

World Food Programme Emergency Report 2006  
 Issued Weekly by the United Nations World Food Programme  
 Report No. 41 / 2006 - Date 13 October 2006

**(A) Highlights**

- (B) Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe:** (1) Lebanon
- (C) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Eritrea (3) Ethiopia (4) Kenya (5) Rwanda (6) Somalia (7) Sudan (8) Tanzania (9) Uganda
- (D) West Africa:** (1) Cote d'Ivoire (2) Guinea Bissau (3) Liberia (4) Mauritania
- (E) Southern Africa:** (1) Angola (2) Lesotho (3) Madagascar (4) Malawi (5) Mozambique (6) Namibia (7) Swaziland (8) Zimbabwe
- (F) Asia:** (1) Afghanistan
- (G) Latin America and Caribbean:** (1) Guatemala (2) Honduras

**(A) Highlights**

- (a) WFP has officially confirmed that operations will close in Lebanon on 24 October. The decision to close operations was carried out in close consultation with the Government of Lebanon and relevant partners. During this remaining period, WFP will continue to monitor the food security situation and communicate regularly with the Government of Lebanon. During the reporting period (30 September – 6 October), WFP Lebanon dispatched a total of 1,459 tons of food commodities
- (b) WFP assisted 62,380 beneficiaries with 645 tons of food in South Sudan during the reporting period (1-7 October).
- (c) As the traditional “hunger season” before the April/May 2007 agricultural harvest approaches in the Southern Africa Region, WFP commodity forecasts indicate there will be critical pipeline shortfalls from November 2006 until June 2007. Due to relatively favourable harvests in most countries across the region during the 2005/06 agricultural season, vulnerable groups are only just now beginning to re-establish their resources, regain a measure of household food security, and rebuild coping mechanisms. While WFP has been able to support critically vulnerable groups and assist them on the road towards recovery during the past four years of drought like conditions, should there not be a significant improvement in the commodity and resource outlook, any previous gains that have been made will be seriously jeopardized.
- (d) As a result of the volatile situation in Somalia, WFP Kenya and WFP Ethiopia are closely monitoring the influx of Somali refugees.
- (e) WFP Uganda is currently conducting an Emergency Food Needs Assessment in Gulu to determine the food security situation in relation to the possible return process.
- (f) Following the reduction of beneficiary numbers as per the findings of the long rains assessment, beneficiary re-targeting and registration exercises are ongoing in most districts in Kenya.

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

- (a) As of 6 October, the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) multinational troop

deployment has reached nearly 5,500 troops and Israeli troops have pulled out from most of southern Lebanon.

- (b) WFP has officially confirmed that operations will close in Lebanon on 24 October. The decision to close operations was carried out in close consultation with the Government of Lebanon and relevant partners. During this remaining period, WFP will continue to monitor the food security situation and communicate regularly with the Government of Lebanon.
- (c) During the reporting period (30 September – 6 October), WFP Lebanon dispatched a total of 1,459 tons of food commodities. The last round of distributions continued in the south of Lebanon and Nabatiyeh. Based on the results of the food assessment missions in Baalbek and Hermel districts, the only round of food distribution in the Bekaa valley was completed between 2 and 3 October. The last round of food distribution in the southern suburbs of Beirut has started. Throughout the week 70 tons of wheat flour were delivered to the southern suburbs of Beirut. In Tyre, monitoring missions covering around 70,000 beneficiaries focused on post distribution monitoring (PDM) in various towns in the south.
- (d) Assessment missions of orphanages and schools in the south of Lebanon were conducted for distribution of the remaining stock of high-energy biscuits (HEBs) in Tyre. As a result, 8 tons of HEB were distributed to orphanages in Nabatiyeh, Ait Ech Chaab and Jouaya. The HEBs constitute a 70-day ration for 1,350 children.
- (e) WFP chaired the last logistics cluster meeting on 3 October, in which it was confirmed that the logistics cluster services will cease to operate in Beirut on 24 October, concurrently with the end of the flash appeal period. The logistics hub in Tyre has closed. All mobile storage facilities and pre-fabricated offices were handed over to UNMACC. Until the end of operations, the cluster will be quite active with distributions for WFP and UNICEF of food commodities, back to school programme items, water and other relief supplies. Deliveries from Beirut of food commodities for WFP and water pallets and other items for UNICEF continued in various locations across the country during the reporting period.
- (f) WFP also chaired the last food aid cluster meeting on 6 October in Beirut during which it confirmed that the end of operations will occur on 24 October. Food distributions will continue until 16 October and WFP will continue monitoring until 20 October. WFP held a bilateral meeting with ICRC to discuss how a bridging period can take place until the Government's early recovery programmes for vulnerable groups become operational. ICRC has confirmed that its food distributions will take place for six months, starting in November. It intends to cover an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 families.

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

### **(1) Burundi**

- (a) The Joint Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JVMM), charged with overseeing the implementation of the ceasefire accord between the Government of Burundi (GoB) and the last active rebel movement, the Front for National Liberation (FNL), was officially launched on 11 October in the capital, Bujumbura. However, FNL representatives did not attend.
- (b) Mr. Youssef Mahmoud recently appointed by the UN Secretary General as his Deputy Special Representative to Burundi, as well as UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, and UNDP Resident Representative addressed the UN Country Team on 10 October for the first time. Mr. Mahmoud highlighted areas that will be high on Burundi's post-conflict agenda namely: a) An integrated approach

(Development/Relief), b) Enhanced close cooperation with the GoB and c) Human Security.

- (c) Meetings are ongoing in Bujumbura between UN agencies and GoB to revise the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2007/08 in an effort to align it with priorities of the government in the new Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).
- (d) There has been a positive repatriation trend of Burundian refugees from Tanzania. Since August an average of 8,000 refugees/month have entered Burundi through the three entry points of Muyinga, Makamba and Ruyigi.
- (e) Further to a recent request from the GoB regarding much needed assistance to Burundians expelled from Tanzania, WFP is providing a three-month food ration to some 600 people/month (32 tons of food).
- (f) Food for education (FFE) activities have recommenced after the summer break. As part of advocacy activities, WFP together with ONUB (UN Operation in Burundi) is filming FFE activities in Karusi province to highlight the rewarding effects on children in Burundi. The film will be featured on national TV and presented to WFP partners.
- (g) During the period under review, WFP distributed a total of 1, 575 tons to some 233,089 beneficiaries through implementing partners. Most beneficiaries were assisted through the seeds protection rations operation.

## **(2) Eritrea**

- (a) The “kremti” rains (main rainy season for Maekel, Gash Barka, Dehub, Anseba and partly Northern Red Sea regions) have almost completely ended. The farmers have started harvesting in order to avoid spoilage of crops by the weak rains, which are threatening crops this week. The government is advising farmers through mass media to take proactive measures in collecting their harvest from the fields. Sporadic rains have already started in some parts of Maekel region.
- (b) Due to the abundant August and September rains over the main agricultural areas of Gash Barka and Dehub, resulting in more precipitation than in 2005, this year’s harvest will be larger than last year’s. Last year’s harvest was estimated at 200,000 tons by FAO and 400,000 tons by the government. Eritrea needs a total of 615,000 tons per year to sustain its population.
- (c) The livestock situation has improved as opposed to last year due to the summer rains.

## **(3) Ethiopia**

- (a) Although the “deyr” or small rains in Somali region started three weeks earlier than normal in late September, their geographic coverage and amount has been very limited. Only pocket areas in Fik, Degehabur and Gode zones reported a few days of light to moderate rains that facilitated regeneration of browse and eased water shortages. An exception is the heavy rainfall in parts of Fik on 29 September that triggered serious flash floods in Denan district of Gode zone causing the displacement of 600 households and damage to 200 hectares of irrigated farmland.
- (b) Most areas of Somali region where the main or “gu” rains failed earlier this year have not yet recovered and continue to face shortages of pasture that force pastoralists to migrate long distances to feed their animals. Such movement is precipitating tensions and conflicts between the host and the migrating communities. Livestock, especially cattle and shoats, are now weak and in very poor shape in many areas of Korahe, Warder and parts of Gode zones of Somali region. If the “deyr” rains fail, the region will be on the verge of another major disaster.
- (c) In Afar region, the “karma” or main rains have improved the overall food security situation except in the northern zones that border Eritrea. The unknown camel disease

that has been causing considerable deaths to camels in the past months is now subsiding.

- (d) There are no reports on the start of the “hagaya” or small rains in the pastoral and agro-pastoral areas of Borena zone of Oromiya region and in the Southern Regions and Nationalities Peoples’ region (SNNPR). If the National Meteorological Agency’s forecast holds, these areas should expect normal or above normal rainfall over the coming few months. Currently, the condition of livestock in lowlands of Borena is poor due to shortages of pasture. Moreover, shoats are dying in parts of the same zone due to an unknown disease.
- (e) An inter-agency assessment mission led by UNHCR has found that about 1,350 Somali families have moved from Somalia to Barey district of Afder zone in Somali region. These people have reportedly fled from Gedo, Bakol and Bay regions of Somalia following a conflict on land ownership and due to the current political situation in the country. Some initial assistance to the refugees has been provided through an international NGO. UNHCR and the Ethiopian Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) are likely to conduct a detailed registration of the refugees in the near future in order to verify the number of arrivals and to confirm their refugee status. Furthermore, 1,370 Ethiopians who were going to cross the Gulf of Aden illegally have been expelled from Somalia and are currently located in Geladin district of Warder zone of Somali region. The Regional Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Bureau (DPPB) has requested food aid for the caseload, however, no decisions have yet been taken at the federal level.
- (f) The Federal Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Agency (DPPA) is currently processing food requests for the next round of allocations. Food aid has so far been allocated for 155,900 beneficiaries in Amhara region, 10,000 beneficiaries in Dire Dawa, 446,580 in Oromiya region and for 29,300 beneficiaries in SNNPR. For Somali region food has been allocated for 43,300 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in West-Imi and it is expected that allocation will be made in the coming days to other zones of the region.

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

- (a) Following the reduction of beneficiary numbers as per the findings of the long rains assessment, beneficiary re-targeting and registration exercises are ongoing in most districts. Food distributions for October will start once this exercise is complete.
- (b) Post-distribution monitoring was carried out in all 25 districts of the emergency operation (EMOP) in June, July and August. In the process, 333 food distribution points were monitored and some 7,000 households interviewed. Findings indicate 93 percent of the food delivered is consumed at the household level and only 4 percent is shared. The results also show that families are not practicing severe coping mechanism such as begging. The preferred commodities include maize or rice, vegetable oil, beans. Sorghum and lentils are least preferred among cereals and pulses respectively.
- (c) Dadaab refugee camps have witnessed a pronounced increase in the number of new arrivals from Somalia in recent days, with as many as 1,400 individuals arriving in a day. There are concerns that the situation in Somalia will only further deteriorate in the weeks ahead, with the threat by the Islamic Courts Union in recent days of possible civil war against alliances loyal to the Transitional Federal Government. To date there are more than 30,000 new arrivals in the camps and with the current rate of influx, the UN Country Team is now estimating that 80,000 new arrivals would require assistance by the end of 2006.
- (d) As a result of recent pledges to the refugee operation, WFP will not be forced to cut rations for the refugees in November, but is appealing for US\$ 7 million to ensure

continued full rations over the course of the coming months. Last week, WFP and UNHCR's Joint Assessment Mission of the ongoing refugee operation in both Dadaab and Kakuma was concluded. The findings of the mission will provide the framework for the next phase of WFP's refugee programme scheduled to begin in October 2007.

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

- (a) Planting of staple crops, mainly beans, maize, soybeans and groundnuts are delayed in the southern and eastern provinces of Rwanda due to sporadic rains, while planting of beans continues in the volcanic soil areas. This will adversely affect the next harvest.
- (b) The beneficiary figures have stabilized at 41,602 and 2,139 for Congolese and Burundian refugees in Rwanda, respectively.
- (c) No food distributions took place in any of the camps last week other than BP-5 (high energy biscuits), which were distributed to 1,008 children under 14 years in Kiziba camp. Food delivery started in Gihembe camp on 9 October with the plan to provide 282 tons as part of the October distribution.
- (d) 212 returnees from Congo were received last week at Nkamira and Nyagatare transit camps. A three-month ration consisting of 10 tons was distributed before their departure to their places of origin. 43 Rwandan asylum seekers returned from Burundi, mostly to Kibingo and Mugombwa in the southern province of Rwanda.
- (e) There is no change in the number of expelled Rwandans accommodated in Kiyanzi transit camp, which stands at 414. Most of the WFP food was distributed as part a three-month ration package to the beneficiaries departing for resettlement.

#### **(6) Somalia**

- (a) As a result of security assessment undertaken by UN Department of Security and Safety (UNDSS), all UN international staff can return to Puntland as of 7 October. A Special Police Unit (SPU) has been set up with UN assistance to protect UN compounds and personnel. The relocation of international UN staff from south and central Somalia is still in force.
- (b) The security situation in south and central parts of Somalia has significantly deteriorated and remain volatile due to increased tension particularly in Buale and Buur Hakaba where there is a stand-off between the Islamic Courts Union forces (ICU) and the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) on one hand and the ICU and Juba valley Alliance (JVA) on the other hand. An escalation of conflict might cause large-scale displacements among the affected populations and an exacerbation of an already dire humanitarian situation in south and central Somalia. WFP's access to these locations for relief food distribution has been constrained due to the volatile security situation.
- (c) WFP has begun dispatching food commodities to distribution points in south and central Somalia; for the fourth round of relief food distributions, some 27,800 tons of assorted food aid commodities have been pre-positioned in strategic locations to facilitate food deliveries to final delivery points.

#### **(7) Sudan**

- (a) Darfur: Nyala: Insecurity is increasing in camps throughout South Darfur. On 1 October, it was reported that numerous middle-aged adults were harassed and forced out of Gerieda. Another incident occurred on 4 October where an IDP was killed after 15 armed men raided his home at Kalma Camp, consequentially increasing the possibility of potential conflicts within the camp.
- (b) El Fasher: Continued armed clashes have affected humanitarian activities and limited access for staff deployment, assessment and distribution during the reporting period

(1–7 October). It is feared that access to areas, particularly in Kutum and El Fasher, may be denied and that crops will not be harvested if insecurity continues until harvest time. Fighting has been reported in the Malagat and Turmaiz areas, north of Kutum, which has resulted in lack of access and the relocation of non-essential staff by humanitarian agencies working in the area. German Agro Action (GAA) has temporarily postponed distributions to clusters in Kutum North, Hashaba and Dar Zaghawa. WFP and GAA continue to review security conditions to decide when dispatches should resume. There have been unconfirmed reports of landmines in areas near Kutum Town and Kutum-Abdel Shakur Road. As a result, transporting by humanitarian agencies may subsequently be restricted in these areas.

- (c) El Geneina: In West Darfur, the security situation is relatively calm with the exception of a few incidents of fighting which continue to affect humanitarian access. On 5 October, an INGO convoy travelling between Geneina and Kerenik was attacked by six armed men; two staff were shot and hospitalized thereafter.
- (d) South Sudan: On 5 October, WFP security conducted a security assessment in Nhialdu, Unity State. The assessment revealed that the security situation in the area had not improved significantly and the assessment team retained the security level at four until another assessment is undertaken at the end of October. Nhialdu was revised to security level four on 11 September, following militia activities that resulted in tensions in the area.
- (e) UN Department of Security and Safety (UNDSS) enforced a night curfew on UN staff in Rumbek, Lakes State, following harassment of a WFP staff by two gun-wielding men outside the WFP compound at night. At the same time, local authorities have also enforced a curfew in the day.
- (f) Bahr El Ghazal: A group of drunk soldiers harassed a UN staff member in Wau town on 30 September. Local security authorities are taking measures to prevent similar situations from developing in the future.
- (g) Upper Nile: The Area Security Management Team (ASMT) carried out a security assessment in Kaldak and Phom El Zeraf locations, Upper Nile on 5 October. Security level three was retained in the area as significant improvement in the security situation was reported. The security level had been raised from two to three in August due to increased security tensions in these areas. UNMIS Long Range Teams (LRT) increased their presence in the areas and are closely monitoring the situation.
- (h) East Sudan: The temporary suspension of WFP food dispatches as a result of restrictions on WFP staff movement outside Port Sudan has been lifted after clarifications on procedures for WFP. WFP was directed to resume food dispatch and start moving outside Port Sudan to complete a joint assessment with the Ministry of Education of proposed schools that will be supported through WFP.
- (i) Three Areas: The security situation in Abyei has been tense during the week and UN staff were advised to restrict their movement until the situation returns to normal.
- (j) Nyala: 3,249 tons of food was dispatched to locations in both South and West Darfur during the reporting period. El Fasher: 1,580 tons of food was dispatched to assist about 95,000 beneficiaries. In El Fasher Town, a total of about 1,120 tons was dispatched to Dar Es Salam, Alawna, Jawar, Jebel Hilla, El Kerada, Um Sidera and Abu Odam, for the months of October and November 2006. El Geneina: 4,080 tons of food was dispatched, representing 49% of the total requirements for October. South: WFP dispatched a total of 130 tons of food to South Sudan by air from El Obeid locations in Warrap and Upper Nile states.
- (k) Nyala: A WFP security assessment has declared the road from Nyala to Seiseban safe, this has enabled some 52 tons of food to be successfully dispatched to serve 3,280

recently displaced beneficiaries. An influx of IDPs has arrived at Otash Camp due to increased violence in Buram. On 6 October, World Vision International (WVI) verified and registered 2,408 new arrivals at Otash Camp and WFP has distributed about 20 tons of emergency food rations for 15 days to cover for the period before the next regular camp distribution. According to the market survey in Nyala there was an increase since last week in the price of food aid sorghum from 2,400 SD to 4,500 SD and groundnut from 4,000 SD to 4,500 SD. In Ed Daein, the market survey showed an increase in the price of local sorghum from 4,300 SD to 4,500 SD, food aid sorghum from 3,500 SD to 4,000 SD and groundnut from 4,000 SD to 4,500 SD. A market survey conducted in Kass showed a decrease in the prices of food aid sorghum by 17% and millet by 14% and an increase in the price of groundnut by 3%.

- (l) El Fasher: GAA distribution teams have completed dispatches to locations in Um Keddada, however distribution to Um Keddada Town is not yet complete and sensitisation with local authorities regarding distribution methods is ongoing. Distribution is complete for Um Gafala North, Broush, Gebel Hilla and El Arayes and distribution for the month of October is complete for Kutum Town. Food for education (FFE): The State Ministry of Education (SMoE) has requested non-food items such as cooking utensils, cooking pots, firewood, etc., for schools in Kutum and El Fasher. Save the Children Sweden (SCF) and International Rescue Committee (IRC) have offered to provide their support to the Parent Teacher Association at Kassab Camp Schools. According to the monitoring results for two schools supported by FFE in Kutum Town, one school showed an increase in enrolment by 381 students. In both schools, students reported to be satisfied with the food being provided.
- (m) South Sudan: WFP assisted 62,380 beneficiaries with 645 tons of food in South Sudan during the reporting period as follows: 36,940 beneficiaries received 318 tons of food through general distributions; 10,800 school children received 70 tons through FFE; 2,110 beneficiaries received 40 tons through institutional feeding programmes; 12,230 beneficiaries received 215 tons through food for work (FFW) and; 300 beneficiaries received 3 tons through food for training (FFT).
- (n) Results of nutrition surveys in Unity and Bahr El Ghazal: Results of a nutritional anthropometric survey conducted by Action Against Hunger-USA in Unity state between July and August revealed Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates of 16.2%, 18.2% and 13.6% and Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rates of 1.3%, 1.6% and 1.6% in Bentiu, Rubkona and Nhialdu respectively. The results, released during the reporting period, showed a GAM rate above the global emergency threshold of 15%. The poor nutritional situation is attributed to lack of access to safe drinking water, diarrhoeal diseases and other factors. WFP provides food assistance to vulnerable residents in these areas through general food distributions and feeding programmes.
- (o) Concern Worldwide conducted a nutrition survey in Aweil West and Aweil North in Northern Bahr El Ghazal state from 15-23 August 2006 targeting children under five years. Results showed a prevalence of GAM of 17.4% and SAM of 2.0%. WFP provides support to Concern in these two counties through supplementary feeding programmes.
- (p) WFP provided 96 tons of food to about 10,390 returnees during the reporting period. Of the total assisted, 10,000 returnees received 89 tons of food in Kuajok, Warrap State while another 390 returnees in Lologo way station in Lakes state received 7 tons of food. Meanwhile, on behalf of UNHCR, ADRA will open a way station in Pagak area located close to the Sudan-Ethiopia border in readiness for repatriation of Sudanese refugees from Ethiopia that is scheduled to commence in December.
- (q) The 2006 annual needs and livelihood assessment (ANLA) commenced in Southern Sudan during the reporting period. Following the completion of training and orientation workshops by end of September, ANLA teams started data collection in all states

except Northern Bahr El Ghazal which will be covered in the coming week.

- (r) East Sudan: Food dispatches in Kassala: WFP dispatched 99 tons of assorted food commodities to Kilo 26 refugee camp for distribution through general food distribution, supplementary and therapeutic feeding activities. Another 7 tons of commodities were delivered to Wad Sharifey refugee camp to cover the needs of the new arrivals of refugees in the reception camp. WFP's cooperating partner, Sudanese Red Crescent, dispatched about 2 tons to complete food allocations for the FFE activities in Kassala and Hamash Korieb areas to cover pupils' requirements through October. WFP dispatched 29 tons of food to SOLO to cover requirements of 1,342 women benefiting through FFT activities in Kassala town and west Kassala rural areas.
- (s) A nutrition and food security assessment undertaken in four localities of Red Sea State (RSS) in July 2006, by the State Ministry of Health, UNICEF and Oxfam with additional support from ACF, SRC, IRC and HAC has shown very high rates of malnutrition with all four localities exhibiting GAM above the 15% threshold and SAM above 3%. The nutritional status of women in the communities assessed is of particular concern. This is not a new emergency but rather a "chronic nutritional crisis, resulting from a chronic livelihoods crisis in RSS" which has been ongoing for many years. These high rates of malnutrition have been seen in RSS on a regular basis in the past, and this survey was undertaken at the peak of the hungry season when food stocks are low and illness rates high. There is need for an integrated response which needs to focus on both immediate and longer term needs to reduce vulnerabilities and build capacity to withstand future shocks. WFP plans to coordinate with the State Ministry of Health, UNICEF, OXFAM and other partners to develop an action plan for the next 3-6 months to address the report's recommendations and prepare a joint action plan.
- (t) During the week, a total of 64 Eritrean asylum seekers were screened and granted refugee status by UNHCR and the Commission of Refugees. The new refugees were relocated to Kilo 26 camp where they will receive food assistance.
- (u) Three Areas: A joint mission team comprising of WFP, Humanitarian Aid Commission, Sudan Rehabilitation and Recovery Commission, Ministry of Health, Save the Children-US and CARE International commenced an interagency assessment mission for flood-affected populations in Al Muglad, El Fulah and Lagawa localities in South Kordofan. The mission came in response to a request by the Wali and Humanitarian Aid Commission and Sudan Rehabilitation and Recovery Commission on 1 October to provide support to about 700 households affected by floods in Kadugli (Kuek, Demik) Lagawa (Lagawa, Tulushi, Tima) Al Muglad and Al Fulah. The mission will conclude on 9 October.
- (v) WFP and cooperating partner, Save the Children-US held discussions on joint collaboration and future strategies for provision of food assistance in South Kordofan state. Save the Children agreed to provide support through FFE activities in 125 primary schools in Dilling, Talodi and Abu Ghebeha localities. Major constraints facing implementation of FFE activities in the state include inadequate staff to undertake monitoring activities, untimely transportation of food commodities and insufficient non-food items such as cooking utensils. WFP highlighted the need to shift from general distributions to food-for-recovery activities progressively as one of the transitional strategies for food aid intervention in the region. It was agreed that the best approach to accomplish this shift is to identify linkages between FFE and food-for-recovery activities through community consultation and participation of potential stakeholders.
- (w) WFP continued to face difficulty in reaching beneficiaries in Blue Nile state due to inaccessibility to some locations as a result of heavy rains and poor conditions of roads. However, during the reporting period WFP distributed a one-month ration amounting to

two tons of food commodities through general food distribution to 94 returnees at Kurmuk area in South Blue. Another 37 tons of assorted food commodities were dispatched from Kurmuk warehouse to Mayak East, Mayak West, Nezila, Komogamza, Muguf, Yabus and Wadaga schools to implement FFE programmes in South Blue Nile.

- (x) WFP will continue to provide food assistance to returnees in Blue Nile state through October 2006. A joint WFP/FAO/UNHCR/SRRC/CEAS assessment mission on the food security and livelihood situation of the returnee population in South Blue Nile is planned to take place by the end of October if the road condition improves. Findings of the assessment will assist in determining the need for continued provision of humanitarian assistance to the current caseload of returnees who were already settled in their places of origin during this year.
- (y) Other areas: WFP held a coordination meeting with all its FFW cooperating partners in North Kordofan state to discuss preparations for the resumption of all activities in the state as the rainy season is coming to an end. Decisions also included timely submission of distribution reports, significance of regular updates on the current status of implementation for all activities and development of a joint plan of action that will lead to the achievement of at least 80% of planned activities by the end of the year.
- (z) Assistance to TB patients and caretakers in White Nile: WFP has delivered 18 tons of assorted food commodities in Kosti, Rabak and Tendelty hospitals for the institutional feeding program. The program aims to support tuberculosis patients and caretakers of malnourished children.
- (aa) Emergency operation 10503.0: With an estimated monthly requirement of US\$ 60 million, disruptions in WFP's food pipeline appear again as early as January 2007. As of 8 October, WFP's emergency operation has received 89% of the required US\$ 746 million for 2006. This will cover requirements for the rest of the year, and provide a substantial carryover stock for distribution in the first quarter of 2007. However, the operation still faces shortfalls in cereals and corn-soya blend (CSB), amounting to 58,000 tons in the first three months, and WFP still requires donations of up to US\$ 200 million for pre-positioning stocks for the rainy season.
- (ab) Humanitarian Air Service (WFP-HAS) special operation: The prevailing security situation in Darfur has necessitated the implementation of contingency planning in order to ensure an effective, efficient and timely response to the basic needs of the conflict-affected population. As access has increasingly become more limited, the need for additional air capacity is now imperative. Funding was recently confirmed for the deployment of two additional WFP HAS helicopters for West Darfur and North Darfur, which would allow the humanitarian community to benefit from the resulting increased transport to support rapid needs assessments as well as monitoring activities. WFP-HAS operation still needs some US\$ 9 million to guarantee operations through to February 2007.

## **(8) Tanzania**

- (a) The 2006 Coping Strategy Index (CSI) survey, which is scheduled for mid October, will identify the level of household food security as well as refugees' coping strategies. The CSI will provide input to the 2006 Joint Assessment Mission.
- (b) Governors from Makamba, Bururi and Rutana regions of Burundi, accompanied by UNHCR Burundi staff, visited refugee camps in Kibondo and Kasulu districts in late September. The mission encouraged the return of refugees on a voluntary manner. During meetings in the two camps, the mission members briefed the refugees on progress of the Burundi peace process. Despite assurances that the issue of land, in particular for the 1972 refugees is being looked into by a special government committee in Burundi, the refugees appear sceptical regarding the availability of land for the

returnees.

- (c) WFP continues to provide reduced rations due to lack of donor funding. As a result, refugees receive a daily food ration equivalent 1,825 Kcal which is 86 percent of the recommended SPHERE standard for minimum nutritional requirements. It is expected that WFP will continue to distribute reduced rations until additional resources are contributed to WFP.
- (d) General distribution covers 317,705 registered refugees. During the period 5-11 October, WFP distributed 1,027 tons of food through general distribution, supplementary and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. Around 10,300 vulnerable food insecure Tanzanians in the host communities surrounding the camps were also supported with WFP food, including access to camp-based health care facilities, school feeding, food-for-training and vulnerable feeding.
- (e) An estimated shortfall of 23,614 tons (US\$ 13.4 million) exists for the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10529.0 (2007-2008) up to the end of September 2007.

## **(9) Uganda**

- (a) On 6 October, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) 2006 launched a US\$ 4.8 million proposal to help sponsor the ongoing peace talks between the Government of Uganda (GoU) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and monitor the cessation of hostilities. The Juba Initiative Fund is focused on supporting the peace talks taking place between GoU and LRA in the southern Sudanese town of Juba.
- (b) WFP is currently conducting an Emergency Food Needs Assessment in Gulu to determine the food security situation in relation to the possible return process in Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts. The findings will feed into the budget revision VI that will be presented to the WFP Executive Board in February 2007. A mini-budget revision for US\$ 27 million is currently pending approval to cover needs for April-May 2007.
- (c) Mr. Per Engebak, the UNICEF Regional Director, for Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office was on mission in Uganda from 9 to 11 October to assess the situation of children and women in areas affected by insecurity and marginalisation. In Kampala, Mr. Engebak held discussions with senior government and donor representatives and UN agencies on issues of mutual concern including modalities on how the Karamoja Integrated Disarmament and Development Programme (KIDDP) may achieve more effective provision to children and women of services for development. He praised WFP for its assistance and achievements in Karamoja and also stressed the importance for the UN Country Team to continue initiating joint programming.
- (d) WFP will construct 40 teachers' houses in 20 primary schools in the Karamoja region under the food-for-assets programme. The districts will contribute funds using the schools facilities grant.
- (e) WFP food distribution continues to reach 1.27 million displaced persons, 165,000 refugees and other vulnerable persons. During the week under review (29 September-5 October) WFP distributed 2,229 tons of food assistance to 239,947 vulnerable persons.

**(D) West Africa:** (1) Cote d'Ivoire (2) Guinea Bissau (3) Liberia (4) Mauritania

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

- (a) The political situation remained unchanged during the reporting period (5-11 October). Heads of state from the West African Economic Community (ECOWAS) met in Abuja on Friday 6 October 2006 to consider the peace process and how the post 31-October should administered to lead to democratic elections. The security situation was fairly calm throughout the country during the reporting period. However there are two major

dates to go through: 17 October for the African Union meeting and 27 October for the UN Security Council meeting.

- (b) The in-depth food security assessment prior to the 2007/2008 protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) elaboration continued.
- (c) WFP is preparing for the out of season agriculture programme in Bouake, Man and Guiglo. A caseload of 1,930 households is targeted in the 18 Montagnes region.
- (d) In Bouaké, WFP proceeded with the delivery of 57 tons of various commodities to its key partners.
- (e) As of 11 October 2006, the operation has been resourced up to a total of US\$ 46.4 million against increased operational requirements of US\$ 69.6 million (33.3% shortfall).

## **(2) Guinea Bissau**

- (a) Security Phase II and code white were maintained countrywide during the reporting period (1-30 September). To date, insecurity in Senegal's Casamance province has not had a significant impact on Guinea-Bissau.
- (b) According to the Ministry of Agriculture and WFP field visits, the agricultural season is proceeding normally and pasture is adequate throughout the country. Regions at high risk of food insecurity include the southern regions of Tombali and Quinara, where the next rice harvest is expected in December. Disruptions in the cashew market continue to undermine the purchasing power of rural households.
- (c) WFP is implementing relief activities in the regions of Quinara and Tombali, targeting some 77,000 beneficiaries. Activities include food-for-work and supplementary feeding for vulnerable groups in health centers.
- (d) WFP dispatched a total of 381 tons of food to cooperating partners for some 50,000 beneficiaries during the reporting period for the food-for-work and nutrition components of the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10148.2. Dispatches have been slow in September as the rainy season caused access problems in remote areas without surfaced roads.
- (e) WFP has drafted a methodology for a Food Security Monitoring System (FSM) to be established in Guinea-Bissau in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, the European Union, FAO, the National Institute for Statistics and others. This FSM would reinforce and complement the Early Warning System that the Government will set up with EU funds starting next year.
- (f) The PRRO 10148.2 remains 67% under funded, and resource shortfalls are expected to affect project implementation starting in February 2007.

## **(3) Liberia**

- (a) The general security situation remained calm during the reporting period (2-8 October). Although there has been a decrease in the number of recorded crimes, offenses such as rape, armed robberies and murder continued to be reported. Overall, armed robbery incidents are declining in Greater Monrovia, especially in the Paynesville and Gardnesville areas, following an increase in United Nation Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and Government security personnel patrols. WFP operations continued smoothly during the reporting period, without any threat to staff.
- (b) During the reporting period WFP and partners distributed 478 tons of food commodities to over 75,214 beneficiaries under various feeding categories including emergency school feeding, resettlement, nutrition, food for work (FFW) and food for training (FFT) activities.
- (c) During the reporting week, a total of 288 out of the 5,494 residual IDPs received their

four-month resettlement packages. These IDPs were resettled from Wilson Cape (Montserrado County) to Sinje (Grand Cape Mount County). Additionally, regular second tranche distributions were carried out throughout the country to Liberians who had returned from several countries in the sub-region, including Ghana, Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone. A total of 1,422 returnees received their second tranche ration, amounting to 47 tons of assorted food commodities. A total of 209 tons of assorted food commodities were dispatched from WFP warehouses in Freeport, Monrovia, in continuation of September-October 2006 distributions.

- (d) The Country Office food pipeline continues to face food shortfalls due to the delay in the arrival of over 5,900 tons of trans-shipped commodities by vessel.

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

- (a) Results of the nutrition survey conducted early 2006 in collaboration with UNICEF in the framework of the Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) show that 63,000 children under five are malnourished in Mauritania, of which 50,000 moderately and 13,000 severely malnourished.
- (b) Results also show an acute malnutrition rate of 12% among under-five children. The nutrition situation is critical in 5 of the 13 regions of the country, i.e. Assaba, Gorgol, Hodh El Gharbi, Inchiri and Guidimakha with rates exceeding 15%. A casual analysis stressed the poor living conditions in the most affected areas with a lack of adequate shelters, insufficient access to clean water, health care and sanitation.
- (c) In September 2006, WFP reached 29,000 moderately malnourished children (97% of its target of 30,000 for 2006) in 653 Supplementary Feeding Centers (SFCs) around the country.
- (d) A greater capacity for the care and supplementary feeding of malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women is needed in Mauritania. To this effect the WFP supplementary feeding programme will be expanded early 2007 through a protracted relief and recovery (PRRO) budget revision which will enable WFP to support 50,000 moderately malnourished children. UNICEF and WHO are also expanding their action to support severely malnourished children by reactivating the existing 53 Community Rehabilitation Centers. A community based approach to nutrition activities will also be developed.
- (e) The coordination of nutrition activities is weak in Mauritania. The implementation by the Government of the National Development Plan of Nutrition through four sectoral plans of action will improve both the coordination and efficiency of nutrition activities. The provision of trained staff and additional support to local health services as well as the establishment of a health information system and a solid nutritional survey mechanism are challenges for coming years.

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

#### **(1) Angola**

- (a) In light of the severe funding crisis the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10433.0 – Food Assistance for Education and Health in Conflict-Affected Communities of Angola - is experiencing, activities related to the transportation and distribution of food to vulnerable Angolans have been curtailed. An estimated 470,000 persons, mostly children in primary schools, were receiving WFP assistance before the reduction.
- (b) WFP recently met with Government officials in Luanda to discuss the funding crisis and

to inform the Government of WFP's decision to scale back its humanitarian activities in the country. Discussions are ongoing to decide how the previously identified vulnerable groups can best be integrated into the Government's own social safety net and welfare schemes.

## **(2) Lesotho**

- (a) Due to foreseen cereal pipeline shortfalls, WFP distributions did not take place during the reporting period (30 September – 13 October). However, based on an in-country agreement with Cooperating Partners, World Vision Lesotho will distribute cereals to PRRO beneficiaries and WFP will distribute pulses, oil and corn-soya-blend.
- (b) WFP is analyzing the 2006 Lesotho Vulnerability Assessment Committee findings and reviewing current programming initiatives with a view toward making adjustments where necessary in light of the assessment conclusions. This may require food assistance in new geographical locations, not currently operational, in order to address acute transitory food insecurity.

## **(3) Madagascar**

- (a) The lean season has begun in the southern province of Tulear, where 22 communes (some 330,000 people) have been classified as "highly vulnerable to food insecurity" by the EU funded early warning system. In response to food insecurity in the south, WFP will work with Cooperating Partners in order to provide 2,280 tons of food through Food for Work projects involving 66,000 beneficiaries in the 22 communes previously identified as food insecure.
- (b) WFP is organizing a joint mission with ECHO representatives from Tanzania and representatives from the EU delegation in Antananarivo for the period 18-25 October to better assess the situation/needs in the region and the resources available.

## **(4) Malawi**

- (a) At the plenary meeting called by the Department of Poverty and Disaster Management Affairs on 28 September 2006, it was agreed that the needs identified in the national Vulnerability Assessment Committee (MVAC) report must be addressed. It was also agreed that an initial food aid response was required in October and November to ensure affected populations would not go without food while other interventions are being designed. From December forward, affected areas might also receive other assistance in lieu of food aid such as cash transfers, but this is to be confirmed.
- (b) WFP will respond to the needs of people outlined in the MVAC through the current regional protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) after reviewing other parallel pipelines in the country. The MVAC findings indicate that 833,000 people will need some kind of assistance with a missing food entitlement of 57,300 tons. WFP is responding to the maize equivalent with the following commodities which are required to meet Sphere Minimum Standards: maize, pulses, vegetable oil, and corn-soya-blend.

## **(5) Mozambique**

- (a) The pipeline situation remains extremely fragile, despite ration cuts. Should the situation remain as is, commodity pre-positioning plans for the imminent rainy season will be significantly reduced for those critical locations that become inaccessible once the rains begin.

## **(6) Namibia**

- (a) General food distributions to some 5,700 refugees and asylum seekers took place on

10 and 11 October. October food distributions for approximately 88,000 orphans and other vulnerable children are ongoing in all six regions of the country.

### **(7) Swaziland**

- (a) According to WFP field reports, farming activities in the Lowveld and Lubombo Plateau are at various stages of development. As a result of the recent rains, some farmers are preparing their land while others are planting. The early rains have raised hopes of improved weather conditions this year.

### **(8) Zimbabwe**

- (a) Due to ongoing pipeline breaks in cereals and pulses, WFP is currently assisting 331,000 people, down from the planned 800,000 people for October 2006.
- (b) WFP monitoring reports continue to indicate an improvement in maize grain availability in the formal market in most parts of the country, though at prices beyond the reach of the very poor. Price monitoring reports show a 25 percent increase in maize grain prices from September 2006 to October 2006. Some poor households are reported to be exchanging livestock for maize grain.

### **(F) Asia: (1) Afghanistan**

#### **(1) Afghanistan**

- (a) The overall security situation throughout Afghanistan remained volatile during the reporting period (5-11 October) and this continued to limit WFP operations, especially in the Southern, South-Eastern and Eastern Regions where military operations are ongoing. A number of UN missions have also been suspended. On both 8 and 11 October commercial trucks transporting WFP food were attacked in Farah Province, with the latter incident resulting in the death of a driver's helper. These events seriously threaten WFP's ability to move food to the western regions of the country.
- (b) During the reporting period, WFP assisted 133,500 beneficiaries across the country with 2,200 tons of mixed food commodities. The drought emergency response is proceeding. WFP is assisting affected populations through winterization programmes. During the reporting period, WFP also assisted 7,250 beneficiaries with 360 tons of mixed food in the provinces of Badakshan, Ghor, Badghis and Herat.
- (c) WFP is facing serious pipeline breaks which jeopardise the ability to provide enough drought relief. In the Northern Region, which is most badly hit by the drought, there were no food dispatches during the week due to pipeline breaks. Local communities are selling livestock to get food and drinking water, or migrating from their home areas. To date, only 38% of the 21,000 tons food planned for winterization has actually been pre-positioned. This is largely due to restrictions on the export to Afghanistan of cereals purchased in Pakistan. Efforts to obtain authorization from the Pakistani Government to move wheat into Afghanistan for humanitarian purposes have thus far been unsuccessful. In the meantime, the first convoy with rice arrived at the WFP warehouse in Jalalabad this week.
- (d) During the reporting period, WFP assisted 18,500 Internal Displaced Persons'(IDP) in the south of the country, mainly displaced by ongoing military operations, with 300 tons of food.

### **(G) Latin America and Caribbean: (1) Guatemala (2) Honduras**

#### **(1) Guatemala**

- (a) The Meteorological Institute has issued a warning of heavy rainfall during the reporting period (5-11 October), in particular in the northern part of the country as well as in the highlands, as a result of a tropical wave coming from the Atlantic.
- (b) A total of 194 tons of food have been distributed in the Departments of San Marcos and Chimaltenango. WFP is analyzing and elaborating the request for food for work activities (FFW) under the emergency operation (EMOP) 10497.0 in San Marcos.
- (c) A total of 128 tons of food was dispatched for the EMOP in the departments of Chimaltenango, Huehuetenango, San Marcos, Sololá, and Totonicapán, from October 3 to 9, 2006.
- (d) The EMOP continues with a shortfall of 28.6%.

## **(2) Honduras**

- (a) A FAO-PESA-WFP agreement has assisted families that were affected by crop losses in the first agricultural cycle to replant the lost areas in a southern region of Honduras. The second agricultural cycle however, is now being threatened by irregular distribution of rain. An assessment of crop losses will be carried out in coordination with FAO, World Vision, CCFH and Ayuda en Acción.
- (b) An emergency declaration in the municipalities affected by a rats plague has enabled the preparation of an inter-institutional plan to assist the population through technical and food aid, medicines, agricultural inputs, building materials, and control of the plague. The municipalities of Patuca and Catacamas, Ministries of Agriculture and Health, COPECO, Fundación Patuca, MFEWS, FAO and WFP are part of the inter-institutional plan. WFP will also support this operation through the sub-office in Olancho, providing technical assistance.
- (c) Under the food for work modality, women of the affected communities are preparing baits for rats' control. Food will also be used to support crop rehabilitation and improve the health condition of 500 families for 30 days. Some 42 tons of food will be used in this first stage. This operation can be continued and expanded through the new protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO) 10444 activities in 2007.

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

### **WFP Weekly Emergency Report**

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

For comments and information on how to subscribe, please contact the WFP Situation Room at [wfp.emergency.report@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.emergency.report@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