

World Food Programme Emergency Report 2005
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 Emergency Report 2005-7

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(A) Highlights

- (a) By February 11, WFP is feeding more than 1.4 million tsunami affected people, and has dispatched over 24,000 tons of food.
- (b) WFP is distributing high energy biscuits and other food commodities to thousands of flood affected people in Guyana.
- (c) WFP plans to deliver some 42,700 tons of food to Sudan's Darfur region in February.
- (d) In Eritrea a total of 12,800 people already moved back to their places of origin after having spent almost six years in an IDP camp. They will receive WFP provided food rations.
- (e) Emergency food assistance is needed for about 2.9 million acutely food insecure Ethiopian people in February. WFP aims to cover around half of the emergency assistance.
- (f) A WFP conducted food needs assessment revealed that 10,000 vulnerable people would need food aid in areas in central Shan State, Myanmar, where farmers have stopped growing poppy.

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

(1) Burundi

- (a) Armed banditry was reported in Gitega, Ngozi and Rutana provinces and ambushes were reported on the road between Cibitoke and Bujumbura.
- (b) The census conducted in the two Congolese refugee camps in Musinga and Mwaro provinces concluded that the overall number of Congolese refugees in Burundi amounts to some 7,625 persons.
- (c) WFP distributed close to 1,400 tons of food aid to over 226,000 beneficiaries. Distributions under the school feeding programme included take home rations for some 13,800 girls. No distributions were conducted for refugees. Some distributions were carried without pulses (beans or peas) due to shortages of this commodity in-country.

- (d) The analysis of data from the joint FAO/WFP/UNICEF and Ministry of Agriculture (MINAGRI) Crop and Food Supply Assessment mission is being finalized. Preliminary results indicate an increase of the overall beneficiary number and the required food aid quantity in various provinces.
- (e) Public verification of beneficiary lists were conducted by food monitors in six communes in Makamba, Muyinga and Kirundo provinces. Double registration of individuals and households was reported.
- (f) The Grand Caravan aircraft that was flown into Burundi by WFP after the humanitarian air operations were interrupted by the sudden and unexpected termination notice of the previous service provider, is not the most suitable aircraft for operating under Burundian conditions. Timely identification of a Twin-Otter or similar aircraft is therefore crucial to keep the humanitarian air operations in Burundi at the desired level.

(2) Congo, DR

- (a) Insecurity fuelled by attacks from uncontrolled military groups continued in rural areas of North Kivu province, preventing the delivery of WFP food to remote locations. Areas such as Walungu and Kabare (South Kivu), which were closed to humanitarian workers, are now accessible due to improved security. Joint UN needs assessment missions were planned. Soldiers however continued to prey on mothers of malnourished children attending supplementary and therapeutic feeding centres. In Uvira, violent disputes within governmental institutions denoted the current precariousness of state reunification in areas far away from Kinshasa.
- (b) In North Kivu, the assisted caseload of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Ituri continued to decrease, as confirmed by reports from Cooperazione e Sviluppo (CESVI). WFP has thus planned to direct much more food to areas affected by military clashes in last December.
- (c) WFP in Bukavu released more than 400 tons of food to various partners, including primary schools involved in school feeding programmes. An unknown quantity of food has been requisitioned by soldiers who showed up in one of the schools.
- (d) In Uvira the humanitarian situation of 535 returnees from Burundi, under the supervision of UNHCR, remains of concern. WFP assisted the caseload with food when they arrived in October 2004.
- (e) WFP continued to support the implementation of therapeutic and feeding programmes in the hinterland of the Maniema province, but remained concerned with the growing number of drop outs in most affected areas, as reported by Cooperazione Internazionale (COOPI) and Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), WFP's main cooperating partners.
- (f) In Katanga province, monitoring activities were focused on school feeding programmes. In the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) supervised schools, the attendance rate of girls was 100 percent against 98 percent for boys.

(3) Eritrea

- (a) Resettlement of IDPs under a joint UNDP/UNICEF/WFP/Government of Eritrea (GoE) programme took place from 31 January until 3 February. A total of 12,800 people moved back to their places of origin after having spent almost six years in an internally displaced persons (IDP) camp. The partners have installed 13 hand pumps and 7 generator-operated water points, one health centre and two health facilities with 6 professional health staff and 2 ambulances as well as makeshift schools. WFP supports the resettled population with food rations up till the first harvest for a period of maximum one year. Altogether some 20,430 people are expected to be moved to their places of

origin within ten days.

- (b) The resourcing situation for EMOP 10261.01, Emergency Food Assistance to Victims of Crop Failure and Drought in Eritrea, has remained unchanged. Commitment coverage stands at USD 29.45 million or approximately 85,000 tons of food commodities. This amount covers about 80 percent of this operation's total resource requirements. With the reduced rations that are being distributed, WFP's in-country food stocks will last until the end of May.

(4) Ethiopia

- (a) An assessment team composed of the federal and Oromia Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPC), USAID and WFP was deployed to the field on 2 February to assess concerns raised about an estimated 16,000 IDPs in Doba woreda of West Hararghe. People were displaced as a result of a referendum that took place in the bordering localities of Somali and Oromia regions last year. The rapid emergency assessment recommended urgent allocations of food and non-food items to assist the IDPs. So far, over 280 tons of food have been allocated to the affected populations, while plastic sheets, blankets, Jerrycans and kitchen utensils are to be distributed.
- (b) Preparations for the government's Productive Safety Nets Programme are ongoing, with identification of districts to be targeted for WFP interventions as one of the key activities. The process is being undertaken jointly by regional Food Security Bureaux and WFP, and seeks to include districts with previous effective technical experience in planning and organizing public and community works, farm improvement and environmental protection activities. The final decision on districts of intervention is made by the Federal Food Security Bureau, and lists of selected districts are now being submitted by the various regions. Safety Net activities must start soon to avoid food shortages in some areas.
- (c) The Productive Safety Nets Programme intends to achieve food security for about 5 million chronically food insecure people within the next 5 years through either food or cash transfers to vulnerable populations. WFP will be supporting this process through labour intensive productive assets (LIPA) activities for able-bodied beneficiaries in chronically food-insecure communities and targeted supplementary feeding for vulnerable children and women.
- (d) WFP aims to assist approximately 2 million chronically food insecure people under the LIPA component. In addition to support to the chronically food insecure, emergency food assistance is needed for about 2.9 million acutely food insecure people in February. WFP aims to cover around half of the emergency assistance.
- (e) WFP conducted a five-day Food and Nutrition training in Addis Ababa. In order to strengthen inter-agency links and links with key partners in Ethiopia, participants also included UNICEF, FAO, UNHCR, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) staff and government counterparts, in addition to WFP staff from the region.

(5) Kenya

- (a) According to the Arid Lands Resource Management Project report for January, malnutrition rates showed slight decline and/or stable trend in most of the pastoral districts due to milk availability, presence of relief food and supplementary feeding. However, in a few districts such as Baringo, Trans Mara, Mandera, Laikipia and Samburu, malnutrition rates reportedly increased due to low availability of milk and other foods, and displacements of population due to conflicts.
- (b) WFP distributed 18,000 tons of food to 1.7 million drought affected people in January. A further 6,000 tons have been distributed over the last two weeks to an additional

500,000 people. Food requirements starting this month will be determined once the results of the just concluded short rains assessment are ready next week.

- (c) During the week, WFP also distributed close to 1,800 tons of food to some 225,000 refugees in Kakuma and Dadaab camps.

(6) Rwanda

- (a) The political and security situation in Rwanda remained calm. However, the influx of Congolese refugees continues. As of 9 February, Congolese refugees in the four camps totaled about 43,925. No food distribution has yet taken place for the February one-month ration.
- (b) The number of Burundian refugees has also increased by 109 new arrivals. A total of 54 tons of food commodities was distributed to almost 3,000 refugees as one-month rations.

(7) Sudan

- (a) **Darfur region:**
- (b) In general, the security situation was calm in the Darfurs during the past week, with no major security incidents affecting WFP operations apart from a minor food disruption in West Darfur.
- (c) WFP plans to deliver some 42,700 tons of food to the Darfurs in February. As of 6 February, a total of 6,650 tons of food had been dispatched by road and air from Khartoum and El Obeid to the Darfur state capitals, representing 16 percent of the monthly plan. Dispatches from the three state capitals to Cooperating Partners (CPs) between 1 and 6 February were close to 5,800 tons of food to an estimated 331,000 beneficiaries (based on dispatches). Airlifts and airdrops resumed during the past week: more than 650 tons of food have been airlifted or airdropped into the Darfurs since 1 February, representing 14 percent of targets for the month.
- (d) WFP continues to work together with OCHA on preparing a plan of action to access people who have not been accessed to date, either due to insecurity or limited capacity.
- (e) NGO reports indicate that there are 3,000 IDPs, including returnees in Arara, West Darfur. An inter-agency mission will investigate the situation on 16 February.
- (f) Preliminary results from a Médecins sans Frontières Holland (MSF-H) nutrition survey in Kalma camp indicate that the Global Acute Malnutrition rate has declined significantly from 23.6 percent in September 2004 to 10 percent in January 2005. WFP will continue with blanket supplementary feeding for at least 3 months in an effort to maintain this rate. Meanwhile, MSF Spain is planning a nutrition survey at the end of February in Zamzam, Galaab and Shangal Tobay.
- (g) FAO, WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture are completing fieldwork for the situational analysis on food security and livelihoods. During the past week, the teams visited markets and households in Malleit, Kebkebiya and Um Kadada, North Darfur. During the week a USAID/FAO-led mission also assessed the impact of food aid in markets in El Fasher and conducted field visits to Malliet and Kebkebiya. WFP met the mission to discuss the food security and livelihoods situation.
- (h) The WFP/German Agro Action (GAA) assessment mission to the area around Kutum, previously served by ICRC, recommends the inclusion of just over 10,000 people in 58 villages in the food distribution for February.
- (i) Confirmed contributions to date amount to just over USD 240 million or almost 55 percent of total requirements. WFP has received enough cereals to cover 90 percent of requirements for 2005. However, contributions are urgently required for non-cereals so

that WFP can 1) guarantee a complete food basket to beneficiaries and 2) successfully pre-position before the onset of the rainy season. WFP has borrowed USD 32 million to pre-finance the purchase of much-needed sugar and salt to overcome shortfalls, in addition to local purchases of cereals to overcome January shortfalls. Given that the delivery time from Port Sudan to Darfur takes an average of two months, on top of four months for contributions to materialise in Port Sudan, contributions for non-cereals are required by March.

- (j) The Special Operation for logistics support faces a shortfall of USD 29 million. The WFP-Humanitarian Air Services faces a shortfall of USD 24 million, taking into account the recently approved budget revision for an additional USD 23 million to cover one jet aircraft (80-100 seater) and three helicopters throughout the year with an additional helicopter for a four-month period during the rainy season.
- (k) **Operations Lifeline Sudan:**
- (l) The general situation in WFP operational areas in Eastern Sudan was reported as calm. However, the security situation in Thiek Thou in Bahr el Ghazal region was tense. This caused an interruption of air drops in the location for the whole week. The WFP Assessment of Chronic Food Insecurity and Nutritional Issues in the Red Sea Hills and Kassala is planned to take place during February. The findings of the mission are scheduled to be finalized by the first week of May 2005.
- (m) A joint meeting, comprising WFP, UNICEF, Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC), the Ministry of Health, MEDAIR and the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) was held during the week. Participating agencies agreed that SRC will set up a feeding centre in Angolo area. This is planned to be undertaken with the support of UNICEF, MEDAIR and WFP and the supervision of the Ministry of Health. The Ministry, MEDAIR and UNICEF will provide medical kits and Unimix while WFP will provide food commodities for malnourished children and take home rations for families whose children are included in the supplementary feeding programme.
- (n) A joint team of UN Agencies comprising WFP, UNICEF, OCHA and UNHCR together with HAC in Bahr El Jebel State as well as Action Contre la Faim (ACF) visited Pibor to assess the status of the Ethiopian refugees reported to have arrived in Pibor from Ethiopia on their way to Juba. Preliminary findings showed high malnutrition rates among children and women, micro-nutrient deficiency as well as eye diseases. The mission recommended urgent humanitarian assistance for the 530 refugees from the Ethiopian Anyuak, Opo and Duak tribes and the host population.
- (o) An assessment on return routes was conducted in Aweil, Baher El Ghazal state. WFP is closely monitoring the situation of returning IDPs on the ground, as large numbers are expected to return to their areas of origin in several locations following the signature of the peace agreement.
- (p) Confirmed contributions received to date against the newly approved phase of the EMOP, 10048.03, amount to USD 11.5 million, which represents 10,750 tons of food. Operational requirements are 270,000 tons of food or USD 301 million.

(8) Tanzania

- (a) Over 402,400 beneficiaries received close to 1,130 tons of food through general distribution, supplementary feeding and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. A total of some 7,640 Tanzanians in the host communities surrounding the camps were supported with WFP host community activities, including Food-for-Work, Food-for-Training, Food-for-Hospitals and School Feeding. In partnership with NGOs, WFP also continued to support refugee self reliance activities, including vegetable gardening and sunflower oil/groundnut sharecropping.

- (b) No new contributions were confirmed. The PRRO faces serious shortfalls of corn soya blend, vegetable oil and salt for the coming six months. As a result, the general distribution ration has been modified as follows: No CSB will be distributed from 15 February - 15 June. The salt ration has been reduced from 10g down to 5g per person per day from 15 - 28 February, and no salt will be distributed from 14 March - 15 June. The vegetable oil ration has been reduced from 20g down to 10g from 15 February - 15 June. The ration of pulses will increase from 60g to 80g from 15 February - 15 June. Rations of maize meal and maize grain will increase from 14 March - 15 June (maize meal increasing from 310g to 410g; maize grain increasing from 265g to 350g).

(9) Uganda

- (a) The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) continues to commit atrocities against the civilian population with two violent incidents on 6 February resulting in 3 civilian deaths. On 8 February, the LRA ambushed a Médecins sans Frontières vehicle, looting drugs, radios and telephones. Renewed LRA hostilities may endanger a possible cessation of the hostilities agreement to begin peace negotiations and raise the possibility of an all-out military offensive against the rebels. According to a high ranking rebel commander who surrendered to the army last week, the LRA is still holding over 1,000 women and children in captivity. Following last week's announcement of an 18-day cease-fire in northern Uganda by the Government, to allow the LRA leadership to resume consultations with the chief peace mediator, no definite date has been set for the negotiating teams to meet. Further, there is still no confirmation of any LRA rebel movement into the 50 square km. cease-fire zone in Gulu and Kitgum districts.
- (b) The expansion of WFP's PRRO 10121.1, Targeted Food Assistance to Refugees, Displaced Persons and Vulnerable Groups in Uganda, was approved by WFP's Executive Board. The project, which targets 2.6 million IDPs, refugees and other vulnerable groups over three years, will commence in April 2005.
- (c) Following the influx of refugees fleeing civil strife in eastern DRC into western Uganda in mid-January, UNHCR has to date transferred 2,851 refugees from Ishasha in Kanungu district and Nkondo in Hoima district to Kyaka II refugee settlement in Kyenjojo district. WFP continues to provide the new arrivals with food assistance.
- (d) WFP food distribution continues to reach a total of some 1.4 million displaced persons, 190,000 refugees, and other vulnerable persons. During the period 31 January to 5 February 2005, WFP distributed 4,300 tons of relief food assistance to about 375,770 persons including IDPs sheltering in camps in Gulu, Kitgum, Pader and Lira, refugees, children in nutrition centers and other vulnerable persons.
- (e) A delegation including the Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations in New York visited Gulu and Lira districts from 8 to 9 February. In both districts, the delegation traveled with WFP food convoys, accompanied by armed military escort to Pagak, Awer and Aloi camps to assess the humanitarian situation among internally displaced persons. The delegation witnessed general food distribution, visited IDP households and met with the camp leaders.
- (f) WFP in February will commence a relief operation that will at its height target 500,000 drought-affected agro-pastoralists in the Karamoja region, bordering Turkana in Kenya.
- (g) WFP faces a shortfall of 83,662 tons of food commodities with a funding gap of USD 47 million, required to maintain the food pipeline necessary to continue providing relief assistance to IDPs and refugees through September 2005. Unless new contributions are confirmed urgently, WFP will run out of commodities in May this year and the nutritional status of 1.4 million internally displaced persons in northern Uganda, mostly women and children, will be jeopardized.

(C) West Africa: (1) Chad (2) Cote d'Ivoire (3) Guinea (4) Liberia**(1) Chad**

- (a) Despite reports of insecurity in Sudan's Darfur region in the past weeks, UNCHR reported that there were no major population movements into eastern Chad.
- (b) As at 31 January, UNHCR reported a total of about 213,315 refugees registered in camps. The difference between the actual number of refugees and the number of those assisted is usually due to absentees during distributions. WFP will fully participate in the joint UNHCR/WFP/partners registration/screening exercise planned for the period from 10 to 24 February in northern and central camps.
- (c) During the period from 28 January to 4 February, WFP distributed a total of some 1,295 tons of food to approximately 173,000 refugees in northern and central camps. Next distributions are scheduled to commence on 10 February in southern camps and on 14 February in central and northern camps, depending on food availability and the arrival of cargo from Benghazi. However, cereals are only expected in late February and will be distributed as soon as they are available. WFP, UNHCR and partners will sensitise the refugees on the available food rations.
- (d) No Blanket Supplementary distribution took place during the past week due to the phasing out of partner World Vision International.
- (e) WFP has informed UNCHR and partners that regular monthly food distributions can only be achieved when more food stocks become available in the coming months. The humanitarian coordination meeting in Abéché was informed regarding the break in the cereal pipeline for the second half of February distributions and WFP explained the nutritional implications on the refugees. Recent nutritional survey reports by Médecins Sans Frontières Holland and Action Contre la Faim- USA had indicated acceptable levels of malnutrition in the central camps. However, the fragile WFP food pipeline may destabilize these achievements in the months ahead.
- (f) Following the registration of host populations, authorities in Iriba and Tine requested WFP to conduct general food distributions to the local population. However, given the current inadequacy of food, WFP will only be able to commence food deliveries to schools under the Country Programme as of 9 February. This will include some 3,890 students in 10 schools in Guereda and 20 schools in Iriba, some 5,420 students in 34 schools in Goz Beida, and some 3,770 students in 21 schools in rural areas in Abéché.
- (g) Some 9,000 tons of food are urgently needed before June, to permit WFP to preposition food prior to the rainy season and cover food needs from July until October 2005.

(2) Cote d'Ivoire

- (a) The Forces Nouvelles in Bouake received the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General in Cote d'Ivoire, along with representatives of the World Bank and the Ambassador of South Africa. The purpose of the mission was to discuss the return of the Forces Nouvelles to the Government of National Reconciliation and the disarmament process. The Prime Minister also travelled to Bouake to meet with the Forces Nouvelles this week. The Forces Nouvelles in Man seem tense of late. Taxis and public transport vehicles are not allowed to circulate after 20.00 hrs and vehicle searches at roadblocks are becoming more systematic.
- (b) On 3 February, a gunfight broke out between police and a pro-government militia group in Abidjan, killing two people and injured many others.
- (c) The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Ruud Lubbers, visited Cote d'Ivoire this week and stated that the rate of repatriation of Liberian refugees will be

increased.

- (d) The Cote d'Ivoire 2005 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) was officially launched in Cote d'Ivoire on 4 February. WFP's 2005 operation is presented in both the 2005 Cote d'Ivoire CAP as well as the West Africa CAP, however funding is only requested through the West Africa CAP to avoid confusion.
- (e) From 2 to 8 February, about 195 tons of various WFP provided food commodities were distributed to over 21,800 people, under activities aimed at mainly refugees, IDP's, school children and social workers.
- (f) WFP's 2005 operation, Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation 10372.0, Cote d'Ivoire Crisis and Regional Impact, will reach 695,800 beneficiaries in Cote d'Ivoire with over 26,000 tonnes of food. The budget for the regional operation is USD 28.2 million, however, so far only 2.6 USD million has been received or 9 percent of the total budget. Contributions should be confirmed as soon as possible, to allow adequate time for procurement and transport and thereby avoid pipeline breaks during the lean season of May through September.

(3) Guinea

- (a) The swarms of crickets that invaded northwest Guinea in mid-January have now reached Labe. The situation requires intensive control measures. The crickets are likely to affect new WFP supported school garden projects around Kissidougou.
- (b) After the attempted assassination of the President on 19 January, checkpoints have been established throughout the country. Cases of racket and violence have been observed. On 7 February, taxi-drivers went on strike to protest against such abuses.
- (c) The High Commissioner for Refugees, Ruud Lubbers, travelled to Guinea, from 30 to 31 January, to promote peace in the sub-region. He noted that 75,639 refugees are currently being assisted in the seven camps in Guinea. He also called for the implementation of rehabilitation activities in the areas most affected by the population movements.
- (d) The facilitated repatriation process is ongoing. Over 260 Liberian refugees from the Laine camp were repatriated on 1 February, bringing the total to 1,943 since the beginning of the operation in November 2004. The first convoys from the Kola and Kouankan camps are respectively scheduled for 10 and 14 February.
- (e) On 31 January, UNHCR announced that the Lofa and Nimba counties, where most of the Liberian refugees in Guinea originate from, have been opened up for the return of refugees. This should accelerate the voluntary repatriation process. Both counties, situated in northern Liberia, experienced some of the worst fighting in the civil war, leading to a massive influx of refugees from these areas.
- (f) A total of 75,600 refugees are currently being assisted with WFP provided food. Of these, some 4,000 are from Ivory Coast; around 2,000 are from Sierra Leone; and the remainder are from Liberia. Due to the pipeline breaks, WFP is forced to maintain the refugee general ration at 1,600 kcal in February. As a consequence, living conditions in the most vulnerable refugee camps are deteriorating.
- (g) Canteens assisted in the Emergency School Feeding programme are facing a critical food shortage and have been forced to stop their activities. However, the arrival of some 1000 tons of bulgur should allow the second delivery of commodities for all schools to begin in mid-February. Originally scheduled for December 2004, this delivery has been delayed due to a lack of resources.
- (h) More than 30 participants attended a WFP gender conference organised in Conakry from 24 to 27 January. The aim was to raise awareness among WFP partners concerning WFP's eight Enhanced Commitments for Women.

- (i) On 24 January, six WFP donated motorcycles were officially distributed to the education authorities in Labe.

(4) Liberia

- (a) The past week was generally calm throughout Liberia. Economic related crimes and criminality remained the main security concern. The handing over of rubber plantations to the rightful management has led to tensions and required intervention of UNMIL and county authorities. Monrovia experienced demonstrations in connection with the civil servants and ex-combatants for payment of salary with benefits and school fees respectively, but they were not violent. The UN announced on 2 February that it had secured enough money to pay the school fees for 3,792 former combatants from 88 different secondary schools who were expelled after the Christmas holidays. Their return to class, scheduled by the end of next week, is expected to reduce tensions.
- (b) In the past week WFP distributed some 1,160 tons of food commodities to more than 52,505 beneficiaries, mainly under emergency school feeding, general food distribution for IDPs in the camps and support to IDP and refugee resettlement programmes.
- (c) In Buchanan IDP, after a verification exercise, the new caseload for IDPs under the feeding programme dropped from 15,336 to 11,833 persons. The registration of IDPs for the return and reintegration process continued in Ricks, Jah-Tondo, Blamasee, and Perry, Sawegbeh, and Wilson IDP camps. During the week, about 7,975 IDPs were deregistered from the general food distribution log and their ration cards were replaced with resettlement tickets.
- (d) Some IDPs expressed their desire to settle in Monrovia. In response to this, UNHCR, WFP, IOM and HCS/UNMIL have arranged to undertake a pilot procedure allowing IDPs wishing to reside in Monrovia to receive their package and leave the camps by themselves. The pilot project has already begun in Ricks Camp.
- (e) A WFP planning mission visited parts of Lofa County and found that the County was increasingly attracting humanitarian attention. WFP is looking forward to providing support on time and implementing ways that will maximize support to community recovery efforts. A presentation of findings from the Lofa Food Security and Nutrition Survey is scheduled for end-February. Lofa County is the hardest hit county by the war in Liberia and will be one of the focus counties for the resettlement process. The resettlement of approximately 220,000 returnees, refugees and IDPs in the county is anticipated.
- (f) WFP and its cooperating partners discussed and agreed to provide take home ration for girls in all counties, except for Montserrado and Margibi, as their school attendance in school dropped dramatically. In Bong County, there has been a strong increase in school attendance. WFP and its partner, Lutheran World Service, will address the increased need for food support. In Nimba County, the newly launched Emergency School Feeding programme is functioning well. WFP and partners are, however, facing logistic difficulties to reach all of the targeted schools due to bad road conditions and limited transportation.
- (g) Continuous pipeline breaks are expected unless new contributions are received. Food shortage will begin with corn soya blend, salt, pulses and vegetable oil in May, and will gradually affect all commodities in June. To avert food shortfalls and make loan repayments, USD 16 million is needed for through June this year.

(D) Southern Africa: (1) Regional (2) Angola (3) Lesotho (4) Malawi (5) Namibia (6) Swaziland (7) Zambia (8) Zimbabwe

(1) Regional

- (a) WFP urgently needs contributions to the regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation PRRO 10310, Assistance to Populations in Southern Africa Vulnerable to Food Insecurity and the Impact of AIDS, to provide 358,000 tons of food to 4.9 million people vulnerable to food insecurity and HIV/AIDS in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe in 2005. Donors have contributed USD 36.5 million against USD216 million required for 2005. An amount of USD 395.1 million is required for the entire project that started in January 2005 and will end in December 2007.

(2) Angola

- (a) According to local authorities, some 800 persons living in Dondo, northern Kwanza Norte province, lost their homes and belongings because of heavy rainfall in the last week of January. The local administration is undertaking a more detailed assessment to determine the magnitude of losses and possibly required interventions. In Kwanza Norte, WFP provides food assistance to 10,000 beneficiaries, the majority of which are internal returnees.
- (b) The PRRO 10054.2, Support to Return and Resettlement, urgently requires about USD 40 million equivalent to 60,000 tons of food for distribution to returnees through 2005. Without immediate new contributions WFP will have to introduce even more severe distribution cuts beginning in April.

(3) Lesotho

- (a) Erratic weather, including heavy rainfall and hailstorms, has severely affected agricultural production and food security at the household and district levels. Sharply declining employment opportunities and rising staple food prices have also adversely affected household resilience to cope with the shocks of declining food availability and access. A joint WFP/FAO crop status analysis mission is planned tentatively for the 1st week of March.
- (b) There has been a significant increase in the market prices of farm produce. Prices of cabbage increased by 12 percent, white maize 22 percent, and sorghum 37 percent since December 2004.
- (c) From 2 to 8 February, WFP and its partners distributed 468 tons of food to 34,000 vulnerable people, including households affected by HIV/AIDS. More families are expected to register for WFP assistance as the lean season progresses.

(4) Malawi

- (a) Joint WFP/Cooperating Partners assessments indicate that an additional 280 households in Chikwawa and Phalombe districts in southern Malawi will need assistance under Targeted Food Distribution for Assets (TFD-A) as a result of the floods in the country. Earlier assessments indicated that about 40 percent of the 1,780 flood affected households were vulnerable and food insecure. More flooding has been reported in Dedza district in the central region. Comprehensive assessment and registration of affected households is in progress.
- (b) A two-week dry spell was recorded in Machinga district, also in southern Malawi. The dry weather conditions are expected to have a negative effect on crop growth and development.

(5) Namibia

- (a) About 11,700 orphans and vulnerable children received food rations in Kavango, Caprivi and Oshikoto and Ohangwena regions through EMOP 10334.0, Targeted Food Assistance to Orphans and Vulnerable Children Affected by Food Insecurity and

HIV/AIDS.

- (b) On 17 February, WFP will provide food rations to about 8,000 refugees under EMOP 10145.1 Assistance to Angolan Refugees in Namibia. A joint UNHCR/WFP random verification exercise will be conducted during the food distribution exercise.

(6) Swaziland

- (a) The latest Agrometeorological Update reported that prospects for a good harvest look grim, following the storms experienced in January. The report indicates that crops damaged by recent storms are beyond recovery in most parts of the country, especially in the northern and eastern parts. The storms mainly affected the Middleveld, Lowveld and Highveld in the Shiselweni region.

(7) Zambia

- (a) The government response to food needs in flood-affected areas has been slower than expected and as a result food needs in these areas are worsening. Findings from a recent rapid needs assessment carried out by the Vulnerability Assessment Committee indicate that in some parts of Western province the food security situation continues to worsen since January as the hunger season progresses.
- (b) Due to the overwhelming number of HIV/AIDS/TB beneficiaries, under the Nutrition Programme for Vulnerable Groups (NPVG) that forms part of Zambia's Country Programme (2002 - 2006) 10157.0, an expansion programme is urgently required. In 2004, the NPVG Programme reached 128,400 beneficiaries, in 26 hospitals and 293 health centers in various districts. In 2005, WFP hopes to increase the number of beneficiaries to 263,000. The programme expansion requires a minimum of 1,072 tons of food per month costing approximately USD 560, 000.
- (c) The WFP refugee operation PRRO 10071.1, Food Assistance for Refugees from Angola and Democratic Republic of Congo, urgently requires USD 4.5 million to provide full rations of food to approximately 86,000 refugees through to December 2005. Some donors have already contributed generously to the refugee operation. However, further contributions are needed to prevent a pulses and salt pipeline break in March.

(8) Zimbabwe

- (a) Muzarabani and parts of Lower Guruve districts in Mashonaland Central province in the north were affected by flooding, triggered by the cyclone in Mozambique. A preliminary report from the Civil Protection Unit estimated that approximately 70,000 people are affected or displaced. Crops and livestock are reported to have been destroyed. Bridges have been swept away and roads remain impassable, delaying the delivery of food to the area. The Government is helping move some of the affected households to higher ground while assessments are in progress to determine the level of required assistance.

(E) Asia: (1) Bangladesh (2) India (3) Indonesia (4) Korea (DPR) (5) Maldives (6) Myanmar (7) Sri Lanka

(1) Bangladesh

- (a) The weather remains dry, while temperatures are starting to climb, suggesting an imminent end to the cool season. No serious consequences were realised this year with regards to low temperatures that had left thousands dead in the past two years.
- (b) Prices of staple foods (rice and wheat flour) continue to spiral upward.
- (c) Prevailing political unrest culminating in several days of nationwide strikes has delayed

the distribution of food under the EMOP, 10380 Assistance to Flood Affected People in Bangladesh.

- (d) Under the EMOP's Supplementary Feeding Programme, to date, the distribution of 1,400 tons of blended food to 251,835 children and 166,245 women has been completed, representing about 64 percent of planned works.
- (e) As of January 2005, 4,060 tons of high energy biscuits (HEB) have been utilised under the Primary School Feeding programme. Remaining resources are barely enough to take the programme beyond February 2005. Unless additional resources are received, this component will have to be phased out.
- (f) Resources deployed to the Tsunami should be returned soonest so that Food for Work activities under the EMOPs Rural Livelihoods and Infrastructure Rehabilitation component can be completed before the monsoons begin.
- (g) Overall resourcing levels remain inadequate with only 38 percent of the original estimated needs having been met. With donor attention now focused squarely on both Tsunami and Darfur operations, additional contributions appears increasingly unlikely.

(2) India

- (a) The WFP assessed caseload in Tamil Nadu is about 190,000. So far some 115,000 beneficiaries have received biscuits.

(3) Indonesia

- (a) WFP met the Indonesian Minister for Social Welfare on 7 February. It was agreed that WFP would provide a full food basket to all internally displaced persons in Aceh province until 30 June 2005.
- (b) WFP conducted a review of the tsunami operation in Jakarta on 10 February. It was agreed that WFP will start a partnership with the Indonesian Red Cross (PMI) for food distributions in three districts south of Meulaboh (Aceh Barat Daya, Aceh Selatan and Singkil.) It was also agreed that WFP will start the immediate implementation of School Feeding and mother and child nutrition programmes.
- (c) In the east coast, including Lhok Seumawe, Aceh Utara, Bireuen and Pidie, over 110,000 IDPs are receiving WFP food. Significant numbers of IDPs are moving back to their home areas and the implementing partner (IP) is following them to ensure beneficiaries access to food.
- (d) On the west coast, approximately 30,000 people received WFP provided food through Action Contre la Faim, including 15,000 beneficiaries in isolated areas who were assisted for the first time.
- (e) CARE and World Vision International (WVI) distributed WFP provided food to approximately 9,000 beneficiaries in Banda Aceh and Aceh Besar between 4 and 6 February. Later this week WVI and Save the Children-US delivered WFP food to some 10,500 IDPs in Banda Aceh and Aceh Besar. On 11 February, Save the Children started distributions to 41,500 beneficiaries in Piedie district. WFP released over 28 tons of food to German NGO HELP for distribution on Nias Island.
- (f) WFP is augmenting its operations in Meubaloh and Calang with additional national staff and office facilities. It was confirmed WFP sub offices will be located in Banda Aceh, Medan, Meulaboh, Lamno, Calang, Lhok Seumawe and possibly also in Tapak Tuan and Singkil. WFP has agreed with the Government of Indonesia to supply six rub halls for storage of relief goods.
- (g) WFP hosted the Food Aid Sector Coordination meeting in Jakarta on 8 February with the participation of UN agencies, NGO's and donors. In addition, a Nutrition Intervention

Task Force meeting took place in Banda Aceh, with the participation of the Ministry of Health, Helen Keller International, WFP, WHO, UNICEF and Mercy Relief. The emergency nutrition plan designed by the MoH was presented during the meeting. WFP's role in providing the food commodities for children from 1 to 5 years old, pregnant and lactating women and school aged children was underscored. UNICEF and WHO will carry out complementary activities.

(4) Korea (DPR)

- (a) The Government has officially declared Kowon county in South Hamgyong Province inaccessible to WFP for monitoring. In accordance with WFP's strict 'no access-no food' policy, all food distributions to the county will therefore be suspended. Eventhough Chagang Province, Sinchon county (South Hwanghae) and Kangdong district in Pyongyang also remain closed, WFP monitoring access is still high: 151 out of 203 counties/districts covering over 80 per cent of the population.
- (b) This month WFP is again able to provide all 6.5 million targeted beneficiaries with cereal rations. Substantive new pledges will allow WFP to uphold this support through May 2005, with the exception of oil that has run out this month for some beneficiaries due to delayed arrivals.
- (c) Because of the on-going Lunar New Year's holiday, WFP has received no update on performance of the Local Food Production factories this week. Production for the first week of February was 1200 tons or 80 per cent of the weekly EMOP requirement. To sustain the production of biscuits and blended foods, new donations of milk powder and soybeans are urgently needed. The current stock of Dried Skimmed Milk will be depleted in May and soy beans will already run out in April.

(5) Maldives

- (a) The Security Phase in Maldives has lowened from phase I to phase 0.
- (b) All planned distributions of High Emergency Biscuits to island schools have been completed totalling 73 tons.WFP, during a monitoring visit to Vaavu and Meemu atolls observed that the distribution of the bisuits is going well. During the monitoring visit, also damage to community infrastructure and personal property were noted.
- (c) WFP and the Government of Maldives are finalizing the distribution plan for the targeted food distribution. A joint criteria has been established to identify vulnerable groups for free food distribution.

(6) Myanmar

- (a) Under EMOP 10345.0, a total of 55 small Food for Work (FFW) projects have been completed in northern Shan State. A total of 340 tons of rice were distributed to about 20,420 beneficiaries for FFW, Food for Education and Vulnerable Group Feeding activities during the last two weeks.
- (b) Under PRRO 10066.2 WFP distributed a total of about 510 tons of food commodities to 45,000 beneficiaries, including primary school children, TB patients and Food for Training participants during the fortnight.
- (c) Last week, WFP conducted a food needs assessment in three townships of central Shan State, where farmers have stopped growing poppy. It was found that about 10,000 vulnerable people would need food aid as their income sources have drastically reduced, and they have not found alternate livelihoods as yet.
- (d) A WFP monitoring mission visited Tsunami affected areas in Labutta township of Ayeyawaddy Division from 7to 9 February. The WFP team observed relief food distribution to the affected beneficiaries and project sites for the construction of water

ponds and village access roads in Pyinsalu village under FFW. Cooperating Partner ADRA has proposed to construct 25 drinking water ponds, 6 km of dyke, 5 km of village access road and the renovation of one damaged bridge. ADRA will start the work within this month.

(7) Sri Lanka

- (a) LTTE called for a general strike to respond to the killing of a high ranking LTTE official on 7 February. The strike affected public services and public transport in Trincomalee district.
- (b) WFP observed that displaced people living with family and friends are more difficult to identify. The new recently introduced coupon system requires both camp residents and those living with family/friends to go to the Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society, the usual government channel for providing food.
- (c) The Government is continuing to issue ration cards for food distribution cards for food distribution in all affected districts. The issuing of these cards, however, continues to pose challenges as not all people in need of food assistance have received them yet. There were demonstrations of 300 complaining families in Kalwanchkudy division. In Trincomalee district, however, good progress has been made: 90 percent of WFP's caseload has received ration cards. WFP is providing food assistance to about 110,000 beneficiaries in this district. The distribution of the second 15-day allotment of food is expected to be completed this week in many of the affected districts. WFP is urging the authorities to speed up the issuance of the necessary ration cards.
- (d) WFP's Emergency Operation has discontinued in Vavuniya district in the North and Puttalam in the Northwest as beneficiaries have returned home and resumed their livelihoods.
- (e) WFP's emergency needs assessment report has been finalized and is available to partners and other stakeholders. According to the assessment WFP's response should cover 12 months and can be divided in a relief (3 months) and a recovery (9 months) phase. The number of beneficiaries would go down steadily from the current 845,000 to 270,000 in September. Total food requirements for 2005 are estimated at 91,300 tons. The assessment shows that from April onwards, more targeted interventions should replace free food distribution. In the recovery phase, in areas where food insecurity was high prior to the tsunami, medium to long term interventions are proposed, as it is assumed that people in these areas have less coping capacities, have more difficulties to recover, and are more at risk of nutritional deprivation.

(F) Latin America and Caribbean: (1) Guyana flood emergency (2) Colombia (3) El Salvador (4) Guatemala (5) Haiti (6) Nicaragua

(1) Guyana flood emergency

- (a) Mahaica River community residents are being severely affected by floods. Vegetable farms have been wiped out, rice fields decimated and cattle are in severe distress as authorities are obliged to release water from the East Demerara Water Conservancy into the river in order to control water levels. People in that area are very concerned about their livelihood and food security, as they depend solely on agriculture for survival. West Demerara residents and farmers are afraid that they will be the next flood victims as they face threats of flooding due to the Conservancy Dam's critical water level.
- (b) On the East Coast and Georgetown some primary schools used as shelters are now being reconditioned and disinfected to start school as some people are slowly returning to their homes.

- (c) WFP held a meeting with the Ministry of Public Services, who corroborated the need for a food-based intervention.
- (d) Distribution of high energy biscuits (HEB) to 2,200 children started on 4 February. WFP accompanied the distribution to provide technical assistance to the Civil Defense Commission (CDC). IFRC also distributed WFP donated food on 5 February to 6,000 people in the urban areas of the East Coast.
- (e) WFP is also providing food assistance to 45 HIV positive affected families identified by Catholic Relief Services (CRS). WFP and CRS will sign a cooperation agreement to continue assisting flood victims.
- (f) WFP and the Government of Chile are cooperating to airlift from Ecuador 14 tons of food (high energy biscuits and canned tuna) to continue to assist flood victims in Georgetown and affected areas.

(2) Colombia

- (a) According to the Bogotá-based Consultancy for Human Rights and Displacement (CODHES), 287,581 Colombians were displaced in 2004, a startling 38 percent increase over the 207,607 forced from their homes the previous year. These statistics suggest that an average of 780 people a day leave their homes due to violence in the rural areas of the country. According to the United Nations, Colombia has the world's third-worst internal displacement caused by a conflict, after Congo and Sudan.
 - (b) Representatives from 24 countries met in Cartagena to discuss financial support for Colombia. Participants reaffirmed their support to Colombia's efforts to secure the country from illegal armed groups subject to definition by the Government of a legal framework for demobilization and peace dialogues. Other topics on the agenda included protection of human rights and development and infrastructure projects. WFP's important role in the country's fight against hunger was highlighted by the Colombian Government during the conference.
 - (c) The security environment remains uncertain and volatile. During the past week, a death toll of 51 was reported due to Colombia's civil conflict. Clashes between illegal armed groups and the Colombian army in the municipality of San Juan de Arama, Province of Meta, may cause new displacements. WFP develops some 25 implementation projects in this province as part of its PRRO 10158, Assistance to People Displaced by Violence.
 - (d) Families in temporary shelters affected by heavy rains received a special allowance from the Colombian Government for temporary housing rent.
 - (e) From 30 January to 5 February, a total of some 250 tons of food were delivered in the context of the PRRO 10158. The food was distributed in 7 provinces reaching about 26,230 people. These commodities were distributed in Food for Work / Food for Training Activities, Food for Crisis, Community Kitchens and Preschool feeding initiatives.
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(3) El Salvador

- (a) On 7 February, the Ministry of Agriculture alerted farmers on the potential consequences of the "El Niño" phenomenon in 2005. Farmers are encouraged to start the plantation season of basic grains (maize and red beans) in June instead of May. MINAG forecasted a period of very little rain in May which could result in heavy losses if grain seeds are planted before the rainy season starts. The influence of "El Niño" in 2005 is predicted as moderate.

(4) Guatemala

- (a) The UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Mr. Jean Ziegler, continued his two-week mission in Guatemala. Mr. Ziegler, accompanied by WFP and FAO representatives, conducted field visits to assess the extent of food security in the country. The visit ended with a press conference in which Mr. Ziegler praised the Government's commitment to the fight against hunger and pointed out several weaknesses that should be addressed to ensure the right to food. The government announced plans to organize an international conference in August to share successful experiences in the fight against hunger in the Latin America and Caribbean region.
- (b) From 30 January to 5 February, a total of some 115 tons of maize, beans, vegetable oil, and CSB was dispatched to community distribution and therapeutic feeding centers run by the Ministry of Health to contribute to the nutritional recovery of children and pregnant and lactating women. The food aid will benefit some 1,350 families (6,750 beneficiaries) over a two-month period in the provinces of Huehuetenango, Quetzaltenango, and Totonicapán.
- (c) The Guatemala component of regional PRRO 10212.0 will face shortfalls of maize and vegetable oil by May and June 2005. The projected shortfalls will prevent children under five years of age suffering from acute malnutrition from improving their nutritional status.

(5) Haiti

- (a) Entire Haiti continues in UN security phase III. Common crime and political violence continue to be reported throughout the country. Four Haitian National Police officers assigned to escort a carnival float in Port-au-Prince were killed and four other people were found dead in the Carrefour Pean area.
- (b) A total of about 355 tons of WFP food commodities were distributed by implementing partner CARE to some 6,415 beneficiaries affected by the floods in Gonaïves.
- (c) In addition, from 30 January to 5 February, a total of some 275 tons of food was delivered to health centres in the West, North and Northeast Departments targeted under WFP's Emergency Operation and Country Programme and to the various implementing partners of Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) activities in the Northwest and Port-au-Prince.
- (d) A series of recommendations made by a project design mission composed of CIDA, FAO, and WFP are currently being incorporated into a new PRRO for Haiti.

(6) Nicaragua

- (a) The National Teacher's Association (ANDEN) declared that its current strike will continue until the Association's demands are met. Meanwhile the Government of Nicaragua declared the strike illegal and announced massive separations if the school year continues to be delayed.
- (b) A strike of the health sector was suspended when the Government approved salary increases for health personnel. However, the health sector announced that they will support the teachers' strike with marches and demonstration throughout the country.
- (c) Food commodities under PRRO 10212.0 are already pre-positioned to start distributions in February to vulnerable women and children and school boys and girls. However, WFP's school feeding programme has not started due to the teachers' strike. Food for Work activities will resume in March.
- (d) If no commodities are announced in the coming months or those that are announced arrive late, the Nicaragua component of regional PRRO 10212.0 will face shortfalls through July 2005, of rice, beans and vegetable oil.

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

WFP Weekly Emergency Report

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