

---

World Food Programme Emergency Report 2005  
Issued Weekly by the United Nations World Food Programme  
Report No. 12 / 2005 - Date 18 March 2005

- (A) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Congo, DR (3) Djibouti (4) Eritrea (5) Ethiopia (6) Rwanda (7) Somalia (8) Sudan (9) Tanzania
- (B) West Africa:** (1) Chad (2) Cote d'Ivoire (3) Liberia (4) Mauritania
- (C) Southern Africa:** (1) Regional (2) Angola (3) Lesotho (4) Madagascar (5) Malawi (6) Mozambique (7) Swaziland (8) Zambia (9) Zimbabwe
- (D) Asia:** (1) Bangladesh (2) Indonesia (3) Korea (DPR) (4) Maldives (5) Myanmar (6) Sri Lanka
- (E) Latin America and Caribbean:** (1) Bolivia (2) Colombia (3) Cuba (4) Guatemala (5) Haiti (6) Nicaragua

- (A) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Congo, DR (3) Djibouti (4) Eritrea (5) Ethiopia (6) Rwanda (7) Somalia (8) Sudan (9) Tanzania

**(1) Burundi**

- (a) A mortar-shell attack on some central residential areas of the capital occurred on 15 March. Reportedly, the Front for National Liberation (FNL) was behind this attack. Killings of civilians and armed robberies continue to be reported in several areas of the country. After receiving threats from members of neighbouring communities, over 1,000 Burundians have fled the northern provinces and sought refuge in Rwanda during the past couple of weeks.
- (b) The country has been receiving normal to above-normal rainfall. This has encouraged farmers who were hoping for a normal harvest. Nonetheless, the lack of agricultural inputs constitutes a serious threat to the success of the season.
- (c) WFP distributed close to 2,000 tons of food aid to over 255,400 beneficiaries through different activities.
- (d) The distribution of the Seeds Protection Rations continues. Some 1,500 tons were distributed to over 39,000 families in Kirundo, Muyinga, Gitega and Ruyigi provinces. Fourteen new Food-For-Work (FFW) projects, amounting to over 5,100 tons of food aid, have been approved in Kirundo, Muyinga and Gitega provinces. They aim at relieving acute short-term food insecurity.
- (e) The National Secretariat in charge of demobilisation reported that 5,600 former combatants from armed groups and the national defence forces have been demobilized so far. WFP provides food to all demobilisation centres.
- (f) Unless additional donor contributions are received, food shortages might occur, starting in May for some commodities and in June and July for others. Given the current projections, the food security situation might deteriorate further from May onwards if crop yields for the next harvest are below normal levels. Close monitoring of the pipeline and food deliveries is thus warranted.

**(2) Congo, DR**

- (a) In Bunia on Sunday, 13 March, the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) gave an ultimatum to all the militia groups, mainly in Ituri district, to disarm before 31 March. The militiamen were to disarm and return to civil life or join the national army. After the Sunday ultimatum, peacekeepers could use force to restore peace in DRC, following the instructions of the United Nations. Steps have been taken to reinforce the United Nations Mission in the DRC (MONUC) with the deployment of African forces in the near future.
- (b) The judges of the new International Criminal Court (ICC) had their first hearing on the DRC cases last week in the Hague. It focused on the inquiry into war crimes allegedly committed in the DRC. The ICC is the world's first permanent tribunal for trying cases involving genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. To keep the court impartial, the procedural hearing will be held in a closed session with no members of the press or public allowed to attend.
- (c) Increasing numbers of Congolese refugees continue to cross from Tanzania into Uvira and Fizi in South Kivu each day. The security situation in both towns is reported to be calm and this may explain the decision of the refugees to return home.
- (d) The reunification exercise of the Congolese army continued in North Kivu. As a result, 150 demobilized child soldiers are already sheltered in two rehabilitation centres in Rutshuru. Meanwhile, Caritas and World Vision, WFP's implementing partners, dispatched food to assist war-affected people in Buramba (Rutshuru territories), Nyabiondo and Masisi.
- (e) On 10 March, WFP and a local NGO conducted a monitoring mission in Baraka and Kazimia, north of Fizi, to monitor the rehabilitation of feeder roads and income generating projects involving women victims of sexual violence.

### **(3) Djibouti**

- (a) The fifth convoy this year of the voluntary repatriation of refugees originating from Somaliland was organized on 15 March. A total of 123 families or 617 persons from Holl-Holl camp in Djibouti were safely repatriated to Borama and Garbo-Dadar in the province of Awdal. The caseload of refugees now stands at 11,373 refugees in the two camps of Ali Addeh (5,542) and Holl-Holl (5,831).

### **(4) Eritrea**

- (a) On Friday, the Government of Eritrea strongly denied allegations that it has massed troops along its border with Sudan. The denial followed reports in Sudanese media quoting the governor of Sudan's eastern state of Kassala, who stated that Eritrea was boosting its forces along the border for purposes of spying. Relations between Eritrea and Sudan are tense with the two governments frequently accusing each other of supporting opposition movements on the other's soil.
- (b) In the western region of the country, intensive land preparation is expected to start between April and June, depending on the geographical location and rainfall pattern. In all sub-regions, residents report tight food availability, especially after the food rations had to be reduced due to limited relief food aid stocks in the country.
- (c) The livestock in these sub-regions is beginning to show signs of the effects of drought, and many herdsmen are moving towards riverbanks in search of food and water for their animals. Animal deaths have not yet been reported. The central region experienced a few rain showers including hail – which are exceptional for this time of the year.
- (d) While monitoring food distributions in an internally displaced persons (IDP) camp in the southwestern part of the country, WFP field monitors observed that all water pumps

except one, did not function. The camp's administration was trucking the water to the residents.

## **(5) Ethiopia**

- (a) There are concerns about deteriorating humanitarian conditions in pocket areas of Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), Oromia and Somali regions. Humanitarian partners and WFP field monitors report signs of increasing food insecurity, and the situation is being closely monitored. Rains have been received in Jijiga zone in Somali region in recent days. This could potentially ease water shortages currently experienced in the area, but continued monitoring is required on the onset of the “gu” rains, which normally start at the end of March and continue until end of April. In Afar, rains were received in zones 3, 4 and 5 but as these are not the most affected areas of the region in terms of food insecurity, and close monitoring of the northern parts of the region is needed.
- (b) The Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP), which aims at assisting up to 5 million chronically food insecure people through cash or food transfers in 2005, officially started in mid-February. External financing resources have been transferred from federal to regional authorities. Community works of the PSNP are underway in many areas, but most areas have not made food or cash transfers to beneficiaries so far. If substantial transfers can be effected from the end of March, food security conditions should improve considerably in the chronically food insecure areas under the PSNP. For relief food distributions, in February, new emergency food allocations were made for Afar, Tigray, Oromia and Gambella regions, with total allocations amounting to 35,500 tons. In Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR), carry-over stocks at regional level from 2004 were utilized. Similarly, Amhara relief distributions are expected to start in April, using 2004 carryovers. Food allocated last month is still being dispatched, with food having reached most localities in Afar and transport ongoing in Tigray and Gambella regions. In Gambella region, transportation is being hampered by recent security incidents.
- (c) Relief food requirements for March are 55,000 tons for 3 million people. In the absence of confirmed contributions from donors, WFP has had to resort to its special loan facility which allows borrowings to be made against forecast contributions, rather than actual contributions. While this will ensure that relief distributions can continue for March and part of April, WFP urges donors to confirm contributions currently under negotiation and to make additional resources available for Ethiopia. Confirmed contributions of emergency food aid stand at only 25 percent of the requirements set out in the 2005 Humanitarian Appeal.

## **(6) Rwanda**

- (a) Rainfall outlook for the next 3 months is above average; the critical issue will be its distribution.
- (b) In addition to 849 Burundian refugees registered by UNHCR coming from the provinces of Karuzi, Kirundo and Muyinga to Rwanda, 250 more were registered on 14 March. Among them, people from the Abatwa ethnic group (pygmies) have crossed for the first time into Rwanda, which means that the situation in Burundi is getting serious since this group does not move easily. The number of unaccompanied minors among these refugees is alarmingly high.
- (c) During the past week, another 295 new arrivals were received in Nyamure and Gikonko camps and a two-week food ration was distributed to them. A total of about 290 tons of mixed food commodities was distributed to some 18,000 Congolese refugees in Kiziba camp in Kibuye. The total number of Congolese and Burundian refugees currently in

Rwanda is 44,469 and 4,702, respectively, making a total of 49,171.

- (d) A total of 233 Rwandan returnees from Congo and Uganda were received at Gisenyi and Byumba. They all received a 3-month ration.
- (e) The food situation is serious with accumulated arrears for already executed works under the Food-For-Work (FFW) programme. Further ration cuts are contemplated and no new FFW activities will be approved before the pipeline situation improves. School Feeding is being affected by the food loans to the PRRO; a budget revision is being prepared to accommodate increased needs.

## **(7) Somalia**

- (a) The general insecurity and lawlessness that inhibits the provision of humanitarian assistance in many parts of Somalia have increased - notably in parts of Sool and Sanag in the North, Lower Juba Valley, Gedo and Benadir (including Mogadishu) in the South and Galgadud/South Mudug in central Somalia.
- (b) Relief distributions under the PRRO, Food Aid for Relief and Recovery, were completed with 1,350 tons reaching 135,000 beneficiaries from communities in the North which have been affected by the year long drought, mudslides and flashfloods. However, regular programmes in the social support sector, such as the support given to mother and child health clinics, orphanages and FFW activities which are aimed at rehabilitation have been on-going in WFP operating areas such as Bay and Bakol regions.
- (c) WFP Somalia continues with the third round of distributions to assist the Tsunami-affected communities along the northeast coastline of Somalia. Some 50 tons of food commodities have been dispatched, reaching 3,300 beneficiaries of the 30,000 affected population.
- (d) The Tsunami Inter-Agency Assessment Mission of the Northeast Somali Coastline between Hafun and Gara'ad published its final mission report on 11 March. The main recommendations included: 1) The need to promote livelihood recovery and support the fishing livelihood, especially through new fishing gear and resource transfer until the next fishing season; 2) the rehabilitation and /or new construction of more sustainable and reliable new water sources; 3) road rehabilitation and improvement to ensure a quick response as well as market access for inputs and export of the area's main source of income, the fishing industry; and 4) immediate reconstruction of houses destroyed by the Tsunami in particular in Hafun, Baner Beyla, Dharinragas and Kulub.
- (e) WFP together with AFREC, a local NGO, distributed over 820 tons of assorted food commodities that were pre-positioned in Kismayo for Marere and satellite villages in the Lower Juba Valley as targeted relief distribution.

## **(8) Sudan**

- (a) DARFUR: The security situation in Darfur remains fragile with increased incidents over the week. Fighting was reported south of Western Jebel Marrah. Unconfirmed reports state that the fighting is between the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) and the Government of Sudan (GoS). In addition, cattle raiding and looting of commercial vehicles continue in South Darfur. Restrictions of movements within the Darfurs, due to insecurity, are severely hampering food distributions. Fighting between the National Movement for Reform and Development (NMRD) and the GoS in West Darfur was also reported.
- (b) Humanitarian operations have been affected by the suspension of WFP-HAS helicopter flights in North Darfur, due to a break in communication between the SLA and the UN in North Darfur. Planned field assessments in North Darfur, particularly to areas with gaps in humanitarian assistance, have been put on hold due to the suspension of the

helicopters. In West Darfur, movements of UN vehicles outside of Geneina were suspended following three days of attacks on vehicles belonging to international NGOs by armed bandits.

- (c) WFP dispatched close to 13,000 tons to an estimated 726,334 beneficiaries (based on dispatches) from 1-14 March. A total of 1,700 tons of food was airlifted or airdropped into the Darfurs during that period. As of 14 March, some 20,300 tons of food have been dispatched by road and air from Khartoum and El Obeid to the Darfur state capitals, representing 55 percent of the monthly distribution plan of 36,800 tons and 47 percent of the overall monthly dispatch plan of 43,000 tons. It should be noted that the monthly dispatch plan includes 6,300 tons for dispatch to West Darfur for pre-positioning purposes. WFP will continue to pre-position commodities in West Darfur before the onset of the rainy season to prevent the disruption of food supplies to the population.
- (d) WFP will continue to advocate for blanket supplementary feeding across the Darfurs, considering that the present encouraging nutritional situation can be attributed to regular food distributions and good health, water and sanitation facilities in this period of the dry season.
- (e) Together with International Organization of Migration (IOM) and Cooperating Partners, WFP is currently undertaking a massive registration exercise across the three Darfur states. All parties have been heavily engaged in the preparation of this exercise over the last six months. The registration exercise has been relatively smooth to date.
- (f) Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Holland and Action Contre la Faim (ACF) presented the results of nutrition surveys carried out in February 2005 in Kalma camp and Nyala town respectively. In both areas Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) dropped compared with September 2004. Meanwhile, preliminary reports from medical and nutrition agencies working in Kalma camp indicated a sharp increase in the mortality rate of children under five this past week. In South Darfur, an increase in IDP movements into areas that currently receive WFP food rations and other humanitarian assistance was observed. Over 25,000 new arrivals were registered (10,767 new arrivals in Firdos and Abu Matariq in Ed Daien locality; 1,967 in Adilla; 12,649 new arrivals in Um Dukhum, Mukjar locality). An additional 161 Dinka IDPs voluntarily returned to south Sudan in a convoy of six trucks. Khor Omer has served as the transit point for these IDPs originating from various areas.
- (g) A USD 30 million budget revision is currently undergoing approval to increase the cereal ration from 13.5 kilograms to 15 kilograms per beneficiary per month from April to December 2005. This increase will compensate for Kcal losses due to milling and will contribute to mitigating cereal supply scarcity in markets due to insecurity and drought.
- (h) To cover the requirements of a monthly average of 2.3 million beneficiaries, WFP has estimated a total requirement of some 453,200 tons (USD 438.2 million). So far, WFP has received USD 258.4 million, representing a 41 percent shortfall. A significant amount of contributions received was provided as in-kind cereals (USD 220 million).
- (i) The cereal pipeline will most likely remain healthy through October. However, the status of the non-cereals pipeline remains a serious concern. Despite loans of USD 20 million and borrowings of 31,000 tons of commodities to overcome non-cereal shortfalls, food distributions in some locations in Darfur are already lacking sugar, causing some distress among beneficiaries. Further pipeline breaks are expected for salt and CSB in July and pulses and oil in August. Contributions are urgently required for non-cereals so that WFP can 1) guarantee a complete food basket to beneficiaries and 2) successfully pre-position commodities in key locations before the onset of the rainy season. The non-cereal requirements for the months, June-August, are estimated at a total of 18,000 tons. As it takes at least six months for a contribution to translate into food at household

levels, contributions need to be pledged immediately to arrive on time.

- (j) The Special Operation for logistics support in Darfur faces a shortfall of USD 26.7 million. One hundred long-haul trucks must be procured urgently to augment logistics capacity.
- (k) The WFP-Humanitarian Air Services, which provides services to the entire humanitarian community in Sudan, faces a shortfall of USD 17 million. Of this, USD 5 million is urgently required to continue contracting and deploying the passenger aircraft required in the coming months in support of the movement of passengers and humanitarian cargo in Sudan. With monthly operating costs of 2 million, funding will not be sufficient to continue with the current fleet after the end of March, affecting regular flight schedules or air transport of non-food items.
- (l) OPERATION LIFELINE SUDAN (Southern Sudan). In an effort to stabilize sorghum prices, the Strategic Reserve Authority (SRA) has allocated 30,000 sacks of sorghum for the Red Sea State markets. Market surveys undertaken this week in Port Sudan indicated no change in the average price of sorghum. The SRA has also injected huge supplies of cereals in White Nile State which resulted in a remarkable decrease in cereal prices.
- (m) An interagency mission comprising FAO, WFP, WHO, UNICEF, NCA and Care International undertook a rapid assessment mission in Aweil and Gogrial, Bahr El Ghazal during the first week of March. The objective of the mission was to assess the trend of returnees reported by local authorities. Both Aweil and Gogrial are considered as potential return areas. Food shortages resulting from a poor harvest and crop failure were observed in both areas and Gogrial was reported as the hardest hit. The majority of food commodities originates from areas controlled by the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA). Some malnutrition cases were reported by Aweil hospital. The team also noted the scarcity of clean drinking water inside the towns and on their peripheries. WFP plans to carry out a registration/verification exercise in the coming weeks.
- (n) WFP and GOAL held a meeting following a GOAL nutrition survey which reported Global Acute Malnutrition at 24.8% and severe Acute Malnutrition at 3%. WFP recommended that ongoing assistance being provided through GOAL to Mother and Child Health (MCH) feeding centres in Malakal should be expanded to areas where the levels of malnutrition were highest. In addition, WFP and GOAL agreed to work with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) on standardizing nutrition based programmes in Malakal and to also consider supporting community-based initiatives and health and nutrition training activities.
- (o) The WFP registration/verification exercise that started last week in the Nuba Mountains is ongoing. During the week, the Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC) registered 53 new returnees (50 percent female) from Khartoum, who will proceed to their original villages. WFP and SRC are finalizing an agreement to cover general food distribution and rations for an estimated 10,000 returnees.
- (p) A USD 3 million contribution was confirmed during the week. This contribution comes in addition to the recent donations totaling USD 19.2 million. Confirmation of contributions is urgently required to allow commodities to be pre-positioned before the onset of the rainy season. Some 9,600 tons from the 2005 contributions are expected to arrive in country between March and May. However, stocks will start to become depleted in early May if the average monthly distribution of 26,300 tons, which includes an allocation for the returnees caseload, is achieved. The total shortfall from March to August is estimated at 50,800 tons of mixed commodities. So far, the total contributions received against the OLS EMOP amount to over USD 42 million, representing an 86 percent shortfall of the total requirements.
- (q) On 11 March, a Budget Revision was approved for EMOP 10048.3 increasing the

original budget by USD 425,052. The purpose of the budget increase is to allow the pre-positioning of an emergency transit ration of 15-days high energy biscuits to be distributed to returning IDPs. This transit ration will provide necessary food inputs to a targeted 43,500 returning IDP beneficiaries en route to their home locations.

- (r) During the week, a USD 1 million was confirmed against the Special Operation 10368 in support of the EMOP 10048.3. The SO faces a 70 percent shortfall against its total requirements. The total operational value is estimated at USD 89 million.

## **(9) Tanzania**

- (a) A total of about 3,400 Burundian refugees returned to Burundi in February.
- (b) Some 402,600 beneficiaries received over 1,100 tons of food through general distribution, supplementary feeding and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. Over 10,000 Tanzanians in the host communities surrounding the camps were supported with WFP host community activities.
- (c) Preliminary feedback on the ration changes from beneficiaries in Ngara indicated that the increase in pulses was appreciated. However, many refugees expressed concerns over the reductions in all other commodities and the complete lack of any corn-soya blend (CSB) in particular. This coupled with the continued market closures is placing added stress on beneficiary coping mechanisms.
- (d) Evaluations of School Feeding for formerly out of school HIV/AIDS orphans and Food-For-Training at Kayanga Vocational Training Institute were completed. The two projects were carried out successfully and consequently WFP will continue both activities throughout 2005. The evaluation of the Food-For-Work project in Kibondo, involving the construction of secondary schools, was also completed during the month, and an extension of the project for a third phase was recommended.
- (e) In Kigoma, WFP signed an agreement with a local NGO, Movement for Improvement and Boosting Organization (MIBO's), through which WFP will provide Food-For-Training related to environmental protection and tree planting. The training will be conducted for 230 facilitators and subsequently to 920 community members in Kigoma rural villages.
- (f) In preparation for 2006, the WFP Great Lakes Evaluation Mission visited the Tanzania Refugee Operation in Kigoma and Kagera regions. The evaluation team focused on whether or not the current PRRO met its stated objectives and to formulate the next phase PRRO document.
- (g) An in-kind contribution of USD 411,149 was received. A new ration modification took effect on 14 March, increasing the ration provided to refugees from 1,323 Kcals to 1,617 Kcals per day (i.e. 87 percent of the normal ration level). While the rations of maize were augmented, the PRRO still faces serious shortfalls of CSB, vegetable oil and salt for the coming months.

## **(B) West Africa: (1) Chad (2) Cote d'Ivoire (3) Liberia (4) Mauritania**

### **(1) Chad**

- (a) The security situation was relatively calm in eastern Chad, with some minor incidents reported around the camps. Tension between refugees and host communities was noted in Oure Cassoni last week, following alleged threats by local residents to expel the refugees. The situation seems to be calmer this week. On 13 March, some clashes that were not related to the refugees were reported near the Chad-Sudan border.
- (b) Phase I of the ongoing WFP/UNHCR/partners registration exercise has been completed in the camps. Preliminary results indicate a drop of approximately 15 percent in the refugee caseload. The drop in the caseload is mainly attributed to refugees possessing

multiple ration cards. Based on these findings, WFP and partners have agreed that the food distribution plan for the month of March would target 193,100 refugees. Phase II of the registration exercise has commenced in Goz Amir and will proceed in Djabal in the following week.

- (c) Some 600 refugees living in border areas north of Adre, have requested to be transferred to camp sites. It is possible that these refugees will be transferred to the newly identified camp site of Gaga, situated 35 km from Farchana, on the Abéché route. Works, currently underway in the site, are expected to be finished in two months time.
- (d) WFP has commenced food distributions in the camps for the month of March. Complete rations are provided for all commodities except for a slight modification in the pulses ration, which is being compensated by corn-soya blend. All distributions are being conducted using the scooping method i.e. rations per family rather than per groups. The next Blanket Supplementary Feeding distributions are set to commence on 21 March and, following-up on recommendations of a mission of the Centre of Disease Control, will only take place in Oure Cassoni, Iridimi, Touloum and Djabal camps, targeting children less than five years of age.
- (e) WFP expects to begin Food-For-Work activities for the local populations of Guereda, Iriba, Tine and Bahai, mostly beginning next week. Among the identified projects are rehabilitation projects repairing airstrips and sanitation systems. In another effort to support host communities around the refugee camps, WFP in collaboration with food and nutritional partners are also preparing to provide those communities with Blanket Supplementary Feeding.
- (f) WFP completed a security evaluation mission regarding the possible usage of the Ounianga Kebir–Faya–Kalait–Biltine–Abéché route by the Libyan convoys. Furthermore, in view of forthcoming food pre-positioning, WFP is increasing its storage capacity in the eleven camps by erecting new rubhalls.
- (g) WFP Humanitarian Airservices in Chad, as of the beginning of the month, served over 550 passengers and lifted 1.3 tons of light cargo.

## **(2) Cote d'Ivoire**

- (a) The situation along the buffer zone and especially in the area of Guiglo is still tense. Local authorities in Guiglo have taken measures to secure the area and are now encouraging displaced populations to return to their villages. At a coordination meeting on 15 March, representatives stated that the situation is now calm along the Guiglo-Bloléquin axis; however they suggest that humanitarian agencies take great care and limit unnecessary movements if possible.
- (b) From 10 to 16 March, some 270 tons of various WFP provided food commodities were distributed to over 44,000 people. WFP's support of HEB and general rations to newly displaced villagers in Guiglo and the west will continue until the displaced populations feel secure enough to return to their villages.
- (c) WFP led a mission to Toulepleu in conjunction with its government counterpart (DNC) to inform the directors of the school canteens (for school feeding) about the hand-over of the canteen management responsibilities to the DNC. Directors as well as parents and teachers were informed, thus ensuring a smooth transition.

## **(3) Liberia**

- (a) From 7 to 13 March, over 930 tons of food were distributed to 96,000 beneficiaries. This included the distribution of resettlement rations to 7,730 returnees (both IDP and refugees). Since the start of the resettlement programme in October 2004, about

89,450 returnees received resettlement rations from WFP, as part of their assistance package to return back home

- (b) During the second week of March, three convoys with 460 Liberians refugees from Guinea and Sierra Leone arrived at the UNHCR transit centres in Grand Cape Mount, Bong County and Lofa County. Additionally, 6,200 IDPs were transported home by IOM from camps around Monrovia to Grand Cape Mount and Bomi Counties. People of both groups received resettlement packages, including food from WFP.
- (c) Approximately 37,000 students received food in Maryland, Bomi, Bassa and Cape Mount Counties through the Emergency School Feeding (ESF) programme. In Harper, WFP also distributed some 16,475 non food items (in the form of cup, plates, spoons, and cooking pots) to the schools to ensure that the pupils eat the school meal using appropriate hygienic utensils. The distribution was done after a selection of locations and schools representing communities in which parents have limited abilities to supply such items. All participants in the ESF programme (including the Government, school authorities and World Vision International) were very appreciative of the programme, stating that it is likely to increase attendance and that it improves the concentration level of the students.
- (d) Continuous pipeline breaks are expected from May onwards unless new contributions are received. Food shortages will begin in May with corn-soya blend, salt, pulses and vegetable oil, and will gradually affect all commodities in June.

#### **(4) Mauritania**

- (a) A WFP/FEWS-NET/OFDA joint food security assessment mission visited Mauritania in late February. It concluded that the food security situation is difficult in the agro-pastoral area of the country. Commodity prices are high, causing significant food access problems for vulnerable households. A deterioration in the situation is foreseen if no interventions occur in the near term.
- (b) Commodity pre positioning for PRRO 10359, Strengthening of the Means of Subsistence of Drought-Affected Populations, is underway. A total of some 6,020 tons of wheat have been shipped to regional warehouses in target regions. Project selection is underway for PRRO Food-For-Work activities in collaboration with partner NGOs. Distributions are expected to begin in March in favour of 400,000 beneficiaries living in targeted municipalities of the regions of Gorgol, Brakna, Assaba, Tagant and Hodh el Gharbi.

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

#### **(1) Regional**

- (a) Preliminary forecasts indicate a high probability of significant reductions in the 2005 harvest and crop quality, due to prolonged dry spells and localized floods. The dry spell, which prevailed for 3 to 5 weeks, came during a critical stage of crop development. In addition, the drought will probably result in a reduction in pasture availability and water shortages. Lesotho, southern Malawi, southern Mozambique, the Caprivi Strip of Namibia, Swaziland, southern Zambia and Zimbabwe are the areas most affected. Floods ruined crop fields and could affect production in parts of Angola and Madagascar.
- (b) An FAO/WFP rapid crop assessment mission will be deployed in Lesotho on 18 March and in Swaziland on 30 March. Zambia recently undertook a drought assessment covering Eastern, Lusaka, Western, Central and Southern provinces. The results are not yet available. Other countries will conduct national vulnerability assessments.

- (c) Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10310 Assistance to Populations in Southern Africa Vulnerable to Food Insecurity and the Impact of AIDS has an 87 percent resource shortfall and urgently needs contributions to provide 358,000 tons of food to about 4.6 million people vulnerable to food insecurity and HIV/AIDS in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe in 2005. The project started in January 2005 and will end in December 2007.

## **(2) Angola**

- (a) The reported damage caused by the heavy rains that hit the northern areas of Kuanza Norte Province has increased. Local authorities of Kuanza Norte Province reported that 600 houses have been destroyed and over 7,000 persons lost their possessions and crops in Ndondo municipality. WFP is conducting a rapid food needs assessment.
- (b) A hemorrhagic fever outbreak has been reported in northern Uige Province. The exact number of victims, the virulence and the origin of the disease have yet to be confirmed. The outbreak has delayed the repatriation of 100 refugees that were living in the Transit Centre in Maquela do Zombo and who were supposed to be transferred by air to Uige. WFP continues to closely monitor the situation.
- (c) New contributions are urgently sought to avoid an imminent pipeline break in PRRO 10054.2, Support to Return and Resettlement. About USD 36 million or 60,000 tons of food are needed for distribution to returnees during 2005

## **(3) Lesotho**

- (a) Reduced yields are likely in north-eastern Mokhotlong, eastern Thaba-Tseka, south-western Mophale's Hoek, western Mafeteng and north-western Berea districts, due to erratic rainfalls and hailstorms that stunted and damaged crops.
- (b) The Thaba-Tseka District Agricultural Office has reported the outbreak of an unidentified disease, affecting cattle in the Mashai area of the district. The symptoms of the disease are similar to Foot and Mouth and Black Quarter identified by mouth sores, fever and stiffness before livestock eventually die. The disease is suspected to be contagious. While investigations to establish the causes of the disease continue, the public has been warned to avoid eating meat from the affected cattle and to report similar cases.
- (c) From 9 to 15 March, WFP distributed about 1,300 tons of food to 85,000 vulnerable people, including households affected by HIV/AIDS.

## **(4) Madagascar**

- (a) According to the Conseil National des Secours (CNS) update, 25 people died in torrential rains and flooding last week. The floods damaged rice paddies and destroyed homes over northern Madagascar around Lake Alaotra. Lake Alaotra is considered Madagascar's "rice basket" and accounts for about 13 percent of the country's rice production.
- (b) Between 7 and 14 March, showers and heavy local thunderstorms aggravated flooding problems and hampered clean-up efforts in the area. More than 58,000 people have been affected in four regions, about 8,000 households lost their homes, and over 2,600 hectares of rice paddies were ruined. There are fears of a second year of severe shortages of its staple food, rice in the provinces of eastern Tomasinina and western Mahajanga. Madagascar is still recovering from rice shortages after cyclones Gafilo in April 2004 and Ernest in February 2005 destroyed crops.
- (c) The Government of Madagascar has sought the assistance of WFP and FAO to study the establishment of a rice reserve to ensure sufficient availability of rice to meet the

needs of the people. The rice reserves will be an interim measure. WFP will soon undertake a feasibility study on the introduction of a rice reserve mechanism under the auspices of recommendations from the WFP-NEPAD study on Options for Food-Security Reserve Systems in Africa. The study will also look into putting in place long-term measures to address chronic food insecurity and high levels of malnutrition, primarily caused by frequent cyclones, droughts and other natural disasters. The Minister of Agriculture met with WFP officials in Rome on 11 March.

#### **(5) Malawi**

- (a) Reports from the Meteorological Department indicate that dry conditions were again experienced in most parts of Malawi during the first 10 days of March. Most crops have been scorched by the dry spell that occurred for more than one month, particularly in the southern and central parts of the country. Crops are wilting along Shire river valley from Mangochi through Balaka to Chikwawa and Nsanje districts. The situation is slightly better in the north, although localised areas were also affected by the dry spell.
- (b) Government, donors, development and humanitarian stakeholders continue to monitor the situation and are discussing their response to the extended dry spell that has affected the country.

#### **(6) Mozambique**

- (a) Mozambique's Technical Secretariat of Food Security and Nutrition reports confirmed a seasonal drought in southern Mozambique, particularly in Gaza and Inhambane provinces. According to the Infolash, a total of 108,000 people have been identified as extremely food insecure. Areas in Tete, Sofala and Manica provinces may also be severely affected if lack of rainfall continues. WFP is monitoring the situation.
- (b) In February, WFP distributed some 2,400 tons of food to about 109,000 beneficiaries under PRRO 10310. Over 60 percent of beneficiaries received the food under vulnerable group feeding activities, and the remainder mostly under Food-For-Work (FFW) and community safety net activities. WFP is planning to retain support to vulnerable groups and FFW activities beyond March.

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

- (a) The Ministry of Finance budget statement of 9 March indicated that about 70 percent of the Swazi population now lives below the poverty line of E128.60 (USD 21.50) per month [70 cents per day]. This represents a four percent increase over last year's 66 percent. The situation is likely to worsen with the rate of unemployment expected to increase from the current 29 percent to 40 percent.
- (b) Provisional estimates of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) indicate that the rate of growth in the Swazi economy fell from 2.6 percent p.a. in 2003 to 2.1 percent in 2004. The fall is attributed to the persistent drought, a decline in the area of cultivated land (non-irrigated), and the closure of some textile manufacturing companies in the country, amongst other factors. The budget estimates indicate that about 67,000 hectares of land was cultivated this season. This is considered a significant decline from the early 1990s, when maize alone covered almost 100,000 hectares of the then total of 120,000 hectares cultivated. The decline in area cultivated is attributed to the persistent drought and the effects of HIV/AIDS.

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

- (a) According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), a prolonged dry spell in February occurred in the southern half of Zambia, negatively affecting crop development, especially in Southern and Western provinces, where earlier dry spells

had taken place.

- (b) Generally maize production in the 2005 season is expected to be 30 percent below last year's levels, which were exceptionally good. Although the lean season is coming to an end, some areas will face continued food problems due to a reduced green harvest in the March /April period. In Southern Province, the situation will be exacerbated by the continued ban on livestock trade, due to Foot and Mouth disease.

## **(9) Zimbabwe**

- (a) The state-run Grain Marketing Board (GMB) announced that it is importing maize, the national staple food, in the wake of lower than expected harvests. The cereal import is reportedly part of government's contingency plan to respond to food deficits and build strategic grain reserves. According to media reports, the Government last month announced it had earmarked 12 billion Zimbabwe dollars (roughly USD 1.2 million) to assist about 1.5 million needy people.

**(D) Asia:** (1) Bangladesh (2) Indonesia (3) Korea (DPR) (4) Maldives (5) Myanmar (6) Sri Lanka

### **(1) Bangladesh**

- (a) The UN security phase remains at level I in Bangladesh, implying a precautionary state.
- (b) Scarcity of irrigation water and the prevailing power shortages are reporting to have an adverse effect on the agriculture sector. However, several parts of the country have experienced light showers, which will facilitate some relief to the farmers. Meanwhile, prices of staple foods and vegetables remain high.
- (c) Due to poor roads and communications, logistics is facing difficulties in transporting blended food to project sites. Distribution of blended food under the Supplementary Feeding Programme is therefore going at slower than expected pace.
- (d) Food-For-Work activities are currently ongoing in four districts. Preparations for Rural Livelihoods Support for 325,900 families are underway.
- (e) The return date of the rice that had been diverted to Tsunami operations has been confirmed for early April. The resourcing levels of EMOP 10380, Assistance to Flood Affected People in Bangladesh, remain at 38 percent.

### **(2) Indonesia**

- (a) A clash between the Indonesian Military (TNI) and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) is reported to have occurred on 16 March in a small village 7 km north of Lamno; WFP activities have not been affected.
- (b) WFP met with representatives from various provincial ministries during the week to discuss proposed recovery activities, and in particular School Feeding and Maternal Child Health (MCH). The local authorities were very receptive to the proposed activities and keen to discuss how these activities could be used to strengthen the health and education structures, which have been heavily affected by the tsunami.
- (c) Rice from Bulog warehouses in Lhokseumawe is currently being dispatched to WFP implementing partner Save the Children. All commodities for March distribution and April pre-positioning are now available at Lhokseumawe, with the exception of noodles which are expected to arrive shortly. Expected deliveries to the Aceh west coast have been delayed due to technical problems with the landing craft at Malayati port. The repairs are expected to be finished shortly.
- (d) The overall planning figure for March stands at 590,570 beneficiaries, up from 445,000

in February. This increase is accounted for by the addition of vulnerable groups and the inclusion of more host families.

- (e) WFP, UNICEF and WHO met to jointly plan nutrition activities, to provide longer term support to the Provincial and District Health Departments. WFP's role will focus primarily on supplementary feeding programs for pregnant and lactating women; school feeding; strengthening food security, nutrition and livelihoods surveillance system; and institutional feeding, such as food support to hospitals, unaccompanied children, TB patients and Food-For-Work.
- (f) Warehouse capacity is being increased across sub-offices. Furthermore, the second WFP/UNHAS Twin Otter plane is scheduled to arrive on 16 March. The aircraft will operate out of Medan to support the humanitarian community in Aceh and North Sumatra provinces throughout the relief and reconstruction phase
- (g) The Foreign Minister of Czech Republic, Cyril Svoboda, visited Banda Aceh on 11 March. The Minister assisted with the distribution of rice in Ingin Jaya IDP camp in Banda Aceh. On 15 March, the Force of Nature Aid Organization (FNO) visited Banda Aceh. Malaysian delegates, and celebrities Michelle Yeoh, and the lead singer of the Black Eyed Peas, will-i-am, distributed WFP fortified biscuits at a primary school, and at Mercy Malaysia IDP Camp. This event preceded the FNO's fundraising concert, scheduled to take place on the evening of 18 March in Kuala Lumpur.

### **(3) Korea (DPR)**

- (a) Following the recent announcement by Government that Chagang province - inaccessible for WFP monitors since October 2004 - would again become accessible for monitoring, WFP is planning to resume food distributions to the province starting next week. With the 7 counties in Chagang reopened, WFP now has access to 158 out of 203 counties/districts, representing 83 percent of the population. Access has not yet been restored to three previously accessible counties: Kowon (South Hamgyong province), Sinchon (South Hwanghae province) and Kangdong district in Pyongyang.
- (b) From 12 to 18 March, 18 out of 19 WFP-supported Local Food Production (LFP) factories were operational during the reporting period. The cereal-milk blend (CMB) factory in Huichon is preparing to resume production next week, following the reopening of Chagang Province. Production for the second week of March was over 1,400 tonnes which is equivalent to almost 100 percent of the weekly requirement defined for DPRK's Emergency Operation.
- (c) To save the rapidly depleting LFP stock of milk powder, the production of corn soya milk blend (CSM) has temporarily been shifted to Corn Soya Blend (CSB). New donations of milk powder and soybeans are urgently needed. The current stock of dried skimmed milk will be finished in May and soya beans in April. Moreover, the stock of wheat is rapidly depleting in Hamhung, Wonsan, Chongjin and Hyesan and will finish before May, thus jeopardizing the production of biscuits, noodles and CMB for children in primary/boarding schools, nurseries and kindergartens as well as pregnant/nursing women on the East Coast.
- (d) Although expected cereal arrivals will allow WFP to feed all Vulnerable Group Feeding beneficiaries with planned rations through May, WFP is faced with serious pipeline breaks thereafter. Unless new contributions are urgently confirmed, many beneficiaries, including elderly people and low-income urban households, will be cut from distribution plans in June. Moreover, nursery and kindergarten children will not be receiving oil as of April or pulses as of May.

### **(4) Maldives**

- (a) The school feeding programme has successfully come to an end; some 70 tons of fortified biscuits have been distributed to 24,000 school children in the Maldives. A combined evaluation and lessons learned report of the programme is being prepared jointly by the Ministry of Education and WFP. Overall, the biscuit programme has been well received at the schools visited.
- (b) WFP distributed 63 tons of rice and 20 tons of sugar for the vulnerable group feeding programme during the period from 24 February to 17 March. Vulnerable group feeding covers 42,000 beneficiaries. The next distribution cycle, planned for late March, will include a complete food basket of rice, sugar, pulses and oil.

#### **(5) Myanmar**

- (a) The third cycle of the tsunami food distribution for March is ongoing in KawThaung, targeting 4,170 beneficiaries. So far, 20 percent of beneficiaries have been reached in the villages of Chang Wa, Sunge Barline, Sunge Barkaung, Palawa Barline and Turtle Island, where a total of 12 tons of food was distributed to 830 beneficiaries. Pulses were included for the first time in the food basket which also includes rice and oil.
- (b) Food-For-Work activities are ongoing in the tsunami affected villages of Htanbingone, Layinkwin, Kaingthoung, Mingalar Taungtan, Kwinpauk, Aunghlaing, Pyin Salu, Phonedawpyi, Kyaukkalatt, and Dee Do Gone for construction of water ponds, access roads, drainage canals, houses and toilets. Implementing partner, ADRA, reports that some 12 tons of food have been distributed, benefiting 600 participants.

#### **(6) Sri Lanka**

- (a) Killings and demonstrations have continued in the disputed areas (areas not directly under the control of the Government or LTTE). It is becoming increasingly difficult to apportion blame for a specific killing to any particular group as there are stories that each side is killing its own cadres and then blaming the other. The situation is exacerbated by the inability of the police to investigate incidents in areas that are not under direct government control. A Presidential Commission of Inquiry has been established to investigate the alleged attacks on LTTE cadres in the east, particularly in the Batticaloa and Ampara districts. WFP operations have not been significantly affected by recent violence.
- (b) A general strike (hartal) was called in Trincomalee by a Tamil organization protesting against reported insufficient tsunami aid to Tamils. Tamil and Muslim shops were closed, as well as banks, public offices and schools. The hartal was called off on 14 March and business has returned to normal.
- (c) During routine monitoring activities in Ampara district, WFP food monitors found that the affected people are greatly concerned about resettlement. There has been some tension as people await government directives on permanent housing. Hartals were reported in Kalmunai and Sainthamaruthu divisions, but WFP work is continuing without interruptions. The way forward in permanent housing reconstruction is an issue affecting all the tsunami-affected districts.
- (d) WFP met the Secretary of the Ministry of Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation (MRRR), key implementing partner, and held preliminary discussions about the proposed pilot project to provide cash-in-lieu of rice to beneficiaries. The government is supportive of the initiative. WFP is also looking into the possibility of buying rice locally from the high rice production tsunami-affected areas in addition to the pilot cash-in-lieu of rice project.
- (e) WFP general food distribution has been expanded until the end of April to accommodate government relief food/cash coupons, which will expire during the first

week of May. At this time, WFP will shift to recovery programmes and provide targeted assistance through WFP ration cards in all affected areas. Priority will be given to vulnerable group feeding, as well as MCN/School Feeding in tsunami affected areas that are showing high levels of food insecurity.

- (f) In Trincomalee district, local authorities are making efforts to reduce the number of beneficiaries by making assessments and removing from registers those who no longer require food assistance. The beneficiary caseload in Ampara district has fallen to 180,000 from about 200,000 as local authorities continue to streamline beneficiary numbers.
- (g) WFP met with UNICEF in Ampara to discuss the way forward with regard to maternal child health programmes (MCN); both partners agreed that MCN activities would be implemented in all food insecure parts of the district (as planned before the tsunami) and also in non food insecure areas affected by the tsunami; provided that the assistance is targeted to tsunami-affected families only.
- (h) TNT has commenced fleet management operations. This private company is managing free-of-charge a fleet of 11 trucks for WFP, including the payment of fuel and drivers.

**(E) Latin America and Caribbean:** (1) Bolivia (2) Colombia (3) Cuba (4) Guatemala (5) Haiti (6) Nicaragua

### **(1) Bolivia**

- (a) Besieged by social conflicts, road blockades and protests, on 15 March, President Mesa called for early elections in August, two years before the official end of his term. Immediately following his speech, Congress approved the controversial Hydrocarbons Law Bill article 53, which refers to the formula: 18 percent royalties and 32 percent taxes, applicable to all gas fields.
- (b) On 16 March, roadblocks started to be removed in some departments and only the road connecting Cochabamba and Santa Cruz remains blocked. Consequently, WFP regular distribution activities could be resumed.
- (c) Due to late sowing and a scarcity of water in 2004, the harvest in el Chaco region is expected to be in June rather than in May. Some communities in the municipality of Gutierrez reported a total loss of their current crops due to the lack of water.
- (d) The joint WFP-Civil Defence rapid assessment mission in the municipality of Cotagaita (Department of Potosí) reported that there are some 362 families who lost all of their productive assets as a consequence of the recent floods. WFP will assist these people with some 4,995 food rations.
- (e) As of 14 March, WFP had distributed some 45 tons of food to 1,000 families affected by the drought in 24 communities of the Municipalities of Camiri and Boyuibe, El Chaco region. Distributions will also take place in the municipalities of Gutierrez and Cuevo. WFP is purchasing food for distributions that are scheduled for the end of March.

### **(2) Colombia**

- (a) The President declared a "state of emergency" in the municipalities of Bucaramanga, Girón, Lebrija, San Vicente and Landázuri (Province of Santander) due to strong seasonal rains and floods. The Government has designated more than USD 30,000 to help affected families. WFP delivered more than 40 tons of emergency food aid to affected people in this region.
- (b) Different organizations have reported an increase in the number of clashes between government troops and rebels during the past few months due to the government's security strategy. About 48 persons died on 12 March due clashes between

government troops and rebels in the provinces of Bolívar, Santander, Antioquia, Huila, Meta and Tolima. WFP implements different implementation activities in these provinces (except Huila) although no security incidents have been reported by WFP staff in these provinces.

- (c) The authorities of the Province of Antioquia reported that at least 17 children under five have died of hunger in the municipality of Apartado and nearby areas in the past few months. The report indicated that despite several food aid interventions have been implemented in this region, many families remain without access to food. WFP has initiated ten food assistance projects in this region in the context of PRRO 10158, Assistance to People Displaced by Violence.
- (d) During the past week, a total of some 180 tons of food were distributed to 38,955 people in 8 provinces in the context of the PRRO 10158. These commodities were distributed as part of preschool and school feeding activities, Food-For-Crisis, Community kitchens, distributions for expectant and nursing mothers, nutritional recovery and Food-For-Work activities. In addition, WFP distributed about 4,470 school kits to children assisted through the WFP School Feeding Programme in the Provinces of Antioquia, Atlantico, Bolivar, Cesar, Choco, Magdalena, Norte de Santander and Santander.
- (e) The European Commission has announced that they will provide about USD 16 million in new humanitarian assistance to benefit the large population which has been displaced as a result of Colombia's longstanding internal conflict. The funds are targeted to assist 130,000 Colombians, immediately after they have been displaced, with food and essential non-food items. Non-governmental organizations and international agencies operating in the region will distribute the aid.

### **(3) Cuba**

- (a) Drought continues to raise very serious concerns in the country, affecting 935 populated areas. Last February, the level of rainfall nationwide was 58 percent of the historic average, while 8 provinces – Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Camagüey, Las Tunas, Holguín, Granma, S. de Cuba and Guantánamo – did not even reach half of this indicator.
- (b) At present, dams in the country hold only 32 percent of their total capacity. Out of the 73 dams for water supply, 15 are out of service and only 23 will only be active during the next four months. The situation will remain unchanged until next spring which, according to specialists from the Institute of Meteorology, will be very dry.
- (c) New investments in the old water supply and distribution systems and the elimination of leakages the main measures being taken by the government to face this difficult situation. Citizens are repeatedly urged to reduce water consumption. Some vulnerable groups are receiving an additional food ration provided by the government.
- (d) Last year, WFP supported some of the eastern provinces with an Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR/EMOP) that ended in November. WFP and the Government are preparing a new EMOP now, considering the serious situation of food availability which affects food security, especially the nutritional situation of vulnerable groups.

### **(4) Guatemala**

- (a) Congress ratification of the Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) caused demonstrations among farmers concerned about the impact of the agreement on jobs, agriculture, etc. Consequently, Congress will examine initiatives to mitigate the effects of the agreement in areas such as rural development, diversification of the agriculture, food security, fiscal reform and minimum wages, among others.

- (b) Harvest losses in the Peten Province, arising from the irregular rainfall last year, parched soils and scarce water supply, are estimated at 60 percent of the average harvest. The Ministry of Agriculture is monitoring the situation and will provide food assistance to affected small farmers.
- (c) In the context of PRRO 10212, a total of 45 tons of maize, beans, corn-soya blend and vegetable oil were distributed to community-based centres in the Province of Totonicapan for the nutritional recovery of children under five years of age and pregnant and lactating women suffering of acute malnutrition, as well as to communities in the Province of Huehuetenango undertaking asset creation activities to mitigate the effects of shocks. This food distribution will benefit a total of 1,035 families.

## **(5) Haiti**

- (a) The entire country remains in UN security phase III. Common crime and/or political violence continue to be reported, especially in the Port-au-Prince area, where criminal gangs attack the local population, the Haitian National Police and the MINUSTAH troops. Ex-FAdH (Force Armée d'Haïti) commander for the zone of Las Cahobas, Jean-Baptiste Clotaire, was killed on 6 March in an ambush staged by an unknown group of armed individuals.
- (b) Two WFP programme survey missions to a sensitive area were cancelled due to tensions. Additionally, on 7 March, a commercial truck carrying 10.5 tons of WFP food was hijacked close to the WFP warehouse at Shodecosa in Port-au-Prince. The driver was released unharmed and the Haitian National Police/MINUSTAH recovered the truck (without the cargo).
- (c) On 7 March, the citizens of Fonds Verrettes blocked the roads in support of their demand for humanitarian aid and assistance in rebuilding their homes. They claim that their situation has not improved significantly since the May 2004 floods.
- (d) Some 245 tons of WFP food commodities were distributed by the implementing partner CARE to about 6,645 beneficiaries affected by the floods in Gonaïves. Another 545 tons of food were delivered to health centres and schools (EMOP and Country Programme) in the West, North and Northeast Departments and to the various implementing partners of PRRO activities in the Northwest and Port-au-Prince.
- (e) WFP has distributed a total of over 6,105 tons of food in Gonaïves and its outskirts since the onset of the crisis, and another 210 tons to other affected areas (Port de Paix, Chansolme, etc.) in the context of Emergency Operation 10347.0, Support to Victims of Civil Unrest.
- (f) Deliveries from the Port-au-Prince container terminal continue to be a major concern. WFP is putting pressure on port authorities to shorten delivery times. A shipment of sixty 20-foot containers of rice for the Cap Haitien sub-office will be transhipped through Freeport Bahamas.

## **(6) Nicaragua**

- (a) WFP food distributions to vulnerable groups and schoolchildren under PRRO 10212.0 continue. Some 10,365 pregnant and nursing women, 11,160 children under 2 years of age and 53,805 schoolchildren in the Central and Northern Atlantic Regions will benefit from those distributions. WFP is delivering some 70 tons of food for the school feeding programme in Matagalpa. Food-For-Work activities will resume in April.
- (b) PRRO 10212.0 will face shortfalls through August 2005 of rice, beans vegetable oil, maize and corn-soya blend if no commodities are announced in the coming months or those that are announced arrive late.

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

### **WFP Weekly Emergency Report**

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

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

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

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

[Valerie.Sequeira@wfp.org](mailto:Valerie.Sequeira@wfp.org)

tel: +39 06 6513 2009

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

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

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

tel: +39 06 6513 2602

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

---

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

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