

World Food Programme Emergency Report 2005
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(A) Highlights

- (a) In Chad, there has been an overall improvement in the nutritional status of refugees in the camps.
- (b) In Niger, figures indicate that 3.2 million people —nearly a third of the rural population—are severely and moderately food insecure, and will need food and non-food assistance in the short term. The operation urgently needs 11,000 tons of food in order to avoid pipeline breaks, which threaten as early as December.
- (c) In Pakistan, since the start of the operation, 13,735 tons of WFP food supplies have been dispatched
- (d) In Ethiopia, the FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission started on 14 November with six teams currently assessing crop production throughout the country
- (e) In October 2005, the WFP Southern Africa Regional Bureaux (ODJ) purchased over 88,000 tons of food at a cost of USD 20.6 million. This was the second highest monthly volume on record, surpassed only by the 96,000 tons purchased in November 2003. Over 78,000 tons of food has been purchased for the regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10310. The main recipients of the food purchased were Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

- (B) Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe:** (1) Occupied Palestinian Territories (2) Pakistan (3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)

(1) Occupied Palestinian Territories

- (a) There has been no improvement in the security situation in either the West Bank or the Gaza Strip. Hostilities continue in both areas. Access for National staff (WB and Jerusalem ID card holder) into Gaza was eased this Sunday.
- (b) In the West Bank, distributions are ongoing for the Social Hardship Cases (SHC). Beneficiary selection is ongoing for the New Poor (NP).
- (c) In the Gaza Strip, selection of NP beneficiaries is ongoing in five Governorates.

Community, Habitat and Finance (an NGO) held meetings with local committees in the Middle area, Gaza City and Gaza North. The Beneficiary Applications Forms were distributed to Logistics Centres to start registration which will be completed by the middle of next week; registration in the South is running smoothly.

- (d) During the reporting period (11 – 17 November), 1,243 tons were delivered.

(2) Pakistan

- (a) Up to 87,000 people have been confirmed dead and nearly 2.5 million people have lost their houses, the majority of them now living in tents and makeshift shelters. Some 2.2 million people - 84% of the affected - are in rural areas; 100,000 in semi-urban areas and 200,000 in urban areas.
- (b) Reports of favourable weather conditions for the food distribution efforts were received from various areas.
- (c) The WFP Emergency Operation (EMOP 10491.0), "Food Assistance to Affected Persons- South Asia Earthquake" is striving to meet the needs of an estimated 1,000,000 people. Of these, 901,757 have been reached so far. Since the start of the operation, 13,735 tons of WFP food supplies have been dispatched. The EMOP currently has a funding shortfall of 62%.
- (d) WFP also approved three Special Operations to provide inter-agency services and support: (1) Logistics support for base camps, warehouses, delivery of relief cargo. (2) Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS), (3) United Nations Joint Logistics Centre The WFP has established area offices in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra; 4 sub-offices in Shangla, Batagram/Chatterplan, Garhi Habibulla/Balakot, Bagh; one Air Hub in Abbottabad.
- (e) In Muzaffarabad, 121.435 MT of food was dispatched through 54 air flights. Cooperating Partners are distributing food to the beneficiaries but the data are not available since the process is still continuing. Deliveries are going on by air and by trucks.
- (f) In Mansehra, 81.54 tons of food commodities reached 3,000 beneficiaries. In the quake affected villages 95% of the houses were either completely or partially destroyed and most of the villagers are now living in tents or friends/relatives houses.
- (g) In Shangla/Batagram, 259 tons of mixed food were distributed to 13,800 persons in three distribution points in Batagram, three distribution points in Shangla district and parts of it in Mansehra (Chatter Plan – Battal) through WFP implementing partners IRC, HOAP, ACF, Save the Children and Pakistan Army. Community based distributions were organized in order to distribute as closely as possible to beneficiaries and reduce the distances which they have to travel. At three distribution points the food was distributed by the Pakistani Army.
- (h) In Bagh, benefiting from the favourable weather conditions, WFP, assisted by Islamic Relief and especially by relief troops of the Pakistan Army, distributed monthly rations without delay to 5,500 beneficiaries.
- (i) The Nutrition Survey, a joint effort of WFP and UNICEF, will start its field mission on Monday 21 November.
- (j) Since the start of the air operation, UNHAS has airlifted 1,698.51 tons of cargo and 6,260 passengers.
- (k) The oncoming winter makes the humanitarian operations a race against time. Access remains a major concern with most of the access roads to the valleys are still fully or partially blocked. Without the necessary resources, WFP will not be able to pre-position food and non-food items in time

(3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)

- (a) No significant change occurred in the security situation in the North Caucasus during the reporting period (1–15 November). A number of operations were undertaken by federal forces to locate and detain militants. Security force personnel were also the targets of a number of militant attacks and suffered casualties as a result.
- (b) In Chechnya, preparations for the forthcoming parliamentary elections got under way with a gradual increase in the security alert level.
- (c) During the reporting period, WFP together with cooperating partners Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Islamic Relief (IR) completed the 9th general distribution cycle in Ingushetia and Chechnya with the exception of one district where it was started only on November 10 due to lack of food stocks in WFP warehouses. Altogether within this programme during the first two weeks of November WFP distributed some 644 tons of food commodities to 60,753 beneficiaries. The school feeding programme (SF) continued in 14 districts of Chechnya with the distribution of 485 tons of buckwheat, oil, sugar and salt to provide daily hot meals to 133,206 school children in the second half of November and December.
- (d) During the reporting period, 36 Food-for-Work (FFW) projects were implemented in Chechnya that involved some 546 participants (representing 2 730 beneficiaries). The projects are aimed at improving public infrastructure in different areas of Chechnya through the rehabilitation of irrigation canals, water and gas pipeline repairs. Within the Food-for-Training (FFT) programme, 25 trainees continued attending vocational courses in the city of Grozny.
- (e) The TB programme in Ingushetia and Chechnya continued and provided food for about 640 inpatients and outpatients as an incentive for finalizing their treatment; about 22 tons of food commodities were released by WFP for this project.
- (f) As of end-September, donations reached about 78 per cent of the funding required for the completion of the programme in December 2005. The WFP office is currently in the process of preparing the follow-up 12 months Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10128.2, starting from January 2006. Within the next six months WFP expects considerable shortfalls of food commodities unless resources are mobilized soon.

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

(1) Burundi

- (a) (Last week, WFP distributed 1,301 tons of food aid to 161,707 beneficiaries.
- (b) On 13 November, WFP in-country stocks amounted to 6,045 tons of food commodities. An additional 1,487 tons are being offloaded from trucks and barges. Regional stocks in transit amount to 160 tons only.
- (c) In view of the projected pipeline shortfalls, WFP is considering to extend ration cuts and suspend some activities – food-for-work and food-for-training - in November/December in order to keep sufficient food to sustain a minimum level of activities in January/February 2006. Additional resources are immediately needed to reduce the shortfalls expected from January onwards.

(2) Congo, DR

- (a) In North-Kivu, particularly in Lubero and Rutshuru territories, food distribution was hampered as United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC) and Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC) took the

offensive against Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and other armed groups operating in the area. According to Cooperating Partner (CP) CARITAS, who is identifying displaced people in Kanyabayonga (some 70km from Goma), about 5,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are seriously affected by insecurity.

- (b) Last week, WFP in Kisangani, Oriental Province, released a total of 143 tons of food commodities to 10,711 beneficiaries, including 1,589 HIV-infected persons and children, 280 participants in food-for-training (FFT) activities, 542 malnourished and 8,300 food-for-work (FFW) participants. The FFW activity contributed to restoring access roads, thus improving commercial activities such as the sale of garden products from farms to markets in Kisangani.
- (c) WFP and German Agro Action (GAA) plan to conduct an assessment mission next week in North-Kivu to identify the needs of 350 peasant households recently expelled from the Virunga Park by armed groups. In Ituri district, GAA distributed WFP food aid to some 3,000 returning IDPs in Mabanga. The IDPs, coming from Nizi, received resettlement food packages of 63kg per person.
- (d) During the period under review, 93 tons of maize meal were airlifted from Goma to Kindu to meet the needs of beneficiaries including 4,000 malnourished on treatment in nutritional centres managed by CP Bureau Diocésain des Œuvres Médicales (BDOM) in Alunguli and the Anglican Communion in Kindu.
- (e) The WFP Matadi and Kikwit sub-offices particularly face food shortages in maize meal, corn-soya-blend, pulses and salt. Food rations for November will consequently be reduced or modified to compensate.

(3) Ethiopia

- (a) The FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission has started on 14 November; six teams of FAO and WFP staff are currently assessing crop production throughout the country. This assessment will estimate the 2005 Meher (main rainy season) crop production and food supply for the year 2006. Fieldwork will continue until 4 December; a de-briefing with the United Nations agencies, the government, donors and NGOs is scheduled for 8-9 December.
- (b) Preparations for the complementary pre-harvest Meher emergency needs assessment led by the government's Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Commission (DPPC) have been under way for the past two weeks. The final briefing of the assessment teams is on 18 November and field visits of some 20 teams start immediately afterwards: WFP, other United Nations agencies, donors and NGOs participate. The DPPC-led multi-agency assessment will identify the people requiring external assistance to meet minimum food requirements, i.e., beneficiaries by district, by month, for 2006. The chronically food-insecure population will be addressed through the Productive Safety Net Programme (cash and food transfers). The population affected by acute, unpredictable disasters are to have their food and other basic needs addressed through emergency response mechanisms. The debriefing of assessment teams is scheduled for 13 December.

(4) Rwanda

- (a) The litigation committee registered an additional 14 refugees in Gihembe camp, which increased the number of refugees from 17,234 reported in the previous week to 17,248. Refugee numbers in all other camps remained the same. The total number of Congolese refugees currently in Rwanda stands at 40,053.
- (b) Voluntary repatriation continued in Nyamure camp with 141 refugees returning to Burundi; the number of refugees in Kigeme camp remained stable. In total there are

currently 2,703 Burundian refugees in Rwanda.

- (c) No food distribution was carried out in refugee camps during the past week. However, food distributions to 1,975 refugees in Nyamure camp are planned for 22 November, and to 17,248 refugees in Gihembe camp for next week.
- (d) A total of 188 returnees from DRC crossed the border to Rwanda through Nkamira and Nyagatare transit centres. After being registered, they received a three-month repatriation package consisting of mixed food commodities. Three convoys with 282 returnees from Uganda arrived in Gicumbi transit centre, Byumba province. Following registration the returnees also received a repatriation package of mixed commodities before they were transferred to their places of origin.
- (e) The food security situation in the country is following two distinct trends. On the one hand there is fair food security in those areas that experienced a good season 2005B harvest. Household stocks are expected to last until the end of the lean period (September–November). On the other hand, the most vulnerable households in areas of chronic food insecurity received little or no season 2005B harvest and had to depend on casual labour in neighbouring districts since July. There is increased temporary migration in search of casual labour, sale of household assets (e.g. radios, bicycles) and sale of animals. Rains were generally on time and crops (maize, beans, sorghum) were seen to be well established and maturing in Umutara, Byumba, Gisenyi, Ruhengeri, Gitarama and Kigali Ngali provinces. However, late and erratic rainfall has led to inconsistent planting and less acreage cultivated than normal in western and southern Rwanda (Kibuye, Cyangugu, Butare, Gikongoro and Gitarama provinces). WFP observed this trend in southeast Bugesera region, and the northeastern districts of Kibungo province. However, farmers are confident that if the present rains continue well into December a good season 2006A harvest may still be realized.
- (f) The Disaster Management Coordination Unit under the Prime Minister's Office has called for a rapid joint assessment with partners to establish the number and location of extremely vulnerable households. These typically include the elderly, child-headed households, the chronically ill and the disabled who are unable to rely on casual labour to meet their minimum food requirements.

(5) Somalia

- (a) The start of the minor rainy season or Deyr (October-December) in southern Somalia was three weeks later than normal, has so far been both disappointing and unevenly distributed. With the exception of patchy and localized showers, Hiran, Bakol and Bay regions received only about 15 percent of their normal rainfall for October. No rains were reported during the month of October in the whole of Gedo region, where populations have been facing chronic food insecurity for the past four years. Field reports confirm that shortages of water and pasture in traditional grazing areas in the Juba valley and Gedo Region have resulted in an unusual movement of people and livestock towards Juba River. Malnutrition rates in many parts of southern Somalia are already unacceptably high, up to 20 percent in some areas. In addition, persistent insecurity and renewed civil strife and tension in the south is depressing further the coping options of the populations till the breaking point and this might lead to acute food shortage and hunger before the Deyr harvest season in February-March 2006.
- (b) All activities in Northeast Somalia, including the tsunami Emergency Operation (EMOP) distributions, have been postponed due to lack of stocks in Bossaso.
- (c) Due to the recent activities of pirates in Somali waters, ship owners are demanding an armed escort in order to visit Somali ports. Negotiations are ongoing between WFP and vessel owners to go at least to the northern ports of Berbera and Bossaso, where the risk is lower. Meanwhile, WFP Somalia has been making preparations for alternative

overland routings via Kenya for south Somalia and Djibouti for North Somalia.

- (d) In the North, on the other hand, the start of the Deyr rains was largely normal and the food security situation has considerably improved since the end of a four-year drought with heavy rains in October 2004, although some pockets of population made destitute by the drought and those displaced are still in need of emergency relief attention.
- (e) In a worst-case scenario, if this trend of poor rainfall of the Deyr season continues, at least some 640,000 people, including the displaced, in Southern Somalia will be at risk of a major humanitarian emergency and hunger crisis at the end of this year. The hardest-hit regions include Gedo, Bakol and Middle and Lower Juba, which are normally already chronically food insecure.
- (f) WFP is still in need of some 10,000 tons of cereals, pulses, vegetable oil and blended food till mid 2006 to assist the most vulnerable population in Somalia. These figures are likely to increase by at least 20,000 tons if the current drought continues. The Food Security Analysis Unit of FAO made a Cereal Supply and Demand Balance Forecast for June 2005-May 2006, which took into consideration WFP stocks and pipeline; it predicts that with a very poor ongoing Deyr rainy season (30 percent of the post-war average) at least another 20,000 tons might be needed. Depending on the access to Somalia for commercial imports that could be limited due to maritime piracy and renewed civil strife, the cereals' deficit might increase up to 110,000 tons.
- (g) WFP's in country stocks are at an all-time low, because the logistics supply line to Somalia has come under severe stress due to the spate of ship hijackings in Somali waters, which included two vessels with WFP food aid. Vessel owners are reluctant to call at Somali ports and are asking for armed escort. WFP has begun to again use the overland route from Kenya to south Somalia, while the possible use of Djibouti is being explored for north Somalia.

(6) Sudan

- (a) Darfur:
- (b) The reporting period (8-15 November) was characterised by a marked increase in fighting between, and increasingly within, armed factions party to the conflict in Darfur. Further displacements of populations to the region's camps were reported as a result.
- (c) On 4 November, an African Union (AU) patrol team was detained by armed rebels near Joghana to the south of Nyala. The 35 strong patrol was released later the same day without report of injury. In a separate incident on 9 November, also in South Darfur, an AU patrol was held by armed rebels, although again without injuries reported.
- (d) Between 1 and 13 November, WFP dispatched a total of 20,731 tons of mixed food by land from the logistical hubs to the Darfur region, representing 42 percent of the month's distribution target.
- (e) A total of 2,604 tons of cereals have been dispatched along the Abéché (Chad)-El Geneina corridor so far in November realising 52 percent of the month's allocation. The Abéché operation continued to run smoothly during the reporting week and will become the main corridor to deliver cereals into El Geneina.
- (f) Between 1 and 13 November, WFP delivered a total of 955 MT by airlift to the Greater Darfur region. Air operations to Darfur have been significantly reduced during November as all locations have become accessible by land.
- (g) A total of 109 tons of mixed food was dispatched to schools in rural El Fasher on 12 November marking the start of the food-for-education pilot in North Darfur. Under the agreement between WFP and the Ministry of Education in the state, 10,500 children in 26 schools will receive daily school meals. Non-food items such as cups, bowls and cooking utensils were also provided where needed. Meanwhile, food-for-education

proposals from IRW, the Ministry of Education and INTERSOS were being finalised for the launch of the pilot in West Darfur.

- (h) The nutrition situation in North Darfur was generally stable during the week although GOAL reported an increase in admissions due to diarrhoea in its selective feeding programme in Kutum. MSF-E meanwhile reported an increase in respiratory tract infections in children under five in its feeding centres in the state. In West Darfur, the nutrition situation was also reported by partners to have remained, with decreased net admissions to supplementary and therapeutic feeding centres. The downward trend is expected continue in the coming months with the continuation of the harvest period.
- (i) As of 10 November, WFP's Emergency Operation (EMOP 10339.1) in Darfur had received a total of US\$430 million. Cash contributions of US\$29 million are urgently needed to repay outstanding loans.
- (j) The WFP-HAS Special Operation 10181.3, valued at US\$24 million in 2005, faces a funding shortfall of US\$6.3 million. With monthly operating costs of US\$2 million, donor support is vital to allow WFP-HAS to continue to provide services to the humanitarian community in Darfur and throughout Sudan.
- (k) Without further contributions, WFP's cereal pipeline to Darfur will break in January 2006, and the non-cereal pipeline by April.
- (l) To avoid the break, and to allow WFP to continue to feed 2.5 million people in 2006, the Darfur operation urgently needs either in-kind cereal donations or cash contributions to allow WFP to purchase cereals locally.
- (m) South, East and Transitional Areas of Sudan:
- (n) Summary of Monthly Key events in October for Emergency Operation 10048.03:
- (o) Mr Salva Kiir Mayardit forms the government of South Sudan in Juba. The formation of the government in Juba is expected to strengthen WFP's collaboration in carrying out activities in South Sudan.
- (p) The Annual Needs Assessment (ANA) 2006 Field data collection was started.
- (q) FAO, in collaboration with WFP, EC, SRRC, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the Secretariat for Agriculture and Animal Resources (SAAR), conducted the WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission (CFSAM) in South Sudan.
- (r) Two staff of Fondation Suisse de Deminage (FSD) are killed in an ambush in South Sudan.
- (s) Yellow Fever has been reported in Southern Kordofan.
- (t) Cereal prices begin to fall in part of Sudan.
- (u) USAID Mission holds discussion with WFP Khartoum.
- (v) The Inter-Agency Barge Operation serves 95,430 people in the Upper Nile.
- (w) WFP supports school construction in South Sudan.
- (x) Summary of Monthly Key events in October for Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation 10122.1:
- (y) WFP and its Cooperating Partners distribute 747 tons of food to 82,796 refugees representing 92 percent of targeted beneficiaries in October.
- (z) To date, WFP received 60 percent of the total operational requirements for this operation.
- (aa) Security concerns continued to restrict movement in Abuda, Um Ali and Wad El Helew camps.
- (ab) In October, UNHCR and COR grant refugee status to 358 new arrivals who were included on WFP's general food distribution list.

(7) Tanzania

- (a) Since UNHCR started the facilitated repatriation of refugees to the DRC on 12 October, a total of 1,637 Congolese refugees have returned home. An official launch of the operation, with participation of both governments, took place on 09 November in Kigoma.
- (b) The initial police force deployed in Kigoma region to protect refugee camps has completed their six-month contract and a new police force that has been trained in refugee protection will take over this month. The regular replacement of the police force is part of the security agreement with the Government of Tanzania.
- (c) Due to resource shortages, no corn-soya-blend (CSB) or salt and a reduced ration of pulses of 80g/day are being distributed. The reduced rations provide refugees with a daily intake of 1,813 Kcal, or 86 percent of the approved ration level. The current rations will continue to be applied until 19 December 2006.
- (d) General distribution covers 365,957 registered refugees. During the past week, WFP distributed some 1,336 tons of food through general distribution, supplementary and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. Around 7,046 food insecure and otherwise vulnerable Tanzanians in the host communities surrounding the camps were also supported with WFP host community activities, including access to camp-based health care facilities, school feeding, food-for-work, food-for-training and food-for-hospital in-patients.
- (e) A shortfall of 8,976 tons of food, valued at USD 5.3 million, remains up to the end of May 2006. While the pipeline situation for the coming six months has improved, WFP is not yet in a position where full rations can be provided.

(8) Uganda

- (a) The arrest of the leading opposition candidate for President, Dr. Kiiza Besigye, on 15 November on charges of treason and rape provoked two days of rioting in Kampala. The governing National Resistance Movement Organization held its first nomination convention in Kampala from 14 to 18 November and nominated President Yoweri Museveni to stand for re-election.
- (b) The security situation in northern Uganda remains tense. Rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) ambushed and killed a British citizen in Murchison Falls National Park on 08 November. This follows three attacks on NGO staff in northern Uganda in separate incidents on 25 and 26 October. NGOs are re-commencing activities in internally displaced person (IDP) camps following a suspension of activities in reaction to heightened insecurity. LRA continued guerrilla activities within Uganda. The security situation in most of the Karamoja region remained unstable and unpredictable. Tribal warriors clashed and exchanged gunfire close to the WFP warehouse in Moroto Municipality.
- (c) WFP relief operations continued in northern Uganda despite the heightened insecurity. In the past week, WFP reached 118,627 people with 1,300 tons of food assistance.
- (d) Some 1.5 million people remain displaced in 140 overcrowded camps with few coping mechanisms except cultivation around the peripheries of the camps. The population remains dependent upon WFP assistance for basic survival. WFP provides 74 percent of minimum dietary needs on a daily basis for the able-bodied IDPs. Extremely vulnerable people – the elderly, disabled, orphans, child mothers and others – receive 100 percent rations.
- (e) Refugees continue to enter Uganda. Some 300 Congolese were reported in the media to have entered Uganda on 12 November.

- (f) WFP faces a shortfall of some 79,000 tons through June 2006, valued at USD43 million. Access to land around the IDP camps increased in recent months due to a reduction in violent LRA attacks. IDPs should be able to provide 40 percent of their daily food needs starting January 2006, but will still require 60 percent from external sources until at least the July 2006 harvest. Without this assistance, malnutrition rates would rise sharply and the death rates of young children would increase rapidly.

(D) West Africa: (1) Chad (2) Cote d'Ivoire (3) Liberia (4) Niger

(1) Chad

- (a) The overall security situation remains fairly calm in the refugee camp areas despite the continued military presence in the region, namely along the border between Tine-Bamina-Bahai and Cariari. However, this has no direct impact on WFP humanitarian operations.
- (b) Military and police night patrols (21h to 8h) continue as usual in the areas of Abéché, Farchana, Goz Beida and Guereda. The capital N'Djamena has also seen reinforced military presence during the past week with a continued atmosphere of tension and uncertainty. Two separate attacks were reported early on November 14th, both targeting Chadian military facilities in the city centre and Koundoul (20 km south of N'Djamena). It was reported that the objective of the attacks was to steal weapons.
- (c) The WFP/UNHCR targeted caseload for the November distributions stands at 200,832 refugees in twelve camps. The registration exercise is continuing in the camps and is expected to be completed by the end of the current year.
- (d) The replacement of old ration cards is almost complete in the Mille and Kounoungou camps. UNHCR/CNAR are preparing to undertake regularisation/registration of 'spontaneous' cases in the camps of Touloum, Iridimi and Am Nabak. The operation is expected to begin next week.
- (e) WFP has completed general food distributions for the month of November in the southern and central camps and has commenced in northern camps this week. In Oure Cassoni, the distributions have encountered delays due to security concerns related to tensions among different groups in the camp. It was jointly agreed among agencies and traditional refugee leaders to postpone the start date.
- (f) In an effort to improve the distribution process in the Iriba, Iridimi and Touloum camps, WFP held a meeting with partners - UNHCR, CARE, CNAR and GTZ - on 10th November to address all problems or difficulties encountered during the distributions and to better organise the following cycle.
- (g) Following a similar initiative undertaken by WFP-Guereda last week with UNHCR, CARE, SECADEV and ACF partners, WFP underscored the necessity of providing reliable beneficiary statistics and ensuring that the distributions are conducted efficiently. The distributions commenced in the two camps of Mile and Kounoungou on 4th November.
- (h) On 10th November, a training session was held for all WFP food aid monitors in the Iriba and Bahai sub-offices regarding the implementation of the Results Base Management (RBM) tool kit. This includes General Food Distribution (GFD) monitoring report, GFD Focus group discussions, and a Supplementary Feeding checklist. The Food-for-Work tools are already being field tested. The exercise aims to improve the Food Basket Monitoring & Post Distribution Monitoring activities and to reinforce the Monitoring and Evaluation system in general. The pilot test of the kit has already commenced in the camps of Am Nabak, Iridimi and Touloum.
- (i) Refugees in the Mile camp continue to face difficulties in obtaining firewood for cooking

and often face problems with host communities. The camp's chief has reminded the refugees of the necessity to acquire permits to leave the camp so as not to be perceived as thieves by the host communities. In the Kounoungou camp, some refugees have complained that their ration cards have not yet been renewed and will have to depend on other family members' rations. Others have voiced their need for blankets and mattresses. UNHCR has confirmed that some 6,000 blankets should be available very soon.

- (j) The construction of 15 classrooms in various villages in Iriba is expected to be completed by the end of November, under the supervision of Cooperating Partner ADESK (Association Développement Economique de Kobé). Participants should receive their rations thereafter.
- (k) The rehabilitation of the air strip in Guereda was completed during the reporting week (10 – 16 November), after which a total of 500 participants received 12.250 tons of food.
- (l) Under the Blanket Supplementary Feeding programme for local populations, Cooperating Partner IRD (International Relief Development) expects to complete the final distributions by the end of November, after which the programme will be phased out.
- (m) Meanwhile, WFP is engaged in reinforcing the recovery and development activities planned under the Country Programme by implementing safety net programmes under the Emergency Operation through various income generating and school feeding activities.
- (n) In country stocks in Abéché and the Extended Delivery Points as at 13th November total 4,610 tons of cereals and 3,850 tons of non-cereal commodities. Through the Libyan corridor, two convoys transporting 861.75 tons of sorghum departed from El Kufra on 7 October and are expected in Abéché within two weeks. Out of the consignment, a total of 286 tons are destined for the Sudan project and a 576 tons for the Chad Emergency Operation (EMOP).
- (o) Overall malnutrition rates are stable in the refugee camps, with an average Global Acute Malnutrition rate of around 10% according to the latest screenings by nutrition partners. In accordance with the JAM recommendations, a nutrition survey started last week in the Djabal camp and will also be conducted in the Oure Cassoni and Am Nabak camps shortly. The surveys are aimed at confirming figures collected by the partners through active screening.
- (p) The national immunization campaign against polio was conducted from 11 to 13 November in the department of Kobé (Iriba). Results are expected to be presented by the organisers next week.
- (q) Following an evaluation mission undertaken by OXFAM/UNHCR last week in the camps of Goz Amir and Djabal, UNHCR stated it plans to construct 300 latrines in the camps.
- (r) During the reporting period, WFP HAS transported a total of 160 passengers on the N'Djamena-Abéché routing (UN 21W) and 196 passengers on the Abéché-eastern strips routing (UN 23W). The Farchana runway is currently undergoing repair works of runway markings and installation of windsock. Although the airport is operative, the Directorate of Civil Aviation is due to conduct a runway inspection once the works are concluded.
- (s) To date, the EMOP 10327.1 has received a total of US\$36.9 million, representing 42.58% of the total requirement. The overall pipeline situation is healthy with sufficient resources to cover needs until May 2006. Nevertheless, taking into account the lead time for the food to reach the beneficiaries (4-6 months), it is crucial that additional contributions are confirmed by December to allow for pre-positioning by May 2006.

- (t) The WFP Humanitarian Air Service (SO 10338.1) remains severely under-resourced, with only US\$1,044,634 so far confirmed against a total US\$7.2 million requirement. In the absence of new confirmed contributions, WFP will be forced to suspend the air service in December 2005.

(2) Cote d'Ivoire

- (a) During the reporting period (10-16 November), WFP distributed 520 tons of food to 46,200 beneficiaries. This included distributions to more than 8,000 Liberian refugees and 6,000 IDPs who continue to live in camps in Cote d'Ivoire.
- (b) The general security situation remains calm, but the tension is mounting due to the different points of view in the designation of a new Prime Minister. WFP is continuing with the contingency planning preparedness. WFP's Country Office and sub-offices are currently reviewing all cooperating partner agreements with an objective to have fewer partners with increased capacity in 2006 to deliver/distribute food. Additionally, food security data are being updated with the support of a national consultant who has been appointed to compile lessons learned from the 2002 crisis and to review and analyze current food security data.

(3) Liberia

- (a) Thus during this reporting period (7-13 November), WFP and its Cooperating Partners delivered 130 tons of food to 13,000 beneficiaries in various programmes throughout the country. This included distributions for the resettlement of IDPs and returnees, Institutional and Selective Feeding, and Food For Work programmes. Since the start of the resettlement program, a total of 42,674 returnees and 241,245 IDP have been resettled and given their first tranche resettlement food assistance. Of the total resettled to date, 23,079 returnees and 175,707 IDP beneficiaries have received the four-month food ration, which completes their resettlement food package.
- (b) Preliminary results from Liberia's post-war presidential run-off election held on November 8, 2005 revealed Mrs. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf as winner over the other candidate, ex-football star, Mr. George Weah. Official results are expected to be announced by the National Election Commission in due course.
- (c) Breaks in WFP's pipeline are expected as early as December with serious shortfalls of cereals. Delays in the shipments are hampering the planning and distribution process, and Emergency School Feeding activities have been temporarily halted until more food is available. WFP/Liberia is working closely with the Regional Bureau and Headquarters to receive additional resources and to speed up the expected shipments.

(4) Niger

- (a) Planned Emergency Operation (EMOP) activities through March 2006 will reach a total of over 2 million beneficiaries. Programmed activities include supplementary feeding, a protection ration, a family ration along with rural development activities including support to cereal banks and Food for Work. To date, the WFP Niger EMOP has reached nearly 3 million beneficiaries.
- (b) Monitoring activities showed that cereal banks which WFP had helped to establish in 2001 remained operational for years up until the time of the crisis. Resources permitting, 5,000 MT will be delivered to replenish cereal banks which were depleted during the crisis. Cereal banks are financially independent storage centres which provide, on a credit or subsidized sales basis, village community members with food grain during the lean season. Cereal banks provide more secure access to food grain, as well as reducing the transport costs to often distant markets for beneficiaries.

- (c) The upcoming Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), which will run from April 2006 through September 2007, will contain Nutrition, Food for Work, and Cereal Bank activities, and possibly additional School Feeding activities and a small Food for Training component. The possibility of free food distribution activities has not been excluded. Together with partners and the GoN, the results of current assessments will be discussed to determine the most appropriate course of action.
- (d) In order to implement its planned operations, WFP needs the collaboration of its cooperating partners. There is currently some concern about which of the partners will have sufficient funding to stay in the country. It is now being confirmed within the aid community that the majority of EMOP partners undertaking nutrition activities will remain in Niger through March.
- (e) WFP is currently collaborating with MSF/Switzerland, MSF/Spain and MSF/Belgium to provide protection rations to children in their centres. Through the EMOP, it has also provided both MSF/France and MSF/Switzerland with take-home family rations and with wet rations for mothers staying in their centres. 590 MT of commodities for a targeted blanket distribution to approximately 33,000 moderately malnourished or at-risk children in southern Zinder. A first round of distributions has been completed and a second round is about to start.
- (f) Vulnerable nomadic populations in the Department of Abalack, originally not included in the General Free Food distribution plan, will receive half-rations of cereals and pulses, as decided by the Christian Reformed Church (CRC). Planning for delivery and distribution is now underway. The food insecurity projection for the coming year is in the process of being prepared. The results of various assessments are being analyzed in order to gather an accurate picture of the situation.
- (g) Preliminary results from the UNICEF/Centre for Disease Control nutritional survey are expected to be available this week.
- (h) The EFSA has provided data on the food insecure in Niger, as follows: 1.22 million are in severe food insecurity (13% of the total); 1.99 million are in moderate food insecurity (22% of the total); 1.91 million are at risk for their livelihoods (21% of the total). Those in severe and moderate food insecurity will be in need of aid in 2006.
- (i) Most of the households in severe food insecurity are located in the regions of Tahoua (24% of the households in the region), Dosso (19%), Tillaberi (16%) and Maradi (10%). Households in moderate food insecurity are found in the regions of Dosso (33%), Agadez (29%), Tahoua (25%), Tillaberi (19%) and Maradi (19%).
- (j) The highest number of food insecure households are found in the regions of Dosso and Tahoua (around one half of the households in each region are food insecure), followed by Tillaberi and Agadez (around 1/3rd of the households in each region), Maradi (almost 30% of households), Diffa and Zinder (15%).
- (k) The households in severe food insecurity are basically those who currently have very low cereal stocks for their own consumption (less than 3 months), who have had to sell during the crisis most of their animals to access cash and because they could not feed them, and who have incurred large debts this year. They rely heavily on daily labour and on remittances for their income. They had very poor or poor food consumption (in terms of frequency and diversity of the diet) at the time of the survey (pre-harvest). Part of their food came from gifts and loans in-kind.
- (l) Households in moderate food insecurity have slightly more cereal stocks (3 to 5 months) but they have decapitalized tremendously their animal herd (more than half of the animals sold) and also incurred large debts. They depend on the sale of their agriculture, garden and livestock produce, daily labour and remittances for their income. Their food consumption was also very poor, poor or borderline at the time of the survey.

- (m) Households at risk for their livelihoods are in a borderline situation in terms of cereal stocks (around 6 months) and remaining number of animals; however, they are less indebted than the above two groups of households and could maintain a minimum number of animals. They rely on the sale of their agricultural, garden and livestock produce, daily labour and petty trade for their income. They had poor or borderline food consumption at the time of the survey.
- (n) Food secure households are currently able to maintain larger cereal stocks (at least 9 months); they have sold many animals due to the crisis but they could keep a reasonable herd. Their indebtedness is less important than the other groups. For those who do not have large cereal stocks or animals, they can access food through the sale of cash crop, trade or salaries. Their food consumption was borderline or acceptable at the time of the survey.
- (o) Reports from MSF tend to indicate that blanket supplementary feeding activities are an effective tool in reducing the incidence of moderate malnutrition. A recent MSF/WFP monitoring mission found that on average, the monthly rations were lasting 21 days in each household, suggesting a satisfactory consumption rate that would indicate correct usage of commodities. It also found that 90% of the ration was reaching the targeted children, with 10% reaching other family members. Preliminary information from MSF on an evaluation of the blanket feeding that MSF implemented in Maradi has also noted very positive results.
- (p) Action Against Hunger provided preliminary results of a nutritional survey carried out in the regions of Tahoua and Maradi in September. Comprehensive data collected over both regions was analyzed by agro-ecological zone (corresponding to type of livelihood: agricultural, agro-pastoral, and pastoral). The results show alarmingly high malnutrition rates, in general, and particularly in the agro-pastoral band.
- (q) The Niger Emergency Operation (EMOP 10398.0) is 64.6% funded, having received 37.2 million US dollars in contributions. The current shortfall is of 20.4 million US dollars, which includes 12 Million US dollars in IRA funds that were advanced to the EMOP. WFP is urgently seeking cash contributions amounting to a minimum of 8.4 million US dollars to avoid a break in the pipeline.
- (r) Niger's EMOP will face serious pipeline breaks in January. A corn-soya blend shortfall begins in December and is urgently needed to support nutritional centers throughout the remainder of the EMOP, along with oil and sugar. Cereals are needed for family support rations, food for work programs and to replenish exhausted cereal banks, as are oil and salt. Transport lead-times required to bring food into the country make these resourcing needs extremely urgent
- (s) A total of 61,757 tons have been received to date. Stock currently arriving will be used for post-harvest EMOP activities. Reimbursement of stocks to the Country Program are likely to be postponed.
- (t) CSB stock is rapidly deteriorating; fumigation activities throughout the country as being undertaken as needed.
- (u) The December 2005 Monthly Distribution Plan is being generated by the Programme Unit for use in the new standard operating procedure being put in place by the Logistics Unit.
- (v) The Logistics Unit completed the LTSH matrix, which has been signed and sent into OTF for final review. New LTSH rates have been established at 174.64 dollars per ton.
- (w) The annual CC/SAP meeting on preliminary vulnerability forecasting will be held in Maradi from the 22nd through the 25th of November. The objective of the meeting is to furnish national authorities and development partners with reliable information on the food security situation across the various departments and districts of Niger. WFP will

be actively involved in this process and will make a presentation on EFSA results at the meeting.

- (x) The Regional Consultation on the Sahel is being held in Dakar on 15 – 16 November. WFP provided input for the document that was produced by the CCA for the event. H. E. Ari Malla, Director of the Cabinet of the Prime Minister of Niger and President of the National Council for Sustainable Development, and his delegation met with WFP's Executive Director and West Africa Regional Director in Rome last week. Preparations are continuing for the After Action Review at the end of this month.

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

(1) Angola

- (a) Despite ongoing pleas for donor assistance, the Angola Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation, PRRO 10054.2 – “Support to Return and Resettlement” – remains significantly under funded. The operation will be extended until 31 March, with a new PRRO scheduled to begin on 1 April 2006. WFP requires USD17 million or 20,000 tons of food to facilitate planned distributions through the end of June 2006.
- (b) Due to a critical lack of resources, WFP may have to suspend the “Humanitarian Air Passenger” services in December 2006. More than 200 humanitarian organizations rely on this service to reach remote locations still inaccessible by road due to poor road infrastructure and the proliferation of landmines. At least USD500,000 is urgently needed to keep the services in operation for the next three months, while a further USD1.5 million is required to fund the project until the end of 2006.

(2) Lesotho

- (a) During 9 to 15 November, WFP and cooperating partners provided food to approximately 42,000 people. Beneficiaries were participants in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, mother and childcare, orphans and other vulnerable children programmes, as well as Food-for-Work (FFW) and Food-for-Assets (FFA) projects.

(3) Madagascar

- (a) Due to a deteriorating food security situation, the Ministries of Health and Agriculture, WFP, UNICEF and numerous cooperating partners carried out a rapid evaluation mission in 12 municipalities in Vangaindrano District (Fianarantsoa Province). Mission findings indicate an average Global Malnutrition Rate of 50 percent, with rates increasing in the southern areas. The affected number of children showing signs of moderate to severe malnutrition is estimated to be approximately 13,000 to 3,500 respectively. WFP, in collaboration with the Government, UN and cooperating partners will implement targeted distributions as an immediate response to the situation.

(4) Malawi

- (a) The food situation in the country continues to be of grave concern. Maize supplies from Malawi's state grain marketer (ADMARC), are erratic and scarce. Where available, maize sales were limited from 10 to 25 kilos per person. Small amounts of maize are occasionally found in local markets, however prices are well beyond the purchasing power of most farming households. While it has been estimated that over 4 million people are food insecure, field reports indicate that escalating numbers of people are showing up at distribution points to plea for food and/or are sharing maize with recognized beneficiaries. The amount of wild food is decreasing and people are eating water lilies and bamboo shoots where available. In some areas people are migrating in

order to find work in tobacco estates.

(5) Mozambique

- (a) During October, WFP and cooperating partners provided food to approximately 200,000 beneficiaries. Distributions have been hampered by delivery and custom clearance constraints.

(6) Swaziland

- (a) In view of the ongoing drought, WFP and cooperating partners within the Food Security Consortium are planning to conduct a rapid needs assessment in order to update the food security situation in the drought-prone areas of the country.
- (b) Despite favourable rainfall in recent weeks, there has been limited land preparation in the Lowveld. As a result of the failing crops in the past five years, farmers remain sceptical about committing their meagre resources into agriculture. In addition, the escalating cost of tractor services has placed the facility beyond the reach of many farmers. Households with bullocks and other draught animals have also been handicapped by the poor state of their animals.
- (c) While the water levels of the Great Usuthu and Ngwavuma rivers that cut across the Lowveld are gradually increasing, smaller rivers, streams and earth dams remain dry.

(7) Zambia

- (a) A team consisting of government officials, UN agencies, and NGOs completed a rapid needs assessment in seven districts of the country, previously considered 'borderline'. Preliminary results indicate that up to 1.7 million people may now be in need of food assistance. A complete report will be released from the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit in the coming week.
- (b) Following a snap nutritional survey by WFP in the southern and western provinces, UNICEF has completed a comprehensive nutritional survey in all drought-affected districts. Data analysis has begun and findings will be used as a baseline during drought period.

(8) Zimbabwe

- (a) The market price of maize grain has remained relatively stable. In Harare and Masvingo, prices remained at ZWD10,286 per kilo and ZWD14,286 respectively. In Bulawayo, prices increased from ZWD8,000 per kilo to ZMD8,571. At the time of the market survey, prices remained the same in Mutare due to non-availability of maize grain.
- (b) Availability of maize in the district wards through the Grain Marketing Board (GMB) remains erratic, with reports that logistics difficulties, including acute shortages of transport and fuel, are hampering deliveries of Government food imports. One Mashonaland district (Centenary) indicated that their last GMB delivery was in August, while another (Rushinga) also reported non-availability. Around the country, communities are resorting to travelling long distances to source the commodity, while high prices are preventing many from accessing maize even where it is available. As people dedicate the little income they have to food purchases, there are also indications of reduced purchases of non-food items, including agricultural supplies, with longer-term impact on food security. Increasing numbers of households continue to have limited access to sufficient food as evidenced by large crowds who throng WFP and cooperating partner final delivery points (FDPs) on distribution days. Beneficiaries are having to pay in kind to cart owners for the transportation of their food aid rations,

owing to the non-availability of maize and hyperinflation.

- (c) Consumption of wild berries and unripe mangos has become the norm in some areas. Visits to Gokwe and Rushinga hospitals (Mashonaland Province) revealed increased numbers of children admitted into therapeutic feeding and increases of adult pellagra as indicative of severe household food shortages. In other districts (Zvimba) clinics indicate fewer admissions, which they attribute to lack of transport or fuel preventing people from accessing clinics. In Masvingo District, children were frequently asking for water and leftover food at teachers' houses. The number and quantity of meals per day are still being reduced, and there are increasing reports of children fainting in schools due to hunger and/or schools releasing children early in order to reduce stress. The school year ends next week. WFP school feeding will commence in additional districts in January.
- (d) Communities and local authorities in several districts have expressed concerns regarding WFP's targeting criteria, which focus on the most vulnerable, claiming that the limited availability of maize has forced most rural dwellers into that category. WFP has advised them to raise their concerns through appropriate Government channels, as the parameters for the programme were set at the national level under the expectation that maize would be available through the GMB at a price that was affordable to 64 percent of the population.
- (e) The Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare launched the 2005 Zimbabwe Vulnerability Assessment Committee report on 17 November, at a ceremony involving the UN Resident Coordinator, the Minister of Health and Child Welfare, WFP and other UN agencies, donors and several NGOs. During the launch, the Minister acknowledged that the delays in issuing the report had reduced the relevance of some of its findings, indicating that the number of food insecure people has likely risen beyond the 2.9 million estimated in the ZimVAC report, given steeply rising food prices. The Minister agreed that a system should be established to ensure regular updates of ZimVAC information and that the Government would be dedicating further budgetary support towards the ZimVAC process.

(F) Asia: (1) Indonesia (2) Korea (DPR) (3) Maldives (4) Myanmar (5) Sri Lanka

(1) Indonesia

- (a) Concern of safety of staff in Nias was restated, due to the presence of venomous snakes on the island. The absence of anti-venom and medical personnel to administer treatment of snake bites puts staff at higher risk of death by snake bites.
- (b) Work is nearly completed on the Malteser Medical Service in WFP Meulaboh premises. The Service should commence on 17 November.
- (c) In an effort to further align WFP General Food Distribution (GFD) with the Government data maintained by the Electronic Data Management Agency (BPDE) as a means to further reduce caseloads, WFP has been coordinating closely with GoI officials and Cooperating Partners at all levels. Although much of the data is inaccurate due to the time period in which it was collected and the continuous population movements, the efforts taken at socialization at sub districts level will result in WFP food assistance reductions.
- (d) In Lhokseumawe the decrease of beneficiaries is planned as follows: 33.4% for Aceh Timur, 2.5% for Aceh Utara, 31.2% for Lhokseumawe and 14.4% for Bireuen. In Aceh Timur the coverage area will be reduced to six sub districts, while in Lhokseumawe the urban more affluent areas have been removed.
- (e) In Meulaboh, there has been a reduction in beneficiaries from 102,597 to 70,214.

- (f) In Banda Aceh, reductions in caseloads have taken place primarily in more affluent urban areas in Banda Aceh and its' surroundings.
- (g) A second round of BPDE data collection is currently underway. WFP is supporting these efforts by improving the technical capacity of the BPDE to manage and analyze the data once collected. With the introduction of the BPDE data and efforts to decrease beneficiary caseloads in many locations, the November distribution cycle has been slightly delayed. Despite distributions in nearly all areas have now begun and are expected to finish by the end of the month.
- (h) In Simeulue October GFD distribution was completed reaching 67,741 beneficiaries, or 88% of the targeted population for October. 4,500 beneficiaries in Simeulue Timur did not receive their monthly ration of rice due to a warehouse shortage. WFP will proceed with compensative rations for the following distribution in order to reduce the impact of this shortage on beneficiaries. Shortages in Calang have also occurred in October and November. In order to address these issues a second landing craft is being chartered.
- (i) A draft report of the follow up to the Rapid Food Security Assessment, which concluded in Aceh province on 20 October, has been circulated; final report will be issued later this month. This is a follow-up assessment to the original Emergency Food Security Assessment conducted in January 2005.
- (j) The joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment (CFSAM) is ongoing with two combined teams visiting areas around Banda Aceh, Lhokseumawe, Meulaboh, and Nias to assess food supply and demand situation in tsunami and earthquake affected areas. This is a follow-up assessment to the previous CFSAM conducted in March 2005.
- (k) Schools in Aceh province reopened on 14 November after closure during the month of Ramadan and the national holiday of Idul Fitri. Deliveries of biscuits have begun accordingly to schedule for November distribution. In Simeulue Island, a School Feeding pilot project initiated in two sub districts, Simeulue Timur and Teupah Selatan. Distributions to schools will begin mid-November reaching 5,269 beneficiaries.
- (l) WFP efforts to expand the Mother and Child Nutrition (MCN) programme to other districts in Aceh province have been put on hold following a strategic planning meeting. WFP is awaiting the raw data from the nutritional surveillance survey in order to better prioritize at the district and sub-district level.
- (m) In Aceh Utara, where the most progress has been made in developing an MCN programme, activities will be concentrated on sub-districts with the highest level of malnutrition. Data at sub districts level provided by Department of Health (DoH) will be available shortly. This will also be triangulated with data from the first round of the nutritional surveillance system and the second round data once available.
- (n) The uplift of locally purchased Rice from Perum Bulog, under November allocation has commenced. WFP Lhoksumawe has started uplifting the allocation of 2,300 tons, after receipt of the Delivery Order from Bulog. For Banda Aceh and Medan, uplift from Bulog will commence once available stocks in WFP warehouse have been utilized.
- (o) WFP Calang office has expressed concern regarding the condition of roads in Aceh Jaya. The bridge from Calang to Rigah is unsuitable for use, which may jeopardize assistance to 10,000 beneficiaries in Sampoiniet.
- (p) The construction of LCT landing zones in Malahayati and Calang is progressing well, and when finalized will facilitate for faster and cost-effective discharge operations.
- (q) Deputy UN Special Envoy, Mr. Eric Schwartz, the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Bo Asplund, and the UN Recovery Coordinator for Aceh and Nias, Mr. Eric Morris, plus local heads of UN Agencies and NGOs, were in Aceh on Saturday 12 November.

(2) Korea (DPR)

- (a) Talks between WFP and the DPRK authorities on the status of WFP operations in 2006 continued in Pyongyang during the reporting period (12 – 18 November). The main issues under discussion are the size of a future WFP programme, the number of international staff allowed to reside in Pyongyang and the operational conditions needed for implementing a new programme. No conclusion was reached but the parties agreed to continue negotiations over the next several weeks.
- (b) As part of the commitment to end the current humanitarian operation, food distributions and monitoring will progressively be scaled down from 30th November until the end of the year. This week local food production in 19 WFP-supported factories was suspended as sufficient food had been produced to last for the balance of the year. These factories have been producing fortified noodles, blended foods and biscuits for 3 million vulnerable women and children since 1999. They also provide work-opportunities for 2,100 factory workers, 90 percent of whom are women.
- (c) With cereal cuts continuing, approximately 3.6 million out of WFP's 6.5 million targeted beneficiaries will not be given WFP cereals this month, 2.5 million in vulnerable group feeding (including children in kindergartens and nursery schools) and 1.1 million in Food-for-Work (FFW).

(3) Maldives

- (a) WFP is conducting a follow up Emergency Food Security Assessment, in connection with WFP's planned phase out at the end of December 2005.
- (b) About 10,000 beneficiaries will receive food under the November/December distribution cycle under the Vulnerable Group Feeding Programme. The beneficiaries include selected IDPs, host communities and affected livelihood groups.
- (c) Monitoring trips to Laam and Raa atolls were carried out during the reporting period (4 – 17 November).

(4) Myanmar

- (a) A conflict between two ethnic groups; Kayah New Land Party (KNLP) and Kayah National Group (KNG) broke out in Khaung Ee and Yee Nwet village tracts near Phe Khone Township, Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10345.1 project area in Southern Shan State. Government military troops were sent to the conflict area to control the situation. Currently, WFP are withholding food distribution activities in one of the villages until the security situation has improved.
- (b) The first crop assessment mission to Chin State was carried out from 1 to 10 November, in response to the request from local NGOs operating in the area. The 5 member mission travelled 3 days in the remote areas of Htantalang and Matupi townships of Chin, comprising of 64 villages altogether. Based on the initial findings, WFP and cooperating partners are planning to conduct a food needs assessment mission to those affected area this month.
- (c) Under EMOP 10345.1 in Shan State, a total of 267.47 tons of rice was distributed to 14,500 beneficiaries through Food-for-Education (FFE) and Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) during the reporting period (1–16 November).
- (d) In northern Rakhine State (NRS), the harvest of the main crop will start in the middle of the month. Availability of local rice and labour will improve the food security and there is no foreseen need for VGF distribution. A total of 455 tons rice, 9 tons oil and 2 tons salt have been distributed to 27,200 vulnerable people including supplementary feeding beneficiaries that are receiving oil from WFP in NRS during the period. In Magway

Division, 316 tons of food was distributed to 29,500 beneficiaries, mainly through FFE and VGF during the reporting period.

(5) Sri Lanka

- (a) Security Forces are on high alert for the election period and security alerts were forwarded to all staff.
- (b) Although the overall security situation in the country remains stable, there have been reports of politically motivated incidents in some districts where election campaigns have been staged recently. In Jaffna, strong protests against the election have been expressed in leaflets to the general public by political elements of the Tamil community in the district.
- (c) Members of the European Union Election Observer Mission (EUEOM) have been deployed in the North and East regions on the invitation of the Government of Sri Lanka. The mission is composed of two groups; short term and long term observers. They will operate independently in observing the ongoing political campaign in the run-up to the 17 November poll. Area Security Coordinators have been informed to assist the observers where necessary.
- (d) In the LTTE controlled areas, LTTE Hero's Day celebrations and rallies will begin on 21 November and continue through 27 November. WFP staff have been reminded to avoid political gatherings and demonstrations during that period.
- (e) From 1 October, Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) has replaced GFD, scaling down targeted distribution to 350,000 beneficiaries. The programme will continue till 31 December 2005. VGF food ration per person per day is composed of 400g of cereals, 60g of pulses, 20g of sugar, 20g of oil and 40g of CSB.
- (f) From October to December 2005, WFP is planning to distribute 17,485 tons of mixed food commodities under VGF.
- (g) Mother and Child Nutrition (MCN), Food-for-Education (FFE) and Food-for-Work (FFW) activities are ongoing.
- (h) As part of the regular food aid monitoring, beneficiary households and final distribution points, including multi-purpose cooperative societies' retail outlets, schools and clinics were visited on a daily basis in Emergency Operation (EMOP) districts during the reporting period (4-17 November). Analysis of beneficiary household interviews conducted between August and November in 10 districts shows that: 65 percent of the visited households have now resumed their main income activities after tsunami, compared with 46 percent in the analysis done in August; Households' coping strategies are changing: income generation through own livestock or crops, trading and fishing have become more common than in August, but so has borrowing; The three most important coping strategies are borrowing, fishing, and casual farm and non-farm labour; Adult female household members collect the food in 57 percent of the cases; The time that beneficiaries spend at the distribution point still remains long, i.e. on average two hours; Food rations are mainly carried home on foot (42 percent), by bicycle (31) or three wheeler (20). Some 30 percent of the beneficiary households pay for transport; Nearly all beneficiaries report that they feel safe both at the distribution point and while traveling to and from distribution; Nearly 92 percent of the household indicate satisfaction with the quality and 91 percent with the type of the WFP food; Beneficiaries' awareness of their food entitlement has improved from 40 percent in August analysis to 55 percent.
- (i) All ration cards are with the local authorities for completion. Distribution has started and the Government has issued a strict time table so that all dispatch is completed by the end of the year.

- (j) WFP is currently providing fortified Corn Soya Blend (CSB) to nearly 100,000 women and children in health clinics under the Emergency Operation.
- (k) Findings from monitoring activities indicate that with ongoing food demonstrations and support from the Health Volunteers, acceptance of CSB is steadily increasing among the recipients. In Mullaitivu district, volunteer health staff are conducting awareness drama sessions at clinics in order to sensitize tsunami affected people to HIV/AIDS and CSB.
- (l) In terms of FFW, 441 projects have been approved in tsunami affected areas. From October to December 2005, WFP is planning to distribute 10,967 tons of mixed food commodities to some 183,000 beneficiaries (36,600 participants) under Food for Work. Twenty percent of these projects have been completed.
- (m) During the reporting period, 50,000 children from 186 schools received cooked meals under school feeding. Additional 56,000 children from 210 schools are still awaiting mid-morning meals due to delays in the supply of Non-Food Items (kitchen utensils) to EMOP schools.
- (n) A FFE Standardized survey will be launched on 28 November 2005, focusing on the new areas under school-feeding and looking at a possible expansion of school-feeding activities. In this context, the workshop for enumerators will be held from 23 to 26 November with representatives from the head quarters school-feeding unit and will include a one day on-site training in Polonnaruwa. All school feeding focal points and local government counterparts will be trained on the objectives of the survey, data collection methodology and implementation as well as the survey tools.
- (o) The survey will focus on the current enrolment and attendance rates, school conditions and academic achievement. A follow-up assessment will be conducted in 2006-2007. The survey will be conducted partly in December and partly in January since school holidays start on 9 December and exams will happen during the preceding two weeks.
- (p) The baseline survey is now completed and beneficiary cards sent to the selected areas. Funds for the beneficiaries have been transferred from the Ministry of Relief Rehabilitation and Reconciliation's bank account to the Samurdhi Authority's bank account and during the week of 14 November the Samurdhi Authority will transfer funds to the Samurdhi bank societies.
- (q) Distribution of cash to households (12,000 people) in Galle, Hambantota and Batticaloa will be conducted from 23 November.
- (r) Most warehouses in Colombo and at district level have been fumigated. WFP is now addressing the problem of infested commodities in clinics and schools with its Government counterparts.
- (s) Due to the LTTE restriction on rice not procured in the North, WFP will launch a tender during the week of 21 November for almost 5,000 tons of rice, with over 3,000 tons to be procured in the North, for VGF to repay borrowings from the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) pipeline.
- (t) The United Nations Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, former United States President Bill Clinton, will visit Sri Lanka on 29 November.

(G) Latin America and Caribbean: (1) Bolivia (2) Colombia (3) Cuba (4) Ecuador (5) Guatemala (6) Nicaragua

(1) Bolivia

- (a) Several hail storms have been registered in the country. Civil Defense is evaluating damage in the affected areas.

- (b) Despite the heavy rains registered last week in the Municipalities of Camiri, Cuevo and Boyuibe, the dry season continues in most of the drought-hit municipalities. Under the Emergency Office implementation, training sessions are being held by implementing partners. WFP and government counterpart is preparing the next food delivery, currently under procurement process.

(2) Colombia

- (a) The recent rains have affected 162 municipalities in 26 of the country's 32 provinces and have left more than 85 people dead, 92 people severely wounded, at least 50,000 families affected, more than 14,000 houses with severe damage and more than 550 houses totally destroyed. The worst-hit are the Provinces of Sucre, Córdoba, César, Santander, Norte de Santander, Antioquia, Guajira and Magdalena where severe flooding has destroyed thousands of hectares of crops and forced many peasants to abandon their farms. WFP Sub-offices in the Provinces of Sucre, Santander and Norte de Santander are developing emergency food aid interventions. A WFP team visited the region of La Mojana (Province of Sucre), Ayapel (Province of Córdoba) and San Jacinto del Cauca (Province of Bolivar) and found out that some 3,000 people are facing severe food shortages.
- (b) Massive displacements have been reported along Colombia's border with Ecuador. More than 600 Colombians fled to the Ecuadorian town of San Lorenzo due to clashes between illegal armed groups in different areas of the Province of Putumayo and Nariño. According to information issued by UNHCR, more than 2,000 Colombians have looked for asylum in Ecuador since last month.
- (c) About 1,500 people living in areas near the Galeras Volcano (Province of Nariño) were ordered to evacuate as the volcano shown signs of an imminent eruption. Local authorities issued a mandatory evacuation order following a warning issued by Colombia's Geology and Mines Institute that the volcano is probable to erupt within days or weeks. In addition, another 7,500 people living near the volcano have been asked to leave their homes voluntarily. WFP does not develop any food aid activity in this province; however, an emergency plan of action among WFP and other UN agencies has been prepared in case the volcano erupts and emergency humanitarian aid is required.

(3) Cuba

- (a) Cuban enterprises have recently signed several agreements in the "International Fair of Havana" for the amount of 57 million dollars, which will cover the import of nutritious products such as wheat, milk and soya beans, among others.
- (b) Distribution under Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10423.0 and 10473.0 is currently ongoing providing support to populations in the east of Cuba affected by Hurricane Wilma.
- (c) Under EMOP 10423.0, "Assistance to drought affected populations in 5 eastern provinces", 430 tons of Vegetable Oil, 952 tons of Rice, 760 tons of Black Beans, and 178.3 tons of Powdered Milk have been received.
- (d) Under EMOP 10473.0, "Assisting vulnerable groups affected by Hurricane Dennis", 93 tons of Vegetable Oil, 360 tons of Rice, and 183 tons of Black Beans have been received.
- (e) EMOP 10423.0 is resourced at 41%. US\$ 2 millions are urgently needed to meet outstanding requirements. US\$ 400,000 is urgently required to fully refund EMOP 10473.0.

(4) Ecuador

- (a) According to the National Geophysical Institute, a moderate intensity earthquake of 5.5 in the Richter scale was registered on November 9, 172 km from Quito, Province of El Napo. Heavy rains are continuing and mudslides have been recently reported.
- (b) The second food procurement for the Emergency Operation has been completed. Products have been delivered at the two main warehouses in Quito and Lago Agrio. Food rations will be available at the end of November. Preparation of food rations is estimated to start in the second week of November. Distribution of food rations will start on November 25th.
- (c) The Emergency Operation (EMOP 10381.0) will have a pipeline shortfall for December 2005
- (d) The second seminar-workshop on health and nutrition was conducted on 25 October 2005, at CIESPAL ("Centro Internacional de Estudios Superiores para América Latina") in Quito.
- (e) WFP has started negotiations with the Ministry of Agriculture-MoA to establish a logistic hub.
- (f) Based on the current Agreement on the Contingencies, in January 2006 a new agreement with GoE will be signed in order to join efforts to assist with national and international emergencies on a committee basis. This is part of the logistic hub, which is called "Centro Logístico de Asistencia Humanitaria - CELAH: Acción Solidaria por la Vida".

(5) Guatemala

- (a) The Congress approved a 30-day extension on the declaration of the "State of National Calamity" in order to continue with the emergency assistance until 30 Nov 05.
- (b) The ECLAC mission reported to the Government, on preliminary figures, the damage and losses arising from Hurricane Stan, which have been estimated at quetzales 7,473 million or USD 983 million. The damage to agriculture, according to the GoG/Ministry of Agriculture, is worth around USD 46 million.
- (c) Six local and international NGO's presented implementation proposals during the second coordination meeting and working plans were agreed for WFP food assistance in targeted areas. WFP is collecting data regarding the NGO's presence in areas affected by Hurricane Stan with the aim of strengthening coordination and eventual collaboration.
- (d) WFP staff met with UNICEF and FAO to explore the possibility of a joint needs assessment, in which they have expressed their interest. It has been agreed to include WHO and the Government in the process. Indicators for the needs assessment are to be proposed and discussed in the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 22 November.

(6) Nicaragua

- (a) Tropical Depression number 27 is progressing through the Caribbean Sea towards the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua. According to the National Hurricane Center, there is a slight chance that the depression will convert into a tropical storm or hurricane within the next three days. WFP is monitoring the progression of the meteorological system.
- (b) WFP and government counterparts; the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education have carried out a rapid Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) in order to obtain more information about the impact of the hurricane BETA on the affected people's food security and livelihoods as well as the need for further food aid in the in the affected communities.
- (c) The declaration of a state of disaster in the Municipalities of Wiwilí and Waspam in the

RAAN due to total crop losses caused by rat infestation and flooding is kept as the food security situation of the families in these communities has been aggravated further due to the heavy rains that accompanied Hurricane BETA. A WFP joint mission with the Ministry of Agriculture has found that an additional 9,000 indigenous people (1,800 families) are suffering severe hunger and are in need of relief food aid along the Río Coco in the municipality of Wiwilí.

- (d) Approximately 10,363 pregnant and nursing women; 11,159 children under two years old; 1,792 vulnerable rural families and 69,746 schoolchildren in the Central and Northern Atlantic Region (RAAN) continue to benefit from food distributions under PRRO 10212.0.
- (e) WFP has provided food assistance to 590 families (2,950 persons) for 13 days in the municipality of Desembocadura de Río Grande in the South Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAS). A total of 18.42 tons of food has been distributed by WFP staff in coordination with government counterpart staff from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education.
- (f) WFP has completed the second relief food distribution to 14 communities affected by the loss of harvests (due to rat infestations) in the Municipality of Waspam, in the Northern Atlantic Region of the country (RAAN). To date, a total of 138.2 tons of food has been distributed in 14 communities to some 890 families (4,450 persons).
- (g) The third and last emergency distribution to the affected population in the Municipality of Waspam in the RAAN is planned for December. In light of the urgent need for relief food aid in the area, WFP will provide air-lift support through the use of the Nicaraguan Air Force MI 17 and water and ground transportation.
- (h) A WFP/UNJLC mission is assessing logistical constraints to WFP intervention in the Northern Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN). The Logistical Officer from El Salvador is assisting the preparation of the Special Operation in the remote region.
- (i) Since Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10212.0 resources have been used to be able to respond to other emergencies (rat infestation in Waspam and hurricane in the Southern Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAS)), the operation urgently needs resources to continue to provide assistance to families living in areas vulnerable to recurrent shocks.
- (j) Shortfalls of vegetable oil (14 tons), beans (39 tons), maize (277 tons) and CSB (472 tons) are expected for the next six months, beginning in February 2006. Commodities are required in order to avoid a pipeline break.

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

WFP Weekly Emergency Report

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

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

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