review serves as an opportunity for WFP to assess needs and performance, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation at the national level and the District Health Management Teams (DHMT) and Peripheral Health Units (PHUs) at the district level. Currently, under the MCHN programme WFP supports 36,526 beneficiaries with food rations in the form of Corn Soya Blend, Vegetable Oil, pulses, bulgur and sugar.

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

(1) Angola

- (a) WFP's operations in Angola are currently experiencing a critical lack of resources which could result in thousands of Angolans, mostly school-age children, going without food aid. Since 2005, WFP has had to distribute half rations to some of its beneficiaries, such as returnees.
- (b) Growth in the School Feeding programme has also been restricted to just about one-third of the 2006 plan, while discussing with government scope for possible support in 2007. WFP urgently appeals to donors to contribute to its operations in Angola to avoid a complete suspension of food distributions. At least US\$ 5 million is urgently needed to enable WFP to distribute 6,602 tons of food to its beneficiaries throughout December 2006.
- (c) The FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission noted that crop yields were generally lower as a result of poor rainfall distribution. This year's cereal production is estimated at 742,000 tons, down 15.5 per cent if compared to last year's yields. Considering the country's cereal needs, there will be a deficit of about 843,000 tons of cereals, of which 67,000 are to be met by national and/or international assistance. Approximately 800,000 persons will require some assistance either food or non-food until the next harvest in May 2007.

(2) Lesotho

- (a) Monitoring indicated an increase in the number of patients enrolled in HIV/AIDS related activities. The food delivered to this category rose from 66 to 80 tons in Maseru district in July. It is suspected that the increase is driven by the "Know Your Status" campaign. WFP will continue to monitor the situation.
- (b) Severe malnutrition was detected in Mafeteng hospital in the western district known for its chronic vulnerability and food insecurity. The Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee (LVAC) nutrition survey conducted in March and April this year also indicated acute malnutrition in Mafeteng district, while stunting was recorded in Senqu River Valley.
- (c) From 15-28 July 2006, WFP and Cooperating Partners provided 442 tons food to 29,000 people. Beneficiaries were participants in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, mother and childcare, orphans and other vulnerable children programmes, vulnerable group feeding and Food-for-Work and Food-for-Assets projects.

(3) Madagascar

- (a) The Government's early warning system estimates that 22 communes in the south will be food insecure and require approximately 8,000 tons of food until the harvest in April of 2007. The Government organized a meeting last week to discuss possible interventions with its partners. The lean season, which normally begins in October/November, started earlier in July and August. The production of the staple food, rice dropped by between 40 and 60 percent in 2005/6 season.
- (b) Letters of understanding (LOU) were signed with 13 cooperating partners to distribute one-month of Pea Wheat Blend (PWB) and Oil to 8,100 beneficiaries comprising undernourished under fives, TB patients, pregnant and breast-feeding women in southern Madagascar.
- (c) The school feeding baseline for 2006-2007 involving 44 schools, 33,277 pupils and 565 teachers in the districts of Fort Dauphin, Amboasary, Ambovombe and Tsihombe Beloha identified an estimated need of 1,900 tons of food including rice, beans, oil, PWB and sugar.

(4) Malawi

- (a) The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) results show 833,000 people to be at risk of food insecurity from April 2006 through March 2007, requiring equivalent to 57,200 tonnes of maize. Another 148,000 people are at risk of missing food entitlements (MFE). The MFE can be covered by food or cash interventions.
- (b) The Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (ADMARC) continued to buy maize from local farmers at 20 MK (US\$ 0.14) per kilogram. However, in most cases ADMARC does not have enough cash available to buy all the farmers' produce. Therefore farmers resort to selling their produce to vendors and other traders at lower prices.

(5) Mozambique

- (a) This years' vulnerability assessment concluded that food security and nutrition in the country has improved substantially, and the need for food aid should drop by more than 30 percent among non-critically vulnerable groups.
- (b) Field Level Agreements (FLA) negotiations are still ongoing in several provinces regarding the new operational plan for Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) and Food-for-Assets (FFA). WFP and its Cooperating Partners will distribute food to just

over 90,000 beneficiaries monthly until December 2007.

(6) Namibia

- (a) Namibia produced 108,000 tons of food, which together with carryover stocks brings cereal availability up to 184,000 tons versus a consumption need of 313,000 tons. Commercial imports are expected to cover most of the food deficit. In a country that is normally vulnerable to drought, this year's normal rainfall improved overall food security - although flooding in Caprivi and Mariental caused water logging and leaching of some crops.
- (b) Inadequate farming inputs such as seeds and fertilisers and the high cost of supplies also affected crop production level and disrupted livelihoods in some provinces. In spite of the high per capita income (per capita GDP at the Purchasing Power Parity for 2003 was US\$ 6,180 as per the UNDP's Human Development Report 2005), extreme poverty and food insecurity persist in the country.

(7) Swaziland

- (a) Cereal production in Swaziland declined this year compared with 2005, primarily due to poor and unevenly distributed rainfall particularly in the Lubombo Plateau and the impact of HIV/AIDS on the country's most vulnerable population. Production together with carryover stock totalled 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. With a self-sufficiency rate for cereals of only about one-third, Swazi population is mostly dependent on food imports.
- (b) A study on lessons-learnt in the pilot phase of the Junior Farmer Field and Life School (JFFLS) project is currently ongoing. The study involves interviews with facilitators, participants, community leaders and members of the JFFLS team. Field visits were undertaken by the FAO and WFP to the Siphofaneni, Mahlangatsha, Kubuta and Sithobela sites last week. The study report is expected soon to help guide the scale up to 20 additional sites from October 2006.
- (c) WFP is participating in the Swaziland Household Economy Baseline Survey data collection exercise to be completed this month. Participation includes the Ministries of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Economic Planning and Development, Regional Development and Youth Affairs, the Central Statistics Office and non-governmental organizations.

(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 and carryover stock broke even with consumption needs of about 1.6 million tons. Zambia was affected by soil erosion and degradation, damage to bridges and roads which prevented people from reaching markets to purchase seeds and fertilizer. Over the next few months, the sale of agricultural produce and poor water and sanitation is likely to exacerbate the nutritional status of vulnerable people.

(9) Zimbabwe

- (a) Currency reforms introduced recently with the declared aim of dealing with some of the effects of hyperinflation of nearly 1,200 percent have complicated WFP's operations in Zimbabwe. New currency denominations were introduced on 1 August 2006 and old bank notes will be phased out within three weeks. The Central Bank further devalued

the currency by 60 percent.

- (b) There was a general increase in the prices of maize grain on the open market in the South and South East linked with difficulties traders are facing, such as police roadblocks, rising transport and packaging costs.
- (c) In a bid to curb the unofficial movement of maize grain, the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) has mounted check-points in regional highways in the East in an effort to channel all grain sales through the GMB where farmers are paid Z\$ 31.5 million per ton (US\$ 83/ton) compared to Z\$ 40 (US\$ 105/ton) million per ton in the parallel market. (UN exchange rate US\$ 1 = Z\$ 380,000).
- (d) In August 2006, WFP plans to continue assisting approximately 900,000 food insecure people through targeted programmes, including 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. Some 5,000 tons will be distributed.

(F) Asia: (1) Myanmar (2) Nepal

(1) Myanmar

- (a) WFP Myanmar is closely monitoring the effects that may arise due to heavy rains and floods across the country. Due to rain and landslides, some roads have also become inaccessible during the reporting period (20 July – 2 August 2006) to remote townships hampering WFP delivery & operations.
- (b) There are incidences of poppy re-cultivation in southern Shan State due to insufficient support from authorities following the ban and general commodity price increases stemming from increased official Government salaries.
- (c) The Letter of Understanding for the current emergency operation (EMOP) and protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) operations have been signed with respective counterpart ministries – the new timeframe is set for the end of the year, i.e. December 2006. During the reporting period, a household level food security profiling exercise has commenced in Northern Rakhine State and Kokang.
- (d) Under the EMOP 10345.1, a total of 1,371 tons of rice and 16 tons of blended food were dispatched to Taunggyi and Lashio Sub-Offices for Food for Work, Food for Training, Food for Education, Vulnerable Group Feeding and Mother & Child Nutrition activities during the reporting period. Under the PRRO 10066.2, a total of 1,029 MT of rice and 34 MT of blended food were dispatched to Maungdaw and Magway Sub-Offices during the reporting period.
- (e) The EMOP is currently 67% resourced and the PRRO resources stand at 78%, hence, there are still unmet resource needs up to the end of the year.

(2) Nepal

- (a) The implementation of WFP Emergency Operation in the drought affected districts of far and mid-Western Nepal is progressing. As of 31 July, over 7,500 families (representing 42,000 persons) had received a one month ration of 40kg of rice and 7 kg of Wheat Soy Blend in Bajura, Kalikot, Dailekh and Jajarkot districts. A second monthly ration will be provided as soon as partners confirmed the completion of the community works done under the Food for Work schemes.
- (b) The heavy monsoon rains are delaying the transportation of commodities in some areas. In Kalikot district, several trucks have been blocked for the last ten days at Ramaghat River as a result of heavy and continuous rains. Given the urgent need to complete food distributions, WFP in collaboration with its two national partners, is

exploring alternative options. Other obstacles faced in Dailekh and Jajarkot districts have been addressed and food deliveries from the supplier warehouse to the distribution sites are on-going smoothly.

- (c) In Bajura district, six out of the eight Village Development Committees (VDCs) targeted under this Emergency Operation (EMOP) were accessible only by air. The air operation started on 27 July. As of 4 August, 204 tons have been airlifted from Surkhet to Kolti and are currently being distributed to 20,000 people. Four commercial helicopters with a capacity of 4 tons each are flying every day. Weather conditions permitting, a maximum of ten trips can be completed per day.
- (d) WFP organized a joint monitoring visit to Sappata and Jukot VDCs in Bajura district on 31 July – 4 August. The team was comprised of WFP and Cooperating Partner staff as well as donor representatives and journalists. Through interviews with communities and individual families, participants were able to confirm that people targeted under this Emergency Operation are indeed severely affected by the recent drought. Most families reported having totally exhausted their food stocks and borrowed a significant amount of money from relatives to cover their immediate food needs. A number of families have also confirmed that WFP assistance came at the right time, preventing them from migrating to India to seek for employment opportunities.
- (e) As of 4 August, WFP Emergency Operation is funded at 17%. If no additional support is provided, the operation will be suspended within the next few weeks, with only 4 districts reached out of the 10 assessed as severely hit the drought.

(G) Latin America and Caribbean: (1) Bolivia (2) Ecuador

(1) Bolivia

- (a) Road blockades continue to be a frequent demonstration means. A WFP supervision mission has been blocked by protesters in the road between Santa Cruz and Beni. No incidents were reported. Also, marches continued to disturb the city of La Paz almost every day by different sectors, mainly teachers and gremials.
- (b) A WFP mission reported that most of the families in camps in Santa Cruz are returning to their communities. Currently 3,500 out of a total of 13,000 flood-affected people are still living in camps and will not return until the Rio Grande river is channeled back to its original riverbed. Many communities - where families are returning to - are still under risk of floods since the river is still diverted. If the river is not directed back to its original riverbed, next rainy season (starting November) could flood again the communities and productive land.
- (c) During the reporting period (20 July – 2 August), 56 tons of food have been distributed to 970 families in the Department of Santa Cruz, Municipalities of Okinawa, San Julián, Cuatro Cañadas, y Pailón.
- (d) So far, 57% of the total needs of the Emergency Operation have been covered. Pipeline breaks are expected as of October 2006.

(2) Ecuador

- (a) The volcanic activity of the Tungurahua volcano continues to be high, according to the National Geophysical Institute of Ecuador; however it has decreased its intensity.
- (b) Approximately 13,000 people have been severely affected by the eruption according to the Civil Defense.
- (c) According to the Ministry of Agriculture, agriculture and livestock have been severely damaged. Approximately 18,000 hectares of crops have been destroyed in the provinces of Tungurahua and Chimborazo.

- (d) UNETE continues to coordinate with provincial authorities, the Civil Defense, and the Red Cross. UNCT is being informed continuously on the development of the situation. The UN System continues to coordinate in the field with Emergency Operations Committees, local authorities, and the Red Cross.
- (e) WFP in coordination with the Civil Defense assessed food security in the affected areas. UN active coordination takes place with Government to ensure a broad assistance to the affected areas, health and food needs are covered at the moment.

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

WFP Weekly Emergency Report

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

Valerie.Sequeira@wfp.org

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

tel: +39 06 6513 2602

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