

World Food Programme Emergency Report 2006  
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**(A) Highlights**

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**(A) Highlights**

- (a) As at 13 August, WFP delivered in Lebanon and Syria more than 880 tons of food commodities reaching an estimated 215,800 beneficiaries.
- (b) In Ethiopia, at least 620 people have died and over 73,000 people have been affected by the recent floods. On 16 August, the Government of Ethiopia has appealed to the international community for assistance.
- (c) At the request of the Rep. of Congo Government, WFP provided food assistance to over 2,000 people displaced due to factions fighting in the Pool region.
- (d) WFP is increasingly worried about the influx of asylum seekers from Somalia into Dadaab Refugee Camp in Kenya. So far this year, nearly 19,000 Somalis have arrived in Dadaab.
- (e) Sudan: Preparations are underway throughout Darfur and in WFP Khartoum Office in anticipation of the upcoming Darfur Emergency Food Security and Nutrition Survey due to commence beginning September. In partnership with UNICEF, FAO, WHO, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Government of Sudan, the ESFNA will assess the food security and nutrition status of IDPs and vulnerable rural residents and identify appropriate food and non-food interventions for 2007

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

**(1) Lebanon**

- (a) Lebanon has been subject to sustained, heavy shelling and air strikes from 12 of July until 14 August, particularly targeting southern Lebanon, southern suburbs of Beirut and the Bekaa Valley. As per the Lebanese High Relief Council, over 971,000 people have been displaced both within the country and to neighbouring countries. On 17 July, the Prime Minister declared the country a disaster zone and appealed to the international community for humanitarian assistance. During this reporting period (7-13 August), diplomatic efforts were intensified in order to end the armed conflict between the Government of Israel (GoI) and Hizbollah.
- (b) The UN Security Council Resolution to "immediately cease all hostilities" was passed unanimously on 12 August. Both the Government of Lebanon (GoL) and the GoI have

approved the resolution. The resolution supports the GoL plans to deploy 15,000 troops across the south of the country and Israel's withdrawal. In addition, the Council also backs an expanded deployment of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to a maximum of 15,000 peacekeepers and an extended mandate of 12 months until August 2007. The implementation was expected to begin on Monday, 14 August. Although the GoL has endorsed the resolution, heavy shelling has increased in the above mentioned regions of Lebanon. Up until the ceasefire, a large number of Katushya rockets were also being launched into northern Israel.

- (c) In response to the crisis, the UN launched a Flash Appeal on 24 July, requesting close to US\$ 150 million to provide shelter, food, water, sanitation and medicine to the 800,000 people worst affected by the conflict over the next three months.
- (d) On 23 July, WFP launched a regional Emergency Operation (EMOP) and three separate Special Operations (SOs) to provide logistic and ICT support to the humanitarian community in Lebanon. A budget revision for the EMOP was approved on 12 August with an increased beneficiary figure of 550,000 people, providing emergency food needs and logistical requirements to an estimated that 500,000 people in Lebanon and another 50,000 Persons of Concern (PoCs) in Syria for a three-month duration.
- (e) WFP has expanded its appeal to US\$ 60 million for food and logistics support, due to an increase in the EMOP to almost US\$ 21 million. The revised EMOP 10537.0 will provide 24,126 tons of food to 500,000 people displaced within Lebanon, and 50,000 Lebanese seeking refuge in Syria.
- (f) Throughout the reporting period (7-13 August), WFP operations and access to beneficiaries were severely restricted in Lebanon due to delayed or lack of concurrences on safety for land movement. In addition, the ongoing destruction of various major bridges has drastically worsened conditions on the road.
- (g) As at 13 August, WFP delivered in Lebanon and Syria more than 880 tons of food commodities reaching an estimated 215,800 beneficiaries.
- (h) More than 85 tons of food were delivered to several locations in Beirut during the reporting period, including schools, collective centres and host families. Various WFP partners started wheat flour in exchange for bread projects on 12 August directly with a limited number of bakeries.
- (i) Several UN convoys proceeded to Saida delivering some 158 tons of food commodities and other relief supplies from WFP, UNRWA and UNICEF.
- (j) WFP's first ever delivery in Zahle was successfully carried out on 8 August in partnership with Solidarites aimed at 10,400 beneficiaries. The convoy also delivered various other relief supplies for UNRWA.
- (k) On 10 August, an agreement was reached with 3 non-government organizations (NGOs) to distribute a full food basket to 20,000 beneficiaries in Aley.
- (l) On 11 August, a UN convoy proceeded to Tripoli with 8 SRSA (WFP) trucks, with 1 truck heading to Arfeh. A UN convoy arrived in Nabatiyeh with food and other relief supplies on 1 UNFPA/WHO and 7 WFP trucks.
- (m) A WFP-contract Turkish vessel, arrived on 13 August with wheat flour, lentils and pasta for WFP as well as blankets for UNHCR. A Roro vessel, Anamcara, also arrived carrying fuel and High Energy Biscuits (HEB) for WFP, and other supplies for UN agencies and NGOs

## **(2) occupied Palestinian territories**

- (a) During the reporting period (1-15 August), incursions continued in Southern Gaza and there has been a concerning increase in the internal violence/criminality. Two

journalists were kidnapped in the past week and UN cars have been repeatedly targeted for vehicle hijacking over the reporting period. The UNSCO compound was attacked/looted in Gaza (linked to Lebanon) and 14 vehicles -including armoured vehicles – were damaged. Two field visits had to be cancelled due to security concerns.

- (b) In the West Bank a food distribution had to be postponed in Azmout village/Nablus following a security incident where non beneficiaries tried to take over the partners' truck to receive WFP food. This is the second incident of the sort and reflects the growing needs in the Northern West Bank.
- (c) In Gaza, the Ministry of Social Affairs completed the distribution of July /August allocation to 24,170 Social Hardship Cases (SHC) out of the planned 80,181 for August. Under food for work activities, Community Housing and Finance (CHF) distributed the July and August allocation to 2,524 beneficiaries.
- (d) In the West Bank, WFP and MSA completed the distribution of 300 tons of food to 9,365 beneficiaries. A further 480 beneficiaries received 6 tons WFP food commodities as part of an emergency distribution in Jericho and Jenin governorates.
- (e) CRS distributed 140 tons of WFP food to 17,000 beneficiaries in Hebron as part of an emergency distribution. CHF completed emergency distributions of 285 tons of food to 28,086 beneficiaries in the Northern Area.

### **(3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)**

- (a) During the reporting period (1-15 August), there was no significant change to the general security situation in the North Caucasus. Law Enforcement Agencies continued to exert pressure on separatist militants in the Republic of Chechnya. The Ministry of Interior and Federal Service personnel mounted special operations to detain armed groups in Ingushetia, however, attacks aimed at the Law Enforcement Agencies officials continued both in Ingushetia and Dagestan.
- (b) During the first two weeks of August, WFP's cooperating partners were doing double distribution of food rations to 35,744 beneficiaries in Chechnya and to 10,758 IDPs in Ingushetia. Altogether in August within the General Food Distribution programme, WFP is planning to distribute 726 tons of food in Chechnya and 218 tons in Ingushetia.
- (c) The Dining Hall project for 1,600 vulnerable persons in Grozny was supported in the first fortnight of August with WFP's food commodities provided in July. The TB projects in Ingushetia (WHO) and Chechnya (MSF-Holland) were also continued with the food provided in July to 665 in- and outpatients in both republics.
- (d) Food for work (FFW) projects, such as sugar beet-root growing (248 participants), were implemented in the first fortnight of August in three districts of Chechnya. WFP's food distribution in the first fortnight of August was conducted in two state-farms to 63 participants (315 beneficiaries) of the sugar beet-root growing project for the third weeding of the beet-root fields who received some 173 tons of food commodities including wheat flour, sugar, vegetable oil and iodized salt.
- (e) So far, 50% of the planned requirements of US\$ 22 million has been resourced (61% of food commodities resourced) for the emergency operation (EMOP) 10128.2. Shortfalls of oil and sugar are impacting the operation and are excluded from the relief distribution ration; salt shortfalls will start in October 2006. To cover needs through December 2006 (end date of current operation) about US\$ 2.7 million are needed to purchase 3,281 tons of food.

### **(4) Syria**

- (a) All food distributions in Syria were put on hold starting 7 August following instructions from the Syrian Ministry of Social Affairs to centres hosting Persons of Concern (PoCs)

not to accept relief aid from humanitarian agencies until further notice. On 10 August, WFP Syria presented its distribution plan to assist 20,000 PoCs to the Syrian Coordination Committee.

- (b) The UN Country Team in Syria reached an agreement with the Syrian Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) to carry out daily general food distributions to Lebanese Persons of Concern (PoCs). As of 16 August, WFP started distributing bread, oil, pulses and canned meat to nearly 17,000 Lebanese in Syria.

**(C) East & Central Africa:** (1) Burundi (2) Congo (3) Congo, DR (4) Ethiopia (5) Kenya (6) Rwanda (7) Somalia (8) Sudan (9) Tanzania (10) Uganda

### **(1) Burundi**

- (a) The general security situation remains relatively calm in the country. Nevertheless, some skirmishes were reported between the national forces and the Front for National Liberation (FNL) rebels while the Dar-es-Salaam peace talks are suspended without any cease-fire agreement concluded. At the same time, criminality has considerably increased, notably in Bujumbura, Ngozi and Gitega. Furthermore, the recruitment of fighters by the FNL movement was reported in Bubanza province.
- (b) The national Red Cross reported that 600 Burundians living in refugee camps in Tanzania have been expelled. Most of those expelled were reported to have lived in Tanzania for many years.
- (c) The media reported 67 dead birds of the same family were found on the isle of Lake Rwihinda in Kirundo province in the northern parts of Burundi. While the causes of deaths are yet unknown, national authorities fear that avian flu may have reached Burundi. The government is following developments and investigations into the circumstances have been undertaken.
- (d) During the reporting period (7-13 August), WFP distributed a total of 546 tons to 48,771 beneficiaries through its implementing partners. Food distributions to returnees include Burundians and Rwandan asylum seekers returning home.
- (e) WFP conducted several missions in the field to prepare for the seeds protection rations (SPR) campaign due to start in September 2006. WFP met with partners and local authorities in six provinces (Kirundo, Kayanza, Ngozi, Cankuzo, Bururi and Bubanza) to discuss the targeting criteria and updated distribution lists.
- (f) Monitoring activities conducted in the transit centres welcoming returnees indicated that the number of returnees continues to increase.
- (g) An urgent delivery of pulses and salt is needed to cover the forthcoming SPR distributions.

### **(2) Congo**

- (a) On 5 August 2006, fighting broke out in Kimbemdi district, Pool region, between two factions of Reverend N'tumi's National Council of Resistance (NCR). Over 2,000 inhabitants of Kimbemdi were forced to abandon their homes and take refuge in Kimouenda, Bouendza region. In an emergency meeting called and presided over by the Minister of Social Affairs, it was decided that the UN and international humanitarian agencies provide immediate assistance. WFP distributed 2 tons of food to 2,260 beneficiaries, 935 children, 825 women and 500 men. This assistance is sufficient for two day. Another meeting to review the situation and plan the way forward is scheduled for next week.

### **(3) Congo, DR**

- (a) During the week under review (7-13 August), Commission Nationale pour la Demobilisation et la Reinsertion (CONADER) received 6,912 combatants for demobilization at three of the transit and orientation centres in Ituri.
- (b) NGO Solidarité reported the presence of 3,026 internally displaced families in Aveba, 75km south of Bunia, living in very precarious conditions in terms of food security. Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) also reported high malnutrition rates among the under-five population, thus a need for an immediate response in food aid.
- (c) Internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Ituri are reported to be settling in sites around Erigeti and Oicha, Beni province. These persons fled skirmishes between Mouvement révolutionnaire Congolais (MRC) rebels and government troops.
- (d) MSF has suspended its activities in Beni province after being ambushed by the Front Démocratique pour la Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) in Busekera while evacuating a sick child to Kayna. The action taken by the NGO is in protest of the ambush by the rebels.
- (e) WFP Bukavu sub-office (SO) released 74 tons of food to nutrition activities during the reporting period. With a monthly food aid need of over 1,000 tons, the sub-office had less than 250 tons in stock to continue food distributions for the month.
- (f) WFP Uvira SO distributed 16 tons of assorted food commodities to its partners for various activities. Meanwhile FAO is planning the distribution of a huge quantity of cassava cuttings to Congolese refugees returning from Tanzania.
- (g) A general food distribution was organized in Gethy IDP camp for 43,000 persons. The rations covered a period of 10 days for cereals, 30 days for pulses and 4 days for vegetable oil. Distributions were carried out by Association pour le Développement Social et la Sauvegarde de l'environnement (ADSSE), WFP's implementing partner.
- (h) A total of 439 tons for assorted food commodities were distributed by WFP Goma, Bunia and Beni SOs to IDPs, vulnerable groups and nutrition centres.

#### **(4) Ethiopia**

- (a) Following the unusually intense and continued rainfall, reports of flash flooding and overflowing of rivers have been received from all regions except Harari and Beneshangul Gumuz. In total, over 73,000 people have been affected country wide by the recent floods. This does not include the inhabitants of Mustahil in Gode Zone of Somali region and those of Bure Mudayitu District in Zone 3 of Afar region that have been temporarily relocated to safer grounds either due to actual flooding or threat of flooding. So far, at least 620 people have died and more than 16,000 people have been displaced. Highlights by region follow:
- (b) The devastating flash flood that hit Dire Dawa town 12 days ago has, so far, left at least 254 people dead and more than 200 persons are missing. No additional floods have affected the area since then. Distributions of general food rations that began on 14 August are still in progress. The various task forces set up in Dire Dawa, that include all major Government Bureaus and Ministries, UN agencies (WFP, OCHA, UNICEF) and NGO representatives, have finalized a draft appeal document and submitted it to the Dire Dawa city Council for approval. The document addresses the immediate needs of approximately 9,000 people displaced by the floods in Dire Dawa town as well as those of some 7,500 people affected by the floods in 17 administrative units in rural areas around the town. The most urgent needs are food, infrastructure, and temporary shelter. Shelter is most crucial since IDPs occupy schools soon to be opened.
- (c) The Omo River overflowed its banks in the week of 8-13 August and has caused extensive flooding in Kuraz District of South Omo Zone of Southern Nations and Nationalities Peoples' region (SNNPR) with subsequent huge losses of human lives and

property. Around 14 villages are flooded and cut off from each other. The casualties have continued increasing by the day. The number of confirmed human deaths has reached 364 as of 16 August. According to the Government's Ethiopian Herald (17 August) 2,790 cattle and 760 traditional silos of grain have been lost to the floods. As more information is obtained from the remote villages now encircled by flood waters, the level of casualties is expected to be even higher.

- (d) Search and rescue operations are underway since the 15 of August with deployment of members of the national army. At least 14 boats and 1 helicopter are in the area for the initial stage of the operation. Distribution of the relief supplies is expected to start immediately and there is a plan to air-drop them to victims who are still trapped by the floods.
- (e) In Amhara region, WFP staff currently in the affected areas, reports that 23 administrative units of 7 districts, nearly all surrounding Lake Tana have been affected and/or displaced by floods caused by swelling of rivers and heavy rains. The provisional number of people affected is 38,112. So far there is no report of loss of lives. Crops on nearly 5,371 hectares of land have been washed away in Libokemkem and Fogera districts of South Gondar zone. The region intervened with whatever stocks of food and non-food items available on the spot and has set up a task force to coordinate activities at the sites. The region has urgently appealed for blankets, drinking water, mosquito repellent, medicines and blended food for the most vulnerable groups.
- (f) In Afar region, one village in Dulecha District of Zone 3 is flooded and nearly all of the residents have left their localities to higher and safer grounds. Current estimates put the displaced at 2,200. In same zone, some 7,000 people in Bure Mudayitu District are being relocated to higher grounds as the risk of overflowing of the Awash River now increases. Similar efforts have started in Dupiti District although at a smaller scale.
- (g) In Somali region, the Wabi Shebele River overflowed its banks on 15 August and flooded Mustahil District of Gode Zone, affecting 17 villages. Some of the villages are surrounded by water. Residents have started leaving their areas to safer locations. There are no losses of human or animal lives except damages on standing crops and reserved pasture areas.
- (h) In Tigray region, the Tekeze River burst its banks in Kafta Humera District of West Tigray zone, displacing an estimated 450 households. Vast area of cropped land is reportedly inundated.
- (i) The earliest flooding of significant magnitude took place at the end of July when three districts in Southwest and West Shewa of Oromiya region were flooded by Awash River, affecting close to 15,000 people. Of these, 2,052 are displaced and are in temporary shelters. Flood victims in the shelters have received a one-month full food ration for the month of August. They have also received different non-food items although cooking utensils remain critically short.
- (j) Following reports of overflowing of some of the local rivers in Gambella region, a DPPA team is in the region for an assessment. Although there are no detailed reports, it appears that the situation is not of concern yet. The areas are normally flooded from late August onwards.
- (k) An official government release on 16 August has appealed to the international community for a provision of what it calls 'swift emergency responses in support of the flood victims'. It has underlined that the water levels of the major rivers of the country, as well as those of Lake Tana and the major dams, have been rising and 'posing threats of bursting out and inundating' adjacent areas and areas along the river banks.
- (l) Meanwhile, the National Meteorological Agency's forecasts continue to indicate warnings of normal to above normal precipitations over large parts of the country that

may induce severe flash floods. (m) With regards to dispatches of food to areas affected by the drought in 2005, the DPPA has transported ten percent of the fifth round of relief food allocation for Somali region while dispatches are nearly finalized for the zones of Afder and Liben and 18 percent of the fifth round of food has been dispatched to Fik zone. DPPA has finalized the tendering process for the rest of the zones and food aid dispatches are expected to start shortly. Security problems continue to hamper food aid deliveries to some hot spot areas of Somali region. Furthermore, 250 tons of food aid allocated for the IDP camps of Fafan and Hartisheik in Somali region has been distributed to the beneficiaries through a local NGO. This food covers one month of food needs for the IDPs

## **(5) Kenya**

- (a) Pastoralists remain highly food insecure and will require several more successive rainy seasons to begin to consolidate their livelihoods. The slow recovery of herds, rising conflict, worrisome malnutrition and the fact that most water pans are not filled up with water underline the poor prospects that pastoralists face in the short and medium term. The marginal agricultural lowlands also remain highly food insecure after a mediocre season followed closely by a failed season.
- (b) The Kenya Food Security Steering Group carried out an assessment of the long rains season from 16 July to 12 August 2006 in 26 districts in Kenya. The four-week assessment was led by Government of Kenya (GoK) and included participants from UN agencies and NGOs. Donor briefings on preliminary results will be held on 17 August 2006, while the final report is expected by 31 August.
- (c) An estimated 3.1 million beneficiaries in 25 districts are currently targeted with the relief food distribution in 25 predominately pastoral, agro pastoral and marginal agricultural districts.
- (d) The July distribution cycle is still ongoing in some districts, although there are not enough cereals stocks. The insufficient cereal in the food basket was due to a delayed shipment of 25,000 tons of maize procured from Mexico. The shipment has now arrived at Mombasa Port.
- (e) Recent in-kind donations have reduced the resource shortfall of the emergency operation (EMOP) to 32 percent (US\$ 72 million). More pledges are urgently required, particularly to address the projected pipeline break for cereals from end of September.
- (f) WFP is increasingly worried about the influx of asylum seekers from Somalia into Dadaab Refugee Camp. So far this year, nearly 19,000 Somalis have arrived in Dadaab, and with the current stand-off between the Transitional Federal Government and the Islamic Courts Union in Somalia, an average of 2,000 to 3,000 new arrivals per month is expected with a total of 30,000 new arrivals anticipated this year. With a 10 percent contingency built into the operation, WFP expects to meet the needs of the most likely scenario of 30,000 new arrivals as long as the operation is fully resourced. WFP has prepared a contingency plan for new Somali arrivals in Dadaab refugee camps. Should the situation in Somalia further deteriorate, contingency plans for an additional 20,000 to 50,000 refugees are being prepared.
- (g) To date, UNHCR has not registered the majority of new arrivals although a registration exercise undertaken by UNHCR-GoK took place in late July. WFP is assisting those that UNHCR has identified as vulnerable. Since January, the number of refugees WFP is assisting in Dadaab has increased by more than 8,000 (from 127,387 in January to 135,537 mid August).
- (h) The refugee operation is preparing for a Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) with UNHCR from mid to late September. The last JAM was conducted in 2002. The findings of the current JAM will provide necessary data/recommendations to be included in the next

project document.

- (i) A high level delegation from Japan visited Garissa, Dadaab, and Nairobi Slums from 09 to 12 August 2006. The visitors included among others Mr. Uichiro Niwa, the Chairman of Ituchu Corporation and also of Japan Association for WFP (JAWFP). The visitors aim to spread the word of WFP's work to 1,000 business leaders in Japan as well as to the Japanese public. Their expectation is to turn this visit into substantial private sector fundraising for WFP in Africa.

## **(6) Rwanda**

- (a) The prices of staple commodities such as beans, cassava, Irish and sweet potatoes continue to be high due to the limited availability in the markets. As a result those households that did not receive a fair harvest during 2006 B season are at risk of being food insecure. Impact on the food security situation and coping mechanisms will also be critical for most of the vulnerable groups, which include the elderly, chronically ill and child-headed households.
- (b) Presently, the general food security situation in eastern province has stabilized. The ban of excessive sale of food crops has resulted in the availability of food at the household level. With the partial end of the quarantine related to the foot-and-mouth disease, the agro-pastoralists in ex-Umutara are now earning money by selling some of their cattle. Moreover, due to the recent rains, the staple crops cultivated in swamps during season 2006 C are doing well, the pasture is regenerating and farmers have started land preparation for season 2007 A.
- (c) WFP attended a meeting with UN agencies on contingency planning for Congolese and Burundian refugees in view of the DRC elections. The participants carried out inventory of all needed items for a possible influx of 25,000 refugees.
- (d) The number of Congolese refugees currently stands at 41,318, up from 41,247 last week, while that of the Burundians also showed a slight increase to 2,196 from 2,190.
- (e) 63 returnees from DRC were received last week at Nkamira and Nyagatare transit camps. A three-month ration consisting of 3 tons was distributed before their departure to their places of origin.
- (f) 250 Rwandans expelled from Tanzania are accommodated with host families in Matimba Sector, in Nyagatare district while waiting for resettlement. They had to cross into Uganda first before coming to Rwanda. The updated caseload of expelled Rwandans accommodated in 170 temporary tents in Kiyanzi transit camp stands at 571 including 30 new arrivals. WFP made a one-time 14 tons food commodities contribution to the returnees in 12 June 2006. The Government of Rwanda, NGOs and other social organizations have also been making additional food contributions.

## **(7) Somalia**

- (a) The result of the Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) 2006 post Gu harvest assessment indicates that the overall crop harvest is generally poor and around 70 percent of the Gu post war average (1995-2005). It is the third consecutive Gu season of below post war average of cereal production. Some regions have almost complete crop failure. The FSAU analysis also indicate that an estimated 1.4 million people in the north, central and southern Somalia continue to face conditions of acute food and livelihood crises or humanitarian emergency at least until end of December 2006. If the internally displaced population estimated at 400,000 is included, the total number of people in need of humanitarian assistance in Somalia is 1.8 million with majority of them located in the south and central regions. The malnutrition rates in some areas remain high and over 20% global acute malnutrition in Gedo region. The prevailing humanitarian emergency

situation in south Somalia could worsen if there is widespread conflict in the coming months.

- (b) To avoid suppressing the local market prices with food aid during the current GU harvest season, WFP has suspended relief food distribution in south and central Somalia until end of September 2006. Food distributions will resume in October at a reduced level (approximately 8,000 to 10,000 tons monthly) until December 2006. This figure may likely change as WFP is currently undertaking a revision of the beneficiary numbers following the release of the findings from the post 2006 Gu harvest assessment by FSAU.
- (c) A review of the on-going drought emergency operation was underway in Wajid (South Somalia). The challenges faced in the implementation of the operation during the first half of the year were identified and strategies for further improvement of the operation discussed.
- (d) The Islamic Courts Union (ICU) continues to spread its influence outside of Mogadishu with the recent incorporation of Beletweyne (north of Mogadishu) and the move to South Galkayo that borders Puntland State. On August 12, the ICU also took control of the central Somali town of Harardhere, which was the centre for maritime pirates responsible for the hijacking of a WFP chartered vessel m.v. Semlow in June last year. ICU has set up a committee that will work directly with UN, its agencies, NGOs and other humanitarian organizations and programmes operational or intending to undertake humanitarian activities in Mogadishu.

## **(8) Sudan**

- (a) During the reporting period (6-12 August 2006), security across the Darfur region showed no signs of improvement and remained highly unpredictable, affecting some distributions and deliveries. Violent banditry attacks have been witnessed on all major and feeder roads in South Darfur, with fatal shootings of motorists and passengers on commercial buses reported. The culmination of divisions within the SLA/MM and reports of the absence of a senior SLA/MM Commander following changes in command structure, are believed to be having a negative effect on the overall stability of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) in South Darfur. Clashes between SLA factions continue.
- (b) Nyala: On 3 August, food supplies were looted from a WFP contracted truck destined for distribution in Buram locality. The incident occurred at Wadi Um Barbata near Abu Salala (Tulus locality). The truck was stopped by six armed bandits, who shot at the truck and 450 bags of sorghum were looted by the bandits and a group of 100 men and women. On the night of 7 August, unknown persons looted sections of a WFP rubhall at Gereida, 105km south of Nyala. Tensions remain high at Kalma IDP Camp, with a report of several armed raiders breaking into the compound of a Sudanese NGO in the camp. Shooting was heard as the raiders looted plastic sheets and other assorted goods.
- (c) El Fasher: Instability continues, with no improvements in security seen over the reporting week. Movement restrictions are still in effect and project activities continue to face severe disruptions, particularly in German Agro Action (GAA) areas of operations in north and northeast areas of the region, where most locations remain "no go". GAA continues to distribute food in Mellit Town but is currently unable to extend operations to Sayah and Malha due to the instability. July's heavy fighting in Kulkul area between GoS forces, the SLA/MM and National Redemption Front (NRF) has resulted in a noticeable strengthening of forces in El Fasher, further fuelling concerns of insecurity. Similarly, tensions continue in Abu Shouk and Zamzam IDP Camps with conditions affecting aid workers and residents. Insecurity has also led to the abandonment of crop

fields, adding extra concerns over the agricultural season.

- (d) El Geneina: No improvements in current insecurity have occurred over the reporting period, with all roads in West Darfur remaining category 'D' except the Morni-Umshalaya road which is categorised as 'C'. Helicopters are being used to conduct activities.
- (e) On 5 Aug 2006, a convoy of WFP contracted trucks was stopped by unarmed civilians at a roadblock near Tharjath (Unity State, South Sudan) and was forced to pay an amount of money before being allowed to proceed. Transporters have indicated their reluctance to continue with food transportation to the area.
- (f) An ordinance exploded in Juba, Bahr El Jebel (South Sudan) resulting in a serious injury of one person. On the same day, an anti personal mine was found by the Mine Action Group (MAG) on Wau-Kuajina-Tonj road about 35-km from Wau town, West Bahr Al Ghazal. A militia attack on Kuernyang, Old Fangak, Jonglei resulted in the death of three citizens and injury of one NGO staff working for Christian Mission Aid (CMA). Subsequently, all CMA members were relocated and Kuernyang was raised to security Level Four.
- (g) East Sudan: Floods were reported in Tokar town, Red Sea state during the week. Water has covered the all sides of the town periphery except the north west area. However, increasing flooding continues to threaten the entire town. There is currently very little access to the area as 3-4 km of the road from Port Sudan into Tokar is flooded. According to the assessment team, some 30,000 people are estimated to be displaced and in need of urgent humanitarian assistance. Some of the displaced people have moved to the town and the remaining have found shelter in 6 schools in the area. WFP will join an inter-agency mission, in collaboration with the Humanitarian Aid Commission, to the area in the next days to assess the situation on the ground and to determine required assistance. Furthermore, in Kassala, the level of the Gash River water continued to rise up to 2.5 meter at the end of the reporting week threatening Kassala town.
- (h) The water level of the Blue Nile river is reportedly at its maximum threatening the populations in villages at the river side.
- (i) As of 6 August, the average daily dispatch from logistical hubs to the Darfur region was 1,761 tons, with a cumulative total dispatch of 10,569 tons representing 34 percent of the monthly target.
- (j) Nyala: A total of 3,219 tons of mixed relief commodities have been dispatched to various locations in both South and West Darfur during the reporting week. However, insecurity and heavy rainfall continue to hamper deliveries and distributions respectively across the region.
- (k) El Fasher: Dispatches totalling 1,904 tons of mixed food commodities were made during the reporting week, of which 1,526 tons were delivered directly to food distribution points for direct distribution and 378 tons for pre-positioning.
- (l) El Geneina: During the reporting period a total of 1,280 tons of food commodities was dispatched from El Geneina to various locations in the state, benefiting nearly 55,000 beneficiaries. So far, the cumulative monthly dispatch stands at 2,745 tons of assorted food commodities, representing nearly 74% of the monthly planned dispatch. Of this figure, 1,465 tons was for pre-positioning in Morni and Habila warehouses. The current rainy season has continued to impede accessibility in some areas, especially in the south and southwest corridors, with truckers to Habila experiencing delays in deliveries to some of the Food Distribution Points. Meanwhile, banditry attacks continue along the Geneina-Morni corridor, compelling WFP to avail of African Union (AU) escorts to fleet trucks. Wadi Azoum, the main natural obstacle between the state and other parts of

Darfur, is now full as a result of seasonal rains. This has caused blockages in traffic and hence delays. However, a bridge across the wadi has recently been opened by the Government of Sudan (GoS) allowing vehicles to pass over.

- (m) South Sudan: WFP dispatched 1,781 tons of food to South Sudan including 358 tons by air and 1,423 tons by road; 769 tons from El Obeid, and 1,012 tons from Lokichoggio to locations in Eastern Equatoria, Central Equatoria and Unity States. Furthermore, the WFP fleet in South Sudan transported 267 tons of food from Juba, Central Equatoria (147 tons), Wau, Western Bahr El Ghazal (18 tons) and Rumbek, Lakes (102 tons).
- (n) Darfur: Preparations are underway throughout the region and in WFP Khartoum Office in anticipation of the upcoming Darfur Emergency Food Security and Nutrition Survey (ESFNA) due to commence beginning September. In partnership with UNICEF, FAO, WHO, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Government of Sudan, the ESFNA will assess the food security and nutrition status of IDPs and vulnerable rural residents and identify appropriate food and non-food interventions for 2007. Fieldwork will last approximately one month with preliminary analyses expected around mid-October. This is the third EFSNA survey conducted since 2004.
- (o) Nyala: Subsequent to a three week suspension of activities due to insecurity, General Food Distribution (GFD) to a planned 9,000 beneficiaries for the month of July, was resumed in Hamedia Camp on 10 August. FP Kass Field Office completed the distribution for the Seeds For Protection programme in the allocated ten locations where approximately 23,000 beneficiaries received three months' ration for August, September and October, amounting to 584 tons of food items. An assessment took place by the Nyala Area Office in Fein and Saboon El Fagour in East Jebel Marra locality, with the objective of monitoring the food security situation in the area based on information provided by an inter agency February report. Results illustrate the necessity for GFD caseloads to be revised and health services to be enhanced in the area. The WFP Emergency Operation (EMOP) Evaluation team arrived in Nyala on 10 August to carry out a comprehensive evaluation of the emergency operation in Darfur for the period 2004-2005.
- (p) El Fasher: Despite security concerns in IDP camps, distributions (and dispatches) are ongoing in Abu Shouk and El Salam camps, Um Kedada and Shangil Tobaya. In Kabkabiya, Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC) resumed food distribution in Saraf Omra, with distributions being completed for 28,448 beneficiaries in Dancuj and El Jebel distribution centres. Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) was conducted in Kabkabiya Town, with findings confirming the smooth running of distributions there. However, no PDM was able to take place in Fata Barno due to security issues. GFD was completed for August in Kutum Town, Kassab and Fata Barno Camps, where a total of nearly 70,000 beneficiaries received 1,174 tons of mixed food commodities.
- (q) El Geneina: WFP and its Cooperating Partner, Save the Children-US, distributed 460 tons of assorted food commodities to nearly 29,000 beneficiaries during the reporting week in Dorti, Hujaj, Abuzar and Jama'a camps in El Geneina Town. Save the Children-US also distributed 835 tons of assorted food commodities to 26,072 beneficiaries as a double ration for August and September in Tawang, Sawani, Nur Alhuda, Abu Dahiya, Gobi, Habila Town and Umsamgamti Final Distribution Points. No food distributions were reported under Kulbus Field Office, as all beneficiaries received double rations in July to cover requirements for two months.
- (r) South Sudan: WFP distributed over 1,700 tons of food to about 106,000 beneficiaries in South Sudan during the reporting week. Furthermore, food distributions are currently ongoing in 12 locations in Unity State by WFP's Cooperating Partner World Vision International (WVI). Under food-for-education, WFP delivered 6 tons of food commodities for distribution to 1,409 school children in two schools in Wunding and

Galashel in Upper Nile.

- (s) A joint needs assessment mission comprising WFP and the Sudan Rehabilitation and Recovery Commission (SRRC) was undertaken in Rigo, Rijeng, Terekeka, Muni, Nyori, Mangalla and Manjarapukun payams (Central Equatoria) following reports of population displacement due to insecurity. Findings indicated the presence of 779 IDP returnees (143 households) that were registered by SRRC in February 2006. The assessed caseload will be included in the September 2006 food distribution plan.
- (t) WFP, ADRA and the Sudan Rehabilitation and Recovery Commission (SRRC) jointly verified and registered 333 returnees (76 households) who arrived in Juba from Kosti, White Nile. The returnees were received by ADRA in the riverside camp in Juba.
- (u) An inter-agency emergency assessment mission to Cueibet, Lakes State was carried out under a UN military escort. The assessment team, including WFP, identified 142 IDPs and recommended their inclusion in the general food distribution. Furthermore, the team visited Mapourdit, Lakes State and identified 2,700 IDPs who were displaced from Wako, Makundi and Billing following inter tribal fighting last June between Agar and Jur Bel. WFP is working in coordination with SRRC and other partners to provide them with food assistance.
- (v) During the reporting period, WFP distributed about 129 tons of food commodities to 9,906 returnees in Upper Nile.
- (w) East Sudan: Some 250 Eritrean asylum seekers, were screened and granted refugee status by the Commission of Refugees and UNHCR at Wad Sharefyei camp. The refugees were transferred to Kilo 26 camp to receive WFP food assistance.
- (x) WFP discussed with UNICEF, Save the Children-US and ACAD means of cooperation in the implementation of food-for-education and food-for-training activities in Abyei area. In addition, WFP informed the Sudan Recovery and Rehabilitation Commission on an increase in the caseload of schoolchildren in Abyei from 12,000 to 19,000 in primary schools and from 0 to 600 for pre-school children. In order to increase schools' requirements, WFP will look at the updated caseload in the mentioned schools in Abyei and consider similar changes in the caseload in Meiram and Muglad.
- (y) The WFP office in Kurmuk, South Blue Nile distributed three-month rations totaling 181 tons of assorted commodities to 3,480 returnees during the reporting week. Of the total returnees assisted, 2,534 are organized returnees who were repatriated by UNHCR from Ethiopia into Challie, Pudom and Balatoam in Blue Nile in April and May. The remaining 946 are spontaneous returnees residing in Yabus, Balatoma, Muguf and Allele. WFP will continue to provide food assistance through general distributions to returnees in Blue Nile state until October, time for the first crop harvest, as per the recommendations of the Annual Needs Assessment.
- (z) GOAL reported that 1,081 spontaneous returnees have arrived in Kelli payam, Blue Nile from Ethiopia during the months of July and August 2006. Following a mission to the area, GOAL reported that most of these returnees were in need of urgent food assistance. The Sudan Rehabilitation and Recovery Commission will consult with local authorities in the payam prior to discussing with humanitarian organizations means of provision of assistance to these returnees. WFP is monitoring the situation. WFP conducted successive meetings with UN agencies and potential NGOs in Damazine, Blue Nile to strengthen coordination and to prepare for the 2007 work plan.
- (aa) Emergency Operation 10503.0: As of 16 August, the Emergency Operation has received contributions totaling US\$ 540 million, approximately 72 percent of the US\$ 746 million requirement. While generous contributions from donors will ensure a healthy pipeline until the end of this year, there are serious concerns of a lack of carryover stocks into 2007. At the current rate of consumption, WFP will run out of food by

January 2007. Ration cuts would be imposed before that happened, but only as a last resort. To avoid another round of cuts and cover Sudan's food aid requirements for the first three months of 2007, WFP requires an estimated US\$ 350 million. The money would also be used to pre-position another four months' worth of food for next year's rainy season when remote areas will be inaccessible by road.

- (ab) Humanitarian Air Service (WFP-HAS) Special Operation 10181.3: The Special Operation requirements for 2006 are US\$ 27 million of which 80 percent has so far been resourced by the EC, CHF and USAID. Additional donor support to meet the 20 per cent shortfall is vital, particularly for air operations in Darfur where air transport is often the only safe and possible means of accessing locations.
- (ac) Emergency Road Repair and Mine Clearance Special Operation 10368.0: The requirements for 2006 are almost fully funded with only a three percent shortfall following recent contributions from the Government of Sudan and the Multi Donor Trust Fund (MTDF). This is providing WFP a major opportunity to commence planned road works under Phase III.

## **(9) Tanzania**

- (a) During the month of July, a total of 4,284 refugees repatriated voluntarily to their homes. Of these, 2,974 Burundian refugees returned, which is by far the highest number of returns this year (1,404 in June). A total of 1,310 Congolese refugees repatriated in July, as compared to 478 returns facilitated in June.
- (b) UNHCR recorded the arrival of 32 asylum-seekers from Burundi, 2 from Rwanda and 34 from the DRC in western Tanzania during July. This is by far the lowest figure recorded in 2006.
- (c) The WFP refugee operation (PRRO) continues to reduce food rations in order to extend resources in anticipation of a pipeline break. As a result, the kcal provided has been reduced from a daily intake of 1,531 Kcal to 1,442 Kcal which is 69 percent of the approved ration level. It is expected that WFP will continue distributing reduced rations until additional resources are contributed to WFP.
- (d) The first "Come and Talk Visit" from Burundi to Ngora Lukole refugee camps included the Governor of Muyinga, staff members of various NGOs working in Burundi, former refugees and UNHCR staff members. The objective of the visit was the promotion of voluntary repatriation by sharing information with the refugees about conditions in the areas of return. Likewise, UNHCR Kibondo facilitated the travel of 45 Burundian refugees to participate in the "Go and See Visit" to Ruyigi, Gitega and Cancuzo Provinces in Burundi. Along with the refugee group, a total of six staff members from UNHCR, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and NGOs working in Kibondo camps accompanied them. Upon their return, the refugees reported their observations regarding living conditions in Burundi to those still in the Tanzanian camps.
- (e) General food distribution covers 331,907 registered refugees. During the period (10 - 16 August 2006), WFP distributed 1,034 tons of food through general distribution, supplementary and therapeutic feeding in refugee camps in western Tanzania. Around 5,700 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-training and vulnerable feeding.
- (f) A shortfall of 28,639 tons (US\$ 15.3 million) exists up to the end of June 2007.

## **(10) Uganda**

- (a) Uganda Peoples Defence Force (UPDF) offensive operations against the Lord's

Resistance Army (LRA) continue in northern Uganda. On 12 August, Raska Lukwiya, one of the top five LRA commanders on the International Criminal Court list was killed near Gulu town. Notwithstanding, the peace talks process between the LRA and Government of Uganda (GoU) are ongoing

- (b) The current security trend in northern Uganda continues to prevail. The UN Security Management Team endorsed travel of UN staff without escort within Lango region while areas in Acholiland for such travel have been expanded. Nevertheless, the security situation in Acholiland is still volatile due to continued LRA presence, movement and UPDF operations.
- (c) Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Gulu, Pader and Kitgum have been moving closer to their place of origin or near military barracks and therefore have accessed more land for cultivation during the on going season. The IDPs have also occupied abandoned public buildings such as schools and health centres at various trading centres.
- (d) UNHCR, WFP, IRC and the leaders of the refugee community conducted a verification of extremely vulnerable individuals (EVI's) from 7 to 11 August in Kiryandongo refugee settlement.
- (e) GoU as well as district authorities have expressed their concern about the prevailing poor rainfall in parts of Karamoja region which has been confirmed by WFP field offices monitoring reports. Consequently, a WFP/GoU team will carry out next week a preliminary assessment of the food security situation in Matheniko, Rupa, Jie, Pian, and Dodoth counties.
- (f) Four primary schools in Soroti district participated in colour drawing/story writing for a Benetton publicity project for WFP. A short film was also recorded for the occasion.
- (g) On 9 August 2006, the Italian and Japanese Ambassadors, accompanied by the WFP Deputy Country Director, visited a primary school and witnessed general food distribution at the Patongo IDP camp in Pader district. Japanese and Italian donated rice was distributed to IDPs and was part of the pupils menu.
- (h) WFP food distributions continue to reach 1.44 million displaced persons, 183,000 refugees and other vulnerable persons. During the period 5-11 August, WFP distributed 3,074 tons of food assistance to 344,743 persons including IDPs sheltering in camps in Gulu, Pader, Kitgum and Lira districts, refugees, children in nutrition centres and other vulnerable persons.
- (i) As of August 2006, WFP faces a shortfall of over 46,000 tons of food, valued at US\$ 23 million, to maintain the pipeline for relief assistance for IDPs, refugees and vulnerable groups through May 2007.

**(D) West Africa:** (1) Cote d'Ivoire (2) Liberia

**(1) Cote d'Ivoire**

- (a) The security situation was relatively calm but volatile in most part of the country during the reporting period (2-15 August). In Guiglo, western Cote d'Ivoire, militiamen of the "Front de Liberation du Grand Ouest", FLGO threatened to assassinate their legendary leader, Denis Maho Glofiei on accusation of embezzling their DDR benefits. This incident inflated fears among the local residents and the humanitarian community leading to the closure of offices, stores and the main markets on Monday, August 14. As precautionary measures, WFP suspended the weekly flight in Guiglo until further notice.
- (b) In Bouake, cases of armed robbery and attacks by unknown armed-men on villages in the area were reported during the reporting period. Also, some banditry and armed

robberies were reported in Odiénné and in villages near Korhogo in the north.

- (c) Few cases of cholera were detected in certain quarters of Abidjan during the period under review. The Ivorian Health Ministry announced preventive measures and urges the population to adopt safe hygiene practices during this rainy season.
- (d) During the period under review, WFP Cote d'Ivoire distributed over 147 tons of different food commodities to 10,701 beneficiaries. In the region of Odiénné, 114 tons of Seed Protect Rations were distributed to 7500 beneficiaries that received seeds and tools from FAO.
- (e) WFP provided 11 tons of food to 131 HIV/AIDS patients and their families in Daloa during the reporting period. WFP also distributed over 5 tons of food to 889 pupils and 31 volunteer teachers in the area of Vavou.
- (f) As of 15 August, the regional protracted relief and recovery operation, PRRO (Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina, Ghana, and Mali) has received a total of US\$ 35.1 million against the operational needs of US\$ 50.1 million (29.7% shortfall or US\$ 14.9 million against operational requirements). Additional funding is required in order to avoid pipeline breaks.

## **(2) Liberia**

- (a) The general security situation in Liberia during the reporting period (7 - 13 August) remained calm but volatile due to criminal activities plus other economic and political related issues involving some groups which created security incidences. The Liberian government, with the help of UNMIL is trying to repossess Guthrie Rubber Plantation from some ex-combatants who have been illegally occupying the plantation and tapping rubber since the end of the civil war in 2003.
- (b) Generally, the high criminality rate remains a big threat to UN staff members in the Country. However, WFP operations progressed well during the week without any interruption and are expected to run smoothly in the coming week.
- (c) During the reporting period, WFP and partners delivered a total of 560 tons of assorted food commodities targeting 39,608 beneficiaries. Also, a total of 760 metric tons of food was dispatched during the week under review to various WFP sub-offices and partners warehouses in continuation of the August distribution circle.
- (d) WFP distributed a total of 35 tons of food as first tranche (two months ration) resettlement package to some 877 returning Liberian refugees repatriated by UNHCR during the week under review. In addition, 69 tons of food was distributed to 2,045 resettled returnees as second tranche to complete their four months resettlement package.
- (e) Preparations are underway for verification of the reported residual caseload of some 15,000 persons still residing in closed IDP camps because they didn't receive their resettlement package.
- (f) WFP delivered 25 tons of food to schools under the NRC ALP (Accelerated Learning Programme) in Gbarpolu, Bomi and Grand Cape Mount during the reporting period. WFP continues to assess and review the capacity of the present and other interested Cooperating Partners to implement the school feeding programme during the next academic year expected to start by mid September. The school feeding programme is expected to be one of the key feeding activities for WFP Liberia, planned to benefit over half a million school children in 2000 schools, covering all the 15 counties in the Country.
- (g) During the reporting period, WFP and partners distributed a total of 432 tons of food to 35,069 beneficiaries in support of Food for Work and Food for Training activities.

- (h) WFP Liberia operation has a total food shortfall of 4,705 tons valued at US\$ 3.6 Million over the next six months, August 2006 to January 2007. The next pipeline break is expected in October with Salt. However, major food shortfalls affecting all commodities are expected to start in January 2007. Additional pledges and resources are needed to avert shortfalls of 3,060 tons of cereals, 180 tons of pulses, 596 tons of CSB, and 251 tons of salt and 71 tons of Sugar, from August through January 2007.

**(E) Asia:** (1) Myanmar (2) Philippines (3) Sri Lanka (4) Timor Leste

**(1) Myanmar**

- (a) WFP Myanmar is closely monitoring the effects that may arise due to heavy rains and floods across the country. During the reporting period (3-16 August), some roads have also become inaccessible to remote townships due to rain and landslides, hampering WFP delivery & operations.
- (b) The Government of Myanmar has released a law amending the Development of Border Areas and National Races Law. Under this law, the Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs will be making arrangement for enabling to co-operate with the United Nations Organizations, International Organizations, Regional Organizations, Foreign States, Non- Governmental Organizations and Persons.
- (c) Food Needs Assessments are being carried out in Lashio area as a preparation to the new PRRO schedule to commence on 1 January 2007.
- (d) A Pilot Mother and Child Nutrition activity has started with nutrition education, blended food preparation demonstration and food distribution in both Emergency operation (EMOP) and protracted relief and recovery (PRRO) areas.
- (e) Under EMOP 10345.1, a total of 676 tons of rice was dispatched to Sub-Offices for food for work, food for training, food for education and vulnerable group activities. Under PRRO 10066.2, a total of 530 tons of rice was dispatched to Maungdaw and Magway Sub-Offices during the reporting period.
- (f) The EMOP is currently 71% resourced and the PRRO resources stand at 78%, hence, there are still unmet resource needs up to the end of the year.

**(2) Philippines**

- (a) Over 45,000 people have been evacuated from their homes due to the lava flow and impending eruption of Mt. Mayon in the Province of Albay, south of Manila. They are currently primarily housed in 29 evacuation centers outside the danger zone, while some families have set up temporary shelters. A rapid assessment by UNICEF indicated that conditions at the evacuation centers are congested, with insufficient latrines and water containers to support the population. Local authorities are providing rice and canned food to sustain the evacuees, and the National Disaster Coordinating Councils has advised WFP that the situation is under control and there is no need for additional food support at this time.
- (b) According to local news reports, about 15,000 people are affected by an oil spill off Guimaras Island in central Philippines. The vessel was carrying 2 million litres fuel when it sank 24 km southwest of Guimaras on 11 August. Local authorities have declared a national calamity and are providing food assistance to affected households who depend on fishing for their livelihood; support from WFP is not envisioned.
- (c) During the reporting period (1-15 August), a total of 6,209 school children benefited from food for education (FFE) take home rations in the provinces of Lanao del Sur and Cotabato. A total of 114 tons rice were distributed to support the first month requirement

of this project component in these provinces. To date, a total of 10,869 school children benefited from the FFE project, utilizing a total of 239 tons of rice. Transport preparations are ongoing in anticipation of the rice distribution in Sultan Kudarat within the month. Rice distribution in the Province of Lanao del Norte may be delayed due to landslides between the Sultan Gumander and Sultan Naga Dimaporo, two of its municipalities adversely affected by flooding.

### **(3) Sri Lanka**

- (a) During the reporting period (1-31 July), the number of incidents has increased dramatically in the country, especially in the East and North jeopardizing the existing Cease Fire Agreement (CFA). By the end of July, there was full-scale conflict in Trincomalee district. These security violations have caused significant increase in IDP numbers.
- (b) Claymore mine explosions, hurling of hand grenades and shootings are reported almost on daily basis, especially in Batticaloa, Vavuniya, Trincomalee and Jaffna. The security risk in the North and East has been moderate for some months but is now identified as high in Trincomalee area. The local Security Management Team (SMT) has imposed travel restrictions in Mannar, Trincomalee and Batticaloa. The numbers of IDP's in Kantale, Thampalakamam and Kinniya are increasing with now some 115,000 estimated to be displaced. Another significant problem has been the polarization of communities which has resulted in animosity to aid agencies and their staff. The check points between the LTTE and the Government controlled areas have been closed for short time after serious incidents with major consequences for the populations in the LTTE controlled areas where there are shortages of food, fuel and construction materials.
- (c) These hostile incidents have seriously affected WFP regular operations in the north and east of Sri Lanka. However food is being distributed to the 50,000 IDPs now needing WFP assistance.
- (d) Under the protracted relief and recovery operation (PRRO), 262,757 children are planned to receive mid-morning meals through food for education (FFE) activities.
- (e) In June, some 490 tons of food were distributed to about 219,125 people. In July, WFP planned to provide CSB to 244,330 pregnant and lactating women and children through Mother and Child Nutrition activities. Food-for-Work programmes are expected to involve 70,000 participants in 2006 who will receive food for their families (350,000 beneficiaries).
- (f) Food distribution for long term IDP's have taken place in the Northern and Eastern parts of the country to help vulnerable families overcome the challenges of the new insecurity and to promote confidence in the future. The total food dispatched for IDPs during July was 3,087 tons
- (g) Out of the planned 102,003 tons required for the PRRO, WFP has resourced 70,591 tons of food commodities so far.

### **(4) Timor Leste**

- (a) Following the recommendation of the Security Management Team (SMT), the Security Phase in Timor-Leste was reduced to Phase II.
- (b) There has been a marked downturn in the security situation in Dili. The international policing forces came under direct attack from gangs of stone throwing youths, who appeared to demonstrate a greater degree of coordination than before. 94 arrests were made over the 5-9 August period – more than the combined total of the previous two months. A recent OCHA mission assessing the situation in the western districts pointed

to a fragile situation outside Dili.

- (c) Following the spike in violence, Prime Minister Horta announced that camps considered to be trouble spots must close. The UN is working closely with the Government to ensure that any camp closure is managed in an organized way, ensuring that people can return in a voluntary way or be provided with options in case they are unable to return. The outlook for the coming days is, unsurprisingly, not very optimistic. Besides the generally unsettled situation in Dili, there remains the concern that the violence could spread to the districts, which have virtually no coverage from the international forces.
- (d) WFP ended the first cycle of food distribution to all districts but Cova Lima and Bobonaro on 9 August 2006. During the reporting period (28 July - 10 August), WFP dispatched 315 tons of assorted food commodities to Ainaro, Manufahi and Lautem districts. The total food distribution to IDPs since early June is 1,156 tons of assorted food commodities for 116,870 beneficiaries. From August to November 2006, a total of 9,300 tons of food commodities will be required.
- (e) The mother and child health (MCH) programme has been expanded in Maubara sub-district. WFP dispatched food under the MCH programme to Cova Lima and Bobonaro districts on 10 August 2006, thereby expanding from its current activities in the districts of Ainaro, Liquica and Oecussi.
- (f) Preparations for the upcoming Food Security Assessment (EFSA) to be conducted in the districts outside Dili continue apace.

**(F) Latin America and Caribbean:** (1) Bolivia (2) Ecuador (3) Guatemala

**(1) Bolivia**

- (a) Two towns in the border with Argentina continue blocking the roads since 11 August. Some 150 vehicles are stuck in one of the main ways to Argentina. WFP deliveries to the area of Tupiza had to be postponed until the road is cleared.
- (b) During the reporting period (3-14 August), 92 tons of food have been distributed to 1,580 families in the Department of Santa Cruz, Municipalities of San Julián and El Puente.
- (c) Beneficiaries in Santa Cruz are massively moving back from camps to their communities since the river water has receded with the dry season. Therefore, the WFP food distribution modality will also shift from general distribution to food for work (FFW) and food for training (FFT), to rehabilitate their most essential assets.
- (d) However, returnees are facing a high risk of new floods since the Rio Grande River is still diverted. If it doesn't return to its original riverbed until approximately November, it will flood again the affected area forcing new evacuations.
- (e) So far, 57% of the total needs of the emergency operation (EMOP) have been covered. Pipeline break is expected to initiate in November 2006.

**(2) Ecuador**

- (a) According to the National Geophysical Institute of Ecuador, on 16 August volcanic activity increased alarmingly, the volcano begun its eruption on the morning and its activity intensified overnight. Explosions continue to produce abundant and massive clouds of ash, steam and gas (approximately 8 km of altitude), as well as abundant lava and pyroclastic flows. Huge incandescent rocks and volcanic material descended through Achupashal, Cusúa, Mandur, Bascún, Juive Grande and La Hacienda rifts. Volcanic material was also reported in Baños.

- (b) Volcanic material that descended through Achupashal rift has blocked the rivers Chambo and Puela producing a dam and putting several communities at risk. The main road from Baños to Riobamba is blocked by volcanic material as well as the main road leading from Ambato to Baños. About 3,700 people have been evacuated from the slopes of the Tungurahua volcano. Massive clouds of ash have covered entire communities.
- (c) The provinces of Los Ríos and Bolívar have also been severely affected by ash fall. The airports of Guayaquil and Cuenca have closed its operations. Authorities have reported that approximately 50 persons are missing, 4 persons have been reported slight burns. Respiratory infections have also been treated.
- (d) UN security phase 1 has been declared in the provinces of Tungurahua, Chimborazo, Bolívar and Pastaza. UNETE continues to coordinate activities with international and local NGOs, and are also working on the elaboration of an early recovery strategy for the provinces of Chimborazo and Tungurahua.
- (e) WFP in coordination with the Contingency Committee will deliver 650 food rations to shelters in Tungurahua and Pastaza.
- (f) The emergency continues to be addressed by the Provincial Emergency Operation Committees in Tungurahua and Chimborazo with the support of the National Police, the Army and authorities. Cantonal Emergency Operation Committees (COEs) are still activated in Tisaleo, Cevallos, Quero, Mocha, Pelileo, and Baños in Tungurahua, and Penipe and Guano in Chimborazo.
- (g) The emergency operation (EMOP) 10524.0 "Food Assistance to flood affected families in Los Rios province, Ecuador" has formally ended on August 4.

### **(3) Guatemala**

- (a) During the reporting period (8-14 August), 67 tons MT of food were distributed to 764 families in temporary shelters as a priority. Monitoring activities have been focused in the preparation for the next phase that will include food for work activities.
- (b) During the CCI meeting on August 7, it was reported that numerous families are still living in shelters in the departments of San Marcos, Solola, Totonicapán and Quetzaltenango and it was agreed that the assistance to the shelters is a priority to the Guatemalan Government as well as the other institutions involved in the emergency operation (EMOP). Therefore, the EMOP will continue providing food assistance and will ensure the provision of food for to these families.
- (c) The EMOP 10497 continues with a 31.8% shortfall, with US \$ 9,610,428 received in contributions (from the US \$14,095,271 requested October 2005).

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

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