
World Food Programme Emergency Report 2005
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(A) Headlines

- (a) In Niger, WFP has dispatched a total of 12,210 tons of food for the first round of general distributions, enough food to feed 712,509 people.
- (b) In Niger, WFP is finalizing preparations for its Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) to take place in September
- (c) The UNHCR High Commissioner visited Eastern Chad on August 25th and met the following day in N'Djamena with the Head of UN Agencies.
- (d) WFP urges the Government of Sudan to avail jet fuel in support of the Humanitarian Air Service as jet fuel shortages continue to hamper food deliveries by air into Darfur.
- (e) Heavy rains and continued attacks on commercial trucks affect WFP road dispatches into Darfur, Sudan during the month of August.

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

(1) Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

- (a) WFP continues to supply food aid to Sudanese refugees in Chad and the war affected populations in Darfur via the Libya corridor. The corridor provides a flexible surface transport and air bridge capability. Commodities are received at the port of Benghazi and trucked on hardtop roads up to WFP's logistics hub in Khufra, an oasis town in the Libya's south-eastern desert. At Khufra commodities are either transhipped onto desert trucks to make the cross Sahara journey to Chad, supplying refugee camps in eastern Chad and also West Darfur, or they are transferred to an IL-76 to be airlifted to North and South Darfur.
- (b) Since the end of April 2005, WFP has dispatched 13,570 tons of commodities by surface means to Chad. Due to exceptionally heavy rains experienced in Chad during August, no convoys were dispatched from Libya to Abeche. A convoy of 747 tons departed from Libya for the North Eastern refugee camps in Chad on the 28 August. A

second convoy carrying 1,000 tons is due to depart on the 4 September.

- (c) The airlift operation began with one IL-76 aircraft on the 7 May and a second aircraft started on 13 June. By 25 August 2005, some 10,639 tons have been dispatched by air to Darfur. Both aircraft were put out of action on the 19 August, one due to experiencing a bid-strike to one of its engines, the second due to an engine failure. The first aircraft has had the engine replaced and was operational again on the 25 August, the second aircraft is due to come operational again on the 4 September after completing repairs.
- (d) With the confirmation of a new contribution of USD 1 million, funding levels for Special Operation 10417.0 stand at 33% of the USD 4.5 million budget requirement.

(2) Occupied Palestinian Territories

- (a) Internal movement remains problematic for Palestinians in the West Bank. Tulkarem remains under closure and one day of closure was imposed on south-western villages of Hebron Governorate following a suicide attack this week in the Israeli city of Beer Sheva. More than 2,000 stores in the old city of Hebron (H2) are prohibited from opening; this affects the economic situation of residents. The construction of the barrier continues.
- (b) The security situation continues to hamper WFP operations in the Gaza Strip. Kidnapping, threats of violence directed at foreigners, and general lawlessness prevails. Under current regulations expatriate staff are operating with highly restricted movement and missions of non-Gaza based staff are prevented. Whilst this is delaying some final preparations for the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), WFP food supplies for August– September are already pre-positioned in Gaza Strip and field monitoring and distributions are relatively unaffected.
- (c) In terms of the Emergency Operation (EMOP 10190.2), the reporting period (26 August - 1 September) marked the final week of the EMOP. The last round of distributions was made to Institutions, New Poor (NP) and Social Hardship Cases (SHC) in West Bank and Gaza Strip. During the month of August, WFP has distributed 3,640 tons of food to 225,090 beneficiaries under the EMOP; this includes 720 people (120 families) severely affected by closures associated with the West Bank disengagement and closure on Tulkarem.
- (d) Under the new operation, Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10387, basic food needs of both the SHC and NP will be met through distribution of monthly family rations. While the SHC will receive relief food as part of the Ministry of Social Affairs' (MSA) programme, 'new poor' beneficiaries will receive food through participation in food for work (FFW) and food for training (FFT) activities. These will be implemented by numerous NGOs and the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA).
- (e) Preparations for the PRRO are ongoing, as agreements with cooperating partners are in negotiation, and deliveries and distribution to the SHC through the MSA will start from Sept 1st. The NP programme will start in October with the exception of the Bedouin programme which will start in November following the joint WFP/ IMG assessment. WFP has conducted focus groups with groups of farmers (field crop farmers, horticultural farmers, livestock farmers) throughout the West Bank to test the tighter targeting criteria proposed under the PRRO.

(3) Russian Federation (Caucasus)

- (a) During the second fortnight of August many areas neighbouring Chechnya have been affected by frequent bombings and other attacks targeting trains, military personnel, government officials and law enforcement officers. A major attack took place in Nazran, where the WFP office is located, where two bombs exploded on 25 August, wounding

the Prime Minister of Ingushetia in an apparent assassination attempt. Nazran is suffering from frequent spill over violence from neighbouring Chechnya as well as attacks by Ingush militants and criminal gangs.

- (b) As part of the general food distribution, WFP and cooperating partners delivered 226 tons of food commodities to 20,450 IDPs residing in Ingushetia during the second half of August. In Chechnya WFP provided about 226 tons of relief food to 20,370 beneficiaries.
- (c) The school feeding programme resumed at the end of August with the distribution of food commodities organized in cooperation with the Chechen Ministry for Education: 393 tons were delivered to 411 schools in Chechnya, including 69 schools of the three northern districts of Chechnya that have been newly included in the programme.
- (d) During the last two weeks of August, some 2,700 people (representing about 13,485 beneficiaries) participated in food-for-work (FFW) projects in Chechnya focusing on repair of roads, schools and other infrastructure, as well as improving pasturelands in rural areas. Some 434 mt of food was distributed to beneficiaries for the work performed in July. In Ingushetia, six FFW participants worked with IDPs and received 319 kg of food commodities.
- (e) 200 trainees participated in vocational courses (carpentry, accountancy, sewing driving) organized by IMC as part of the food for training programme in Chechnya and Ingushetia and received 12.6 tons of food in August.
- (f) WFP continued supporting the Dining Hall project for the most vulnerable people in Grozny: 1,600 tons of food were delivered at the beginning of August. Some 644 tuberculosis in-patients and out-patients covered in Ingushetia and Chechnya continued receiving food as an incentive to continue their treatment in local hospitals.
- (g) To date Emergency Operation (EMOP 101128.1) is 78 percent funded. Shortfalls of wheat flour, vegetable oil, sugar, salt and high energy biscuits are expected within the next 6 months, starting in September 2005 and may affect WFP's relief distributions and the school feeding and food fund programmes.

(C) East & Central Africa: (1) Burundi (2) Congo (3) Congo, DR (4) Djibouti (5) Eritrea (6) Ethiopia (7) Kenya (8) Rwanda (9) Sudan (10) Tanzania (11) Uganda

(1) Burundi

- (a) The security situation was particularly unstable during the reporting period (26 August - 1 September). Several road ambushes, targeted killings and armed robbery were reported coupled with incursions of the Front for National Libération (FNL) rebels in western provinces (Bubanza and Cibitoke). Furthermore, the former armed youth 'gardiens de la paix' continued to erect barricades on roads claiming demobilization allowances.
- (b) The newly elected President, H.E. Pierre Nkurunziza, was inaugurated, two new Vice-Presidents sworn in and the new Government appointed. With the new parliament and cabinet now in force, Burundi has ended the period of transitional leadership.
- (c) Subsequent to the establishment of democratically elected leadership in Burundi, the flow of returnees continued to increase. UNHCR reported that some 6,000 returnees in July and around 15,000 in August, signifying future monthly arrivals would be even higher. WFP continues to monitor the situation and to provide food assistance to the returnees.
- (d) WFP continued preparation of the nation-wide Seeds Protection Programme, in collaboration with FAO and local administrators. Over 179,000 families will benefit from food aid in this operation.

- (e) Last week, WFP distributed some 1,100 tons of food aid to 79,740 beneficiaries.
- (f) During the reporting period, WFP field monitors reported a decrease in admissions in eight nutritional centres in Muyinga province (by around 30 percent). The improvement was attributed to the increased number of food for work (FFW) programmes and the start of the Mother-Child Healthcare programme (MCH) in that province. In the same province, field monitors concluded that the MCH programme permits early detection and prevention of malnutrition for both mothers and younger children.
- (g) Considering the rising food needs in order to respond to emergency interventions, the increased influx of returnees and the implementation of the seeds protection rations, the food pipeline remains problematic. However, the pipeline of cereals and pulses has improved compared to the previous three months and WFP hopes to implement most of the planned distributions until the end of the year. Shortages of CSB and oil are still expected each month. There is a need to speed up deliveries of food commodities from regional purchases.

(2) Congo

- (a) WFP/UNICEF joint field visits were carried out last week, to evaluate the outcome of the WFP food assistance provided through local NGOs, in collaboration with UNICEF, under the component of food-for-training (FFT) activities. A total of 241 beneficiaries including former Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from Pool region were assisted through this programme. Training activities included soap-making; market-gardening; sewing and farming. Beneficiaries were split in 35 cooperatives at the end of the training period, in order to maximize the benefits of their activities.
- (b) During the last two weeks, a total of 263 tons of food were moved from Pointe-Noire to the extended delivery points (EDP) of Nkayi and Brazzaville. During the same period, 21 tons of food commodities were pre-positioned in the Pool region to support FFW/rehabilitation and nutrition activities, in collaboration with a local NGO and Médecins Sans Frontières, Netherlands (MSF/H) respectively.

(3) Congo, DR

- (a) On 26 August, clashes occurred between May-May militiamen, Front pour la Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) and Forces Armées de la République démocratique du Congo (FARDC) fighters, which reportedly caused the death of six persons and the displacement of peasant farmers. Up to 90 huts burned in the areas along the Kiwanja - Ishasha axis in the Rutshuru territory, North Kivu province. Moreover, tensions were increasingly perceptible in Rutshuru following the recent desertion of up to 500 FARDC soldiers, destabilizing the ongoing electoral process. According to the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), the deserters were hostile to the army reunification exercise and are reported to have joined the rebel movement based in Nyanzale.
- (b) UNHCR and WFP preparations for the repatriation of 6,045 Angolan refugees are almost complete. The targeted beneficiaries include 3,000 refugees who had been phased out by WFP sometime ago and had integrated into the DRC economic system. They were still under UNHCR protection. With the consolidation of peace in Angola, they expressed their desire to go home. A truck with 30 tons of WFP food is already on its way over the 500 km of extremely poor roads from Kahemba to Kamashilo, the final food distribution site. On 15 September, the first group of 1,000 Angolan refugees will depart from Kamashilo (Bandundu province) back to Angola.
- (c) Last week in North-Kivu province, food distribution to 9,000 returnees in Miriki (south of Lubero territory) took place under extremely difficult conditions caused by intensive military operations by gunmen in the area. However, WFP assisted them with 113 tons

of food, through the Cooperating Partner (CP) CARITAS while 8 tons of food including rice was also delivered to feed 300 hospitalised patients, through Médecins-Sans-Frontière France (MSF-F).

- (d) Shortages of various commodities in Bunia led to the reduction of food rations planned for 1,247 returnees to Djugu territory. They had received only 39 tons of food in the last week. Meanwhile, 339 malnourished families were provided with a half-ration of food totalling 11 tons. No monitoring took place during the period under review due to the resurgence of insecurity in the area. (e) In Maniema province, WFP monitoring reports highlighted the resumption of nutritional activities in Kalima. Both UNICEF and WFP supplied the therapeutic and supplementary feeding centres with medicines/therapeutic milk and food respectively. During the reporting week (26 August – 1 September), 33 malnourished children started their treatment.

(4) Djibouti

- (a) Both browse and water are very limited, and the physical condition of livestock is deteriorating. Weima grazing areas from Alaili Dada down to Asgeyla are facing a continuous drought and the water level in Adaylou is below normal, with almost all water catchments dry. The Djibouti Government has intensified water pumping in pastoral wells. Animal production is very limited and people are facing a serious food deficit.
- (b) Pests and diseases caused significant reductions in crop yields. The crop production this year decreased by 20 percent due to lack adequate inputs and reduced cultivated areas. In addition, fruit production also decreased by 50 percent due to flower shedding of mangoes aggravated by strong winds and showers, which coincided with the flowering period. The production in the forthcoming season will further decline if the delay and shortage of agricultural inputs persists.

(5) Eritrea

- (a) During the reporting period (26 August - 1 September), a USA Government team arrived in Eritrea for talks on food aid following Eritrea's request that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Washington's main development agency, cease working in the Red Sea state. On Friday, 26 August, the USA Ambassador disclosed at a public meeting that Eritrea had asked USAID to terminate its operations in Eritrea because it was "uncomfortable" with the agency's activities.
- (b) WFP commitment coverage for all operations has remained unchanged. The coverage for Emergency Operation (EMOP) 10261.01 has reached approximately USD 60 million or 80 percent of the total cost to WFP. Coverage for the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10192.0 remains at USD 44.1 million, representing 85 percent of operational requirements. The contributions registered under PRRO 10192.1, whose implementation is to start on 1 September, stands at approximately USD 42.6 million, representing 20 percent of the total cost of the project. The food aid coverage of the consolidated appeal process (CAP) is at 79 percent.

(6) Ethiopia

- (a) Concerns about the poor food security situation persist in parts of the country, particularly in lowland areas of Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR) and East Harerge zone of Oromiya region. In Aysaita district of Afar region, the regional government reports that an estimated 5,000 people are affected by floods. Requests for both food and non-food items have been made by regional authorities. The federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPC) is attempting to despatch an assessment mission to the area to assess damage and requirements for

emergency interventions, but accessibility is very limited.

- (b) The target population for relief food operations in August was 3.3 million, with requirements of 62,000 tons. Dispatches of August relief allocations are ongoing. For September, the target population is 3.2 million with food requirements of 60,000 tons.
- (c) In Somali region, food aid has been distributed in Fafan and Hartisheik internally displaced persons (IDPs) camps. A total of 50 tons of cereals and pulses allocated to Fafan has been distributed. In Hartisheik IDP camp, 87 tons out of a total allocation of 147 tons been distributed so far. These food rations are part of the overall allocation made to the districts in which the IDPs live. Currently the number of officially-recognized IDPs in Fafan is 6,000 and 5,140 in Hartisheik. However, the number of unrecognized IDPs in the camps is estimated to be significantly higher. WFP and the regional Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPB) travelled last week to the camps to oversee distributions and to verify that the food reached the intended beneficiaries. Food allocations were last made to Fafan and Hartisheik IDP camps in October 2004.
- (d) Meanwhile, the federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau (DPPC) has agreed to allocate food aid for the United Nations Country Team-supported recovery programme in Somali region. The programme aims at repatriating IDPs from Fafan and Hartisheik camps to their places of origin in Degehabur zone of Somali region. The returning IDPs will receive a food ration for two to three months. The first caseload of 949 IDPs is planned to be moved at the end of September 2005. The total number of returning IDPs is 5,604.
- (e) For the Productive Safety Net Programme, the main the activities in August concerned follow-up of the third round transfer to beneficiaries and undertaking of a training of trainers (ToT) course on 'Community-based Public Works and Watershed Planning'.
- (f) As regards the status of transfers, a recent report from Food Security Coordinator Bureau Information Centre indicated a marked improvement over recent performance. Reports from the centre indicate that over two-thirds of the districts sampled had satisfactory and above-satisfactory performance in terms of effecting the distribution of transfers to their respective beneficiaries.
- (g) The ToT on 'Community-based Public Works and Watershed Planning' is organized in two phases, the first of which (22 August - 3 September) involves some 350 trainees from 104 safety net districts and is being undertaken in 8 different venues across the four regions (Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya, SNNPR). The second phase is expected to commence during the third week of September and is envisaged to involve the remaining 88 safety net districts. The ToT is an integral part of a cascade training programme that has the following main objectives: (a) to equip a core set of professionals with techniques and approaches in Public Works planning, giving particular emphasis to watershed development, so as to effectively discharge their duties as future trainers of Development Agents; (b) to impart skill and knowledge on Development Agents on the above subject matter to enable them carry out their respective tasks in the planning and implementation of the safety net programme through the active involvement of community members and (c) to assist safety net beneficiaries prepare realistic community plans that would contribute towards the achievement of food security.

(7) Kenya

- (a) The three-week multi-sectoral (food and non-food) assessment conducted by the Government of Kenya (GoK)/WFP led "Kenya Food Security Steering Group" in 26 districts in Kenya (35 percent of all districts in the country) in July indicate that some areas in north-western Kenya have significantly recovered from the drought. However, there has been significant deterioration in household food security in most parts of

north-eastern Kenya (Wajir, Garissa and Tana River districts) and in a few localized areas (Kajiado, Moyale, Marsabit and Turkana districts) and farming households in the southeastern and coastal marginal districts. The food security of pastoral households in northeastern Kenya in particular is expected to decline significantly, at least until the beginning of the short-rains season in mid October. Moreover, the gathering of large livestock herds in Moyale, Isiolo and Ijara districts is causing substantial tension among pastoral communities, raising fears of renewed clashes. In drought-affected areas, food prices continued to rise and are expected to remain prohibitively high, since little or no production is expected during the current season.

- (b) The joint assessment has concluded that one million people are still in need of emergency food aid from September 2005 until February 2006, down from an estimated 1.6 million reached in July. A further 200,000 schoolchildren will be supported through the school lunch programme. During this period, an estimated 79,000 tons of food aid will be required, out of which WFP has a carryover stock of 27,000 tons of food, leaving a requirement in new pledges of 52,000 tons valued at USD 25 million. Some USD 3.8 million is also needed to provide targeted feeding for malnourished and vulnerable children, vitamin A supplementation, integrated immunization campaigns, provision of basic health packages as well as repair and rehabilitation of critical water sources.

(8) Rwanda

- (a) Despite the Tripartite Agreement on the voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees in Rwanda, signed on 18 August, a total of 226 new refugee arrivals were reported in Gikonko camp. Of these, 89 were registered as "old cases" while the remaining 137 refugees were put on hold. However, the voluntary, organized repatriation of Burundian refugees continued with four from Kigeme and 306 from Nyamure camps. The Burundian refugee population is currently 4,750.
- (b) No food distribution was implemented during the reporting period since refugees have already collected their monthly rations. UNHCR, in cooperation with WFP and the Rwandan Government, continues the verification of Congolese refugees that will last until 09 September 2005. At Gihembe camp in Byumba, the preliminary screening resulted in a reduction of 2,316 refugees or 11 percent of the camp population. In Kiziba camp, the reduction was 2 percent or 368 refugees. The total number of Congolese refugees currently hosted in Rwanda is 42,288 or fallen by 6 percent. This exercise will determine the exact number of refugees and identity cards will be issued to all those registered.
- (c) A total of 132 returnees crossed from DRC to Rwanda through Nyagatare and Nkamira transit camps. They were transferred to their home localities after receiving a one-month reduced returnee food package from WFP as they cannot yet be given the originally planned three-month food packages due to pipeline constraints.
- (d) The high altitude districts of Gisenyi and Kibuye received less than normal harvest during the 2005-B season as assessed by the joint Crop and Food Assessment Mission (CFAM) led by Ministry of Agriculture (MINAGRI). As part of the post-harvest monitoring, WFP conducted a vulnerability assessment in these districts between 16 and 19 August 2005 to estimate the food security status of the most affected households, the effectiveness of their current coping strategies and the progress of land preparation activities. The situation needs continuous monitoring of planting and crop progression during the season B, surveying of market prices and initiating Food-for-Work (FFW) activities.

(9) Sudan

- (a) DARFUR

- (b) The security situation in the Darfurs continues to be precarious. On 22 August, a WFP driver in Kebkabiyah, North Darfur, was harassed by a member of the Central Reserve Force while going to the office of the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) on official business. The WFP driver was detained for four hours and later released through the intervention of the local HAC representative. WFP is conducting further investigations into the matter. In West Darfur, WFP and the UN Department for Security and Safety (UNDSS) are planning to conduct security assessments along the two roads connecting Geneina and Habilah, via Mornie and via Congo Haraza/Beida. Both roads are currently NO GO to UN movement due to insecurity. In South Darfur, the security situation remained tense with armed men continuing to attack and loot commercial trucks and humanitarian vehicles.
- (c) There were isolated reports of Government of Sudan (GoS) and Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) clashes in South Darfur. On 24 August, five GoS soldiers were reportedly killed when a GoS convoy travelling from Sheria town to Nyala was ambushed near Bandjeded. On 23 August, the Janjaweed reportedly burned down several villages. However, no casualties were reported. Reportedly, the SLA attacked a group of Janjaweed militia in El Malam, north of Mershing, killing six members. The Janjaweed militia established checkpoints on the roads leading into and out of El Malam in retaliation.
- (d) A delegation consisting of WFP, OCHA and United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) undertook a mission to Ed Daein to meet with SLA commanders. The mission discussed security, including free passage of UN vehicles and staff within SLA-controlled territories. The commanders expressed their readiness to exert all efforts to ease the movement of humanitarian workers within their areas of control and gave assurances for the safety and security of all UN and international NGOs undertaking various activities in the region.
- (e) WFP food deliveries into the Darfurs were challenged by a combination of factors during the month. These included heavy rains, limited primary transport capacity out of Port Sudan, shortage of jet fuel and insecurity. In spite of the above factors, WFP was able to use pre-positioned stocks, particularly in West Darfur, to meet food requirements. As of 30 August, WFP has dispatched 38,644 tons to Cooperating Partners (CPs) for distribution to beneficiaries in Darfur. WFP also delivered 4,923 tons of food into Darfur via airlifts and airdrops between 1 and 28 August, representing 53 percent of the plan for August. Some 2,090 tons of food was airlifted from Al Khufra, Libya and is included in this figure.
- (f) Crippling jet fuel shortages in the country has had a major impact on WFP operations during the rainy season when air support to food deliveries is most needed. WFP continues to urge the GoS to avail jet fuel in support of WFP's Humanitarian Air Services. WFP is expecting a new shipment of jet fuel from Port Sudan in Khartoum and El Obeid this week, and it is expected that non-food item (NFI) deliveries will be resumed, on a limited basis, once the new shipment arrives.
- (g) In West Darfur, heavy rains in the region disrupted dispatches from the warehouses in Geneina to various destinations, particularly in Habilah and Foro Burunga. Meanwhile, road conditions and overflowing wadis have made Um Jukoti, Gumgar and Ras el Feel inaccessible. While some commodities have already been delivered, WFP is working with transporters to dispatch remaining quantities as soon as water levels decline. In North Darfur, WFP's fleet began delivering food to Korma as commercial transporters refused to transport food due to the deteriorating road conditions. WFP also started dispatching food from Geneina, West Darfur to Saraf Omra in North Darfur as overflowing wadis made the area inaccessible from El Fasher. In South Darfur, the road between Nyala and Mukjar as well as roads to the Edd El Fursan locality remain inaccessible due to ongoing rains.

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- (h) As of 26 August, WFP faces a shortfall of USD 148 million, representing 26 percent of USD 562 million required for the operation. Urgent cash contributions are needed to repay outstanding internal loans of USD 27 million made to meet pressing food requirements during the rainy season.
 - (i) The Special Operation for logistics support in Darfur continues to face a shortfall of USD 22.8 million. The procurement of 100 long haul trucks therefore remains pending.
 - (j) WFP-Humanitarian Air Services (HAS) still faces severe funding shortfalls, which led to the cancellation of non-food item deliveries in June. The funding shortfall remains critical at USD 12 million out of total requirements of USD 24 million in 2005. In the absence of new contributions, flights services will have to be curtailed starting October.
 - (k) SOUTH, EAST AND TRANSITIONAL AREAS
 - (l) The security situation in Rubkona and Bentiu deteriorated on 22 August following clashes between militia men and GoS soldiers. On 24 August, the Security Management Team (SMT) announced that Bentiu remains NO GO to UN movement following the incidents of riots and tension. Meanwhile, WFP staff members from Bentiu remain relocated in Kadugli for the sixth week.
 - (m) On 23 August, the security level in Adior, Yirol County was raised to Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) level four due to factional fighting in the area. The Chief Security Office for the UN OLS safely relocated WFP staff to Rumbek.
 - (n) The situation in Malakal, Bahr El Ghazal has returned to normal according to the UN Department of Security and Safety (UNDSS) following the fighting reported last week between militia groups in Kaldak. The SMT announced that UN national staff members who left following the riots on 1 August can now return.
 - (o) Local police arrested two men in Tokar, Red Sea who were caught transporting WFP commodities including 156 jerry cans of oil and some pulses. In Ajakuac-Twic County, Bahr El Ghazal WFP lost 66 tons of assorted commodities that were stored in Ajakuac. Investigations are ongoing.
 - (p) WFP suspended food distribution in Lafon County, Eastern Equatoria because of insecurity in the region.
 - (q) A WFP delegation including Deputy Executive Director, the Executive Director's Chief of Staff, President and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of US Friends of WFP visited Sudan for one week. The delegation visited Nyala and Geneina in Darfur then travelled to Juba, Bahr El Jebel and Rumbek. In Juba, the mission held joint meetings with Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and Sudan Relief Rehabilitation Commission (SRRC) Commissioners and met with the Vice President of South Sudan. In Rumbek, the mission met with the SRRC Commissioner and Acting Governor for Lakes and discussed WFP's commitment to continue supporting the people of South Sudan.
 - (r) WFP handed over the Rumbek Airport upgraded at a cost of USD1.6 million to the local Government of South Sudan in the interim capital of Rumbek on 27 August. The WFP delegation including the South Sudan and Emergency Coordinators were present for the handover ceremony attended by donors, South Sudan authorities and representative of various UN agencies as well as NGOs and contractors. The acting caretaker governor for South Sudan's Lakes region received the 28-hectare airport on behalf of Sudan's First Vice-President.
 - (s) The US Special Representative to Sudan visited Kassala during the reporting week and met with the Wali and Sudan Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA) representatives as well as various UN agencies. His visit, hosted by WFP, included a trip along Gash river embankment to see the flood control mechanisms in place.
 - (t) The inter-agency rolling assessment team completed their mission in White Nile and Bahr El Ghazal states during the reporting week. Preliminary findings from the mission
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to Jebelain in White Nile state showed increased agricultural labour opportunities for the IDPs with harvest expected in October or November. The mission indicated that IDPs should be able to cover their food gaps towards the end of the year. However, close monitoring of the agricultural season as well as cereal prices in the area was recommended. In Bahr El Ghazal, the team visited Gogrial, Aweil, Malual, Raja, Diem Zubier and Wau IDP camps. Preliminary findings showed improved agricultural output compared to last year. However, the mission recommended continuation of food assistance until September. Further recommendations for requirements beyond September will be reported in the coming weeks based on ongoing analysis of the data collected.

- (u) A joint WFP, UNDSS and HAC security assessment is currently ongoing in the upper Sobat corridor to check conditions for resuming the barge operation, suspended since the beginning of the month. The second round of barge deliveries as well as post-distribution monitoring visits, is expected to resume in early September, pending security clearances, and will last throughout the month. The joint security assessment mission cleared areas of the lower Sobat, Kodok and Fajak-Tonga earlier in the week.
- (v) Heavy rains continue to be reported in parts of Bahr El Ghazal and across the Blue Nile. Bahr El Ghazal had experienced a one-month dry spell that caused concerns over crop production. Crops are performing well in most areas of Bahr El Ghazal, Jonglei and Eastern Equatoria states. In Blue Nile, the heavy rains affected WFP and CPs monitoring and evaluation activities for the month of August and have now been postponed for September.
- (w) A joint inter-agency rapid assessment team, led by the HAC, indicated that 1,595 families were affected by recent flooding in Musales, Zubeir, Fardos, Thoura, Wehda, Tadamon, Thoura, Gharb and Mak.
- (x) In Upper Nile/Southern Blue Nile an inter-agency assessment mission, including WFP, visited Melut from 20-22 August to verify the arrival of 3,450 returnees and to assess the situation on the ground. The mission confirmed the presence of 5,400 returnees, mostly from Khartoum, in need of humanitarian assistance. The mission recommended immediate registration, verification and provision of food assistance. The team also registered a total of 793 returnees (53 percent female) who arrived in Malakal from Ethiopia, Kenya, White Nile and northern states in the period 8-18 August en route to locations along the Sobat river and towards Jonglei state. In addition, WFP and UNICEF provided food and non-food assistance to 742 registered returnees who arrived in Malakal during August.
- (y) In Bahr El Ghazal about 28,570 vulnerable residents, returnees and IDPs received a total of 404 tons of food aid. In addition, eleven schools with enrolment of 3,296 pupils (2,599 boys and 697 girls) received 36 tons of assorted food commodities in Akoc. Distribution was ongoing in Mayen Pajok and Ayuung although deliveries were slow due to shortage of Jet A1 fuel in El Obeid. Meanwhile, WFP has resumed food distributions in Aweil East County after a joint WFP/OCHA/SRRC completed investigations early this week on the looting incident of 11 tons of food in Akuem on 11 August. However, deliveries to Maluakon drop zone/airstrip in Aweil East Country, were delayed by jet fuel shortages in El Obeid. Similarly, monthly food distributions to 45,000 IDPs and returnees in Wau, Gogrial and Malual IDP camps were also delayed in August due to the lack of jet fuel.
- (z) This week, food distributions were completed in Unity State by CP CARE following an initial delay due to insecurity in the region. A total of 859 tons of mixed food commodities was distributed to both IDPs and returnees. Some 11,000 beneficiaries (including 3,000 returnees in Pakok) in Jonglei received 175 tons of food aid. WFP also distributed about 324 tons of food aid to 29,200 beneficiaries including 5,700 IDPs in

ten locations in Eastern Equatoria.

- (aa) WFP distributed 270 tons of assorted food commodities to 18,520 vulnerable residents in Yirol County, Lakes region. Five schools in Western Equatorial area were approved for food-for-education (FFE) and provided with 74 tons of food for the period September to December 2005.
- (ab) August food distributions continued during the reporting week in Hadalia IDP camp, Kassala State. A total of 138 tons was dispatched for around 6,900 beneficiaries. CPs Oxfam and Sudanese Red Crescent (SRC) continue to distribute food in eight distribution sites in the Red Sea State under WFP's food-for-recovery programme. A total of 199 tons of food was distributed to 7,038 beneficiaries.
- (ac) Ongoing shortages of jet A1 fuel in El Obeid delayed air deliveries into Eastern Equatoria as well as in South Kordofan (Nuba Mountains), Bahr El Ghazal and upper parts of Upper Nile during the week. Only 13 tons were air-dropped into South Sudan from El Obeid. South Kordofan (Nuba Mountains) is the most critically affected region and food has not been distributed for the past 10 days. In Saraf Jamus, WFP is unlikely to meet the target of assisting 24,600 beneficiaries with 374 tons as only 91 tons has been delivered since 12 July. However, WFP expects the arrival of a new shipment to improve air deliveries in the coming week.
- (ad) During the reporting week (August 26 – Sep 1), WFP dispatched 977 tons of food from El Obeid to Unity and North Kordofan states. In Bahr El Ghazal, a total of 192 tons of assorted food commodities were partially delivered and stored in Ayuung and Mayen Pajok. In Lakes, a total of 925 tons of mixed food commodities was delivered by road from Koboko, Uganda to the WFP Rumbek warehouse and Tonj South.
- (ae) During the week, WFP dispatched 1,223 tons of food commodities by barge from Kosti to Malakal, of which 977 tons is expected to arrive in Malakal in early September. A total of 450 tons will cover requirements for September distributions, while 527 tons will be distributed along the upper Sobat corridor when the barge operation resumes.

(10) Tanzania

- (a) UNHCR has confirmed that 8,999 refugees repatriated to Burundi between August 1-21. There has also been a sharp increase in the spontaneous return of Congolese refugees from western Tanzania. This week 400 Congolese were hosted at the transit centre in Kibtisi, awaiting transport to DR Congo. Since January 2005, UNHCR has recorded nearly 3,000 registered spontaneous returnees to the DRC.
- (b) WFP is currently providing refugees with a general distribution ration equivalent to 1,813 Kcal, or 86 percent of the approved ration level. Although rations have increased compared to July, they still remain below the minimum needed for healthy survival. Assuming timely arrival of incoming shipments, it is anticipated that between 86 and 93 percent of the normal ration can be provided between now and the end of October 2005.
- (c) A total of 390,000 beneficiaries received some 1,100 tons of food commodities through general food distribution. WFP continues to implement therapeutic, supplementary and camp-based hospital feeding with 100 percent ration levels. Due to resource shortages, however, food-for-work and food-for-training activities in the host communities surrounding the camps remain suspended.
- (d) While the pipeline situation for the coming six months has improved, WFP is not yet in a position where full rations can be provided. Significant shortfalls in the first half of 2006 also need to be addressed.

(11) Uganda

- (a) The security situation in northern Uganda remained unpredictable. Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels continue to move in small groups in Gulu, Kitgum and Pader districts. As a result, the military offensive against the insurgents continued. Despite limited improvement in internally displaced persons' (IDPs) access to agricultural land, the amount of land they are able to cultivate remains grossly insufficient. With September planting season underway, it is apparent that significant food assistance will be required until mid-2006 to support 1.4 million displaced rural people.
- (b) The Government of Uganda/WHO/UNICEF/WFP conducted a Health and Mortality Survey among IDPs in northern Uganda in July 2005. Main findings are that Crude Mortality Rate and Under 5 Mortality Rate are well above emergency threshold levels. Malaria/fever and AIDS were top self-reported death causes. Total excess mortality is projected at 1,000 excess deaths per week in the three surveyed districts. The Special Representative of the Director General of the WHO for Health Action in Crisis, Dr. David Nabarro, visited Uganda from 22 to 23 August to discuss the survey results. In Uganda, Dr. Nabarro travelled to Gulu, northern Uganda, accompanied by the WFP Country Director and other officials to discuss the findings with local health officials.
- (c) Under the WFP/FAO partnership providing support to formerly displaced persons for sustainable food security, 5,457 households received seeds and agricultural kits in two sub-counties in Katakwi district during the past week. To date, 29,153 households have received seeds and agricultural kits in Lira and Katakwi districts.
- (d) WFP food distribution continues to reach 1.4 million displaced persons, 192,000 refugees and other vulnerable persons. During the past week, WFP distributed 4,914 tons of relief food assistance to 463,230 persons including IDPs sheltering in camps in Gulu, Kitgum, Pader and Lira districts, refugees, children in nutrition centres and other vulnerable persons.
- (e) WFP faces a shortfall of 29,000 tons of food commodities (19,300 tons cereals, 4,000 tons pulses and 5,700 tons fortified blended foods) with a funding gap of USD 13 million, required to maintain the food pipeline necessary to continue providing relief assistance to IDPs and refugees through December 2005. Unless new contributions are confirmed urgently the nutritional status of 1.4 million internally displaced persons in northern Uganda, mostly women and children, will be jeopardized.

(D) West Africa: (1) Cameroon (2) Chad (3) Guinea (4) Liberia (5) Niger

(1) Cameroon

- (a) During the month of August, 500 tons were distributed to 5 Divisions of the Far-North Province. 15,000 beneficiaries received a 1-month ration of 30 kg per household. WFP is planning to assist some 237,000 people for one month in the Logone and Chari division.

(2) Chad

- (a) During the reporting period (25 August - 1 September), the overall security situation has been relatively calm in the refugee camps and border areas of eastern Chad. French Military Forces have asked the humanitarian workers to be more vigilant, with the resurgence of small armed groups who are targeting civilians. Refugee women collecting fire wood in areas surrounding camps of Bredjing, Treguine, and Farchana have suffered attacks by local citizens. Increased robberies in Iriba town are targeting mostly humanitarian workers.
- (b) The estimated target caseload as agreed by WFP and UNHCR stands at 198,500 refugees in twelve camps. The second phase of the registration exercise (personal data collection and photos) was completed in Guereda camps and is expected to commence

in the central camps on the 5th of September.

- (c) During the reporting period systematic replacements of old ration cards started in Kounoungou and Mille camps.
- (d) A total of 198,571 beneficiaries were assisted with some 3,357 Mt by general food distribution
- (e) WFP Abeche and El Geneina offices have started to harmonise food distribution dates on both sides of the border, to avoid duplications and movements of the population.
- (f) In Farchana, WFP distributed approximately 15 Mt of food for 200 persons under food-for-work (FFW) for the rehabilitation of Farchana airstrip. Monitoring visits were made to FFW sites, where WFP is supporting the construction of schools with its partners ADESK. The NGO ACTED started a FFW intervention in Bahai-Cariari region. During a joint assessment visit to Goz Beida by WFP/CRT the local population indicated a high interest in rehabilitating the airstrip used by WFP through a FFW project.
- (g) In Guereda, seed protection rations will be distributed next week with WFP Cooperating Partner CARE, targeting 993 families.
- (h) A WFP of 56 trucks (Convoy W009) loaded with wheat for Sudan via the Libyan corridor arrived in Abeche on 26th August 2005. Convoy W010 of 78 trucks of wheat for Sudan via the Libyan corridor arrived in Abeche on 28th August 2005. There were significant losses due to the long immobilization of the trucks in Biltine in both convoys.
- (i) WFP Sudan agreed to lend 1,000 tons of wheat to Chad in order to cover pipeline breaks expected in September distributions.
- (j) The overall nutritional situation remains fairly stable in the refugee camps. MSF-H reported a increase in the incidence Hep. E in Bredjing, Treguine and Farachana camps (as compared with the situation last week). The NGO COOPI carried out a screening in Djabal camps. GAM is estimated at approximately 15%. WFP is planning to phase out its Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program in the camp. Should the next screening – due next week – confirm these results, the Blanket Supplementary Feeding programme will be suspended immediately, as MCH programmes are already in place as well as active screening for all children under five. MSF Luxemburg reported an increase of cases of dysentery in Touloum camp without mentioning any direct link on the rates of admission in the nutrition centres.
- (k) During the reporting period, the WFP plane (UN21W) was sent for maintenance. With the second plane, WFP HAS carried a total of 108 passengers.
- (l) The High Commissioner of Refugees visited eastern Chad on 25th of August, including the Iridimi Camp. UNHCR held a meeting in Abeche with all sister agencies and partners during which Mr. Guterres commended the Agencies for excellent collaboration and expressed his views on the operation as well as the existing “window of opportunity” for a peace process in Darfur. The High Commissioner expressed concern about camp locations, especially in Ouré Cassoni and Annabak.

(3) Guinea

- (a) During the reporting period (8-21 August), 31,400 beneficiaries received 471 tons of WFP food in Guinea. Guinean refugee camps now host over 61,000 individuals who are currently being assisted by WFP. 3,289 are from Cote D'Ivoire and the remainder from Liberia.
- (b) WFP and AACG, a Guinean NGO, have signed a Letter of Understanding retaining AACG as the implementing partner for WFP's Emergency School Feeding activity in the Forest region. AACG will be responsible for ensuring that 80,000 school children, in

some 343 schools, receive hot meals during the forthcoming school year

- (c) Since the beginning of the repatriation campaign in November 2004, around 15,500 Liberians have returned home. Progress has been slower than planned, which is resulting in a higher refugee caseload remaining in Guinea than was originally anticipated.
- (d) The rainy season, coupled with agricultural activities, are contributing to the slow down in the repatriation process. During this reporting period, UNHCR suspended one scheduled convoy of returnees because of poor road conditions.
- (e) WFP in Guinea continues to face a shortage of pulses over the next six months.

(4) Liberia

- (a) During the reporting period (23-29 August), 30,060 beneficiaries received 521 tons of WFP food in Liberia.
- (b) WFP has finalised plans for a two-month distribution to cover the election period in October and possible run-off in November, as measures are being put in place to safeguard staff and operations against any pre- or post-elections violence.
- (c) Although the WFP food Pipeline for Liberia remains stable with no major breaks expected until December 2005, additional funding should be resourced as soon as possible to ensure timely arrival of commodities for the distributions planned for the beginning of 2006. The change in the arrival schedule for the vessel M/V Advantage may have an impact on WFP's planned distributions during the next two months.
- (d) During this reporting period, a total of 992 returnees from Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone and 108 spontaneous returnees, also from Sierra Leone, arrived in the country. A total of 1,346 IDP beneficiaries, resettled to areas in the western parts of the country from IDP camps in Montserrado County, received 45 tons of food, representing the first tranche of the resettlement food ration. Distribution of the second tranche two-month food ration to Returnees and IDPs, to complete the four-month resettlement food package, continued during this reporting period.
- (e) WFP nutrition interventions during the reporting period reached 5,105 beneficiaries in several categories including support to People Living with HIV and Aids, MCH, therapeutic, supplementary and institutional feeding. A total of 15 tons of food was delivered to centres in three counties.

(5) Niger

- (a) The Government's National Early Warning system has added new zones and 'forgotten' villages to the distribution plan, and the total number of beneficiaries that will now be reached in the first round is over 3 million people. Of this 3 million, WFP food will reach 1.8 million beneficiaries and the rest will be covered by the National Food Security Mechanism (DNP-GCA), PLAN International and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) pipelines.
- (b) The new zones and 'forgotten villages' that have already been added to the distribution plan will be covered by the DNP-GCA stocks. The DNP-GCA has received 2,000 tons out of a total shipment of 11,000 tons of sorghum from the Cotonou port. Of the 11,000 tons, 3,690 tons will be used to cover the new additions and 1,410 tons will be used for the zone of Fillingue (Commune and east) in Tillaberi region that was previously to be handled by WFP, in partnership with IFRC.
- (c) The distribution plan will be further revised to take into account other forgotten villages, areas with high malnutrition rates and distributions targeting vulnerable nomadic herders that have lost all or part of their livelihoods. Most of these additions will be covered by the remaining 5,890 tons of the 11,000 ton DNP-GCA shipment. However,

some new areas will also be covered by WFP stocks in areas where the distribution figures were lower than the planned number, thereby resulting in extra stocks. WFP's sub-offices are working with the regional crisis management teams to identify vulnerable populations that could be included in the distribution plan.

- (d) Following consultations with UNICEF and other partners, WFP has revised its supplementary feeding strategy from the plan outlined in the August budget revision. WFP's supplementary feeding activities will now have three components: (1) Supplementary feeding for malnourished pregnant and nursing women – the supplementary feeding ration will be: 6kg of CSB, 0.6kg of oil, 0.45kg of sugar per person per month for 3 months; (2) Supplementary feeding for malnourished children in non-UNICEF supported centres . This ration will be: 6kg of CSB, 0.6kg of oil, 0.45kg of sugar per child per month. (3) Protection ration for the families of malnourished children who are receiving treatment in UNICEF-supported centres. The rationale behind this ration is that it will prevent the division of the child's treatment ration among the entire family (as it is frequently administered in out-patient programmes where the children are only monitored by NGOs once a week). This one time ration will be composed of 15 kg of CSB, 1.5 litres of oil, 1.2 kg of sugar per malnourished child under treatment (based on 500 kcal per day for 5 additional family members for one month).
- (e) WFP is finalizing preparations for its Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) to take place in September. WFP is collaborating closely with the US Center for Disease Control (CDC) and UNICEF who are planning a nutritional assessment to also take place in September. WFP has been holding meetings with the Government, partners and donors and integrating their comments and concerns into the EFSA planning.
- (f) WFP has received information from the Government on the estimated timing of the harvest by region and department. The Government has indicated dates between 15 September and 5 October (depending on the region) as the date when 50% of farmers in the area will have started the harvest. It is important to note that once the farmers have started harvesting it will take around two weeks for them to fully harvest their stock and be ready for the market.
- (g) WFP is currently conducting market monitoring surveys, in partnership with the Government, that follow the free food distributions to see if they have any effects on markets. WFP has contracted the Government's Système d'Informations sur les Marchés Agricoles (SIMA) for market monitoring in 25 of the 75 zones categorized as falling into level 1-5. In addition, 10 other rural markets have been selected – currently not monitored by SIMA – to improve the sample quality.
- (h) WFP has thus far dispatched a total of 12,210 tons of food for the first round of general distributions, enough food to feed 712,510 people. Some 817 tons were dispatched on 30 August and the average daily dispatch over the past week has been 661 tons per day. Including these dispatches, EMOP dispatches to date come to a total of 16,300 tons.
- (i) In addition to the coordination meetings with all the partners, WFP has been having bilateral meetings with CARE, who is handling 45% of the 1st round of general distributions. CARE has been increasing its distribution teams in the field, and it is expected that CARE will finish all first round distributions between the 9-15 September.
- (j) WFP's Humanitarian Air Service (HAS), Special Operation 10481, began flying on 29 August and flights operate four days a week between Niamey, Maradi, Zinder, Tahoua and Agadez. The flight schedule is restricted due to repairs to the Niamey runway. Between 29-31 August, the WFP HAS performed three flights (six legs) transporting 24 passengers (12 WFP, 3 UN, 8 donors and 1 NGO) and 300kgs of humanitarian cargo. Contributions are urgently needed for this special operation (SO) which has a budget of 321,000 US dollars

- (k) Today the bypass at the washed out bridge at Guene, Benin has itself been washed out by heavy rains. Several kilometres of vehicles are blocked on both sides, including the convoy of 50 IFRC trucks en route to Niger from the port of Cotonou. The Benin authorities have mobilized earth moving equipment near the bridge site. Activities to repair the bypass should start as soon as possible as authorities are keen to reestablish traffic across the river. WFP is working with the Benin authorities and donors on options to repair the bridge, including bringing in a Bailey bridge from Sweden.
- (l) WFP has hired 10 more trucks, in order to increase dispatches to partner NGOs, and the total number of hired trucks is now 49 (plus 3 WFP trucks for a total of 52 trucks). Of these trucks 17 trucks will be used for long distances, with five trucks for the road from Tahoua to Agadez (450 km) and 12 trucks for the road from Zinder to Diffa (450 km). WFP is also providing trucks to NGOs that do not have the necessary capacity for distributions
- (m) The Niger Emergency Operation (EMOP 10398.0) requires a total of 57.6 million US dollars. Overall, the operation is 49% funded, having received 28 million US dollars in contributions. The current shortfall is nearly 30 million US dollars.
- (n) A Special Operation (SO 10482) has been launched to reinforce the Lagos corridor, to serve both Niger and Chad operations. Currently the main logistical corridors for the Niger operation are from the ports of Cotonou and Lome. No contributions have been confirmed to date against the SO requirements of 832,199 USD.
- (o) A US delegation visited WFP projects in Maradi on 30 August. The group visited a WFP/CARE general emergency distribution site and a WFP/IFRC-supported therapeutic feeding center.

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

(1) Angola

- (a) During August 2005, WFP and cooperating partners distributed 9,000 tons of food to 750,000 people throughout the country. Approximately 38 percent of beneficiaries were targeted through general food distributions, mainly internally displaced (IDPs), external refugees, newly arrived refugees and vulnerable households. A further 30 percent were engaged in food-for-work and food-for-assets activities, 25 percent received assistance through school feeding projects and seven percent received food under nutritional and social projects.
- (b) Due to a shortfall in resources leading to a September pipeline deficit in cereals and sugar, WFP has been obliged to reduce its distribution plans. Consequently, half cereal rations will be given to general food distribution beneficiaries in September, while the sugar ration will be halved for all beneficiary categories. Food-for-work activities in Huila Province will also be suspended for the month of September. Approximately 8,000 tons of mixed commodities are needed to meet distribution targets through the end of 2005.
- (c) During August 2005, WFP completed the construction of two wooden bridges in Moxico Province. With the reopening of these bridges, more than 600 people will have easier access to food distributions. The bridge project also improves access from provincial capitals to municipalities and promotes development by allowing unhindered movement of people and goods.
- (d) WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation, PRRO 10054.2 "Support to Return and Resettlement" continues to be severely under-funded. While ration cuts have been implemented from November onwards, major shortfalls will take place in all commodities.

(2) Lesotho

- (a) During the reporting period (August 24-30), WFP and cooperating partners distributed food to 35,000 beneficiaries registered in HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and home-based care programmes, mother and child health clinics, programmes for orphans and other vulnerable children, and participants in food-for-work and food-for-assets projects.

(3) Malawi

- (a) During the reporting period (August 25-31), WFP dispatched approximately 2,200 tons of food through cooperating partners.
- (b) Depending on the stability of the market price of maize, the Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee has estimated that between 4.2 – 4.6 million people will require food aid during the April 2005 – March 2006 consumption year. Malawi has been heavily affected by insufficient rainfall and untimely dry periods, particularly in the southern and central parts of the country. In order to address the anticipated food insecurity situation, the government has committed budgetary resources for purchasing commodities and supporting the distribution costs of food aid. In addition, the government has announced an export ban on maize and fertilizer. In order to ensure that small-scale farmers have access to agricultural inputs for the upcoming planting season, the government is purchasing maize fertilizer for targeted distribution at subsidized rates. To complement the government's initiative, the UN system launched a USD 88 million Flash Appeal requesting international support for a multi-sectoral approach including food aid, nutrition, health, prevention of sexual exploitation and HIV/AIDS interventions.

(4) Mozambique

- (a) The food situation in Inhambane Province has shown no signs of improvement. Maize, sorghum, peas and ground nuts are unavailable in rural markets and in short supply in district markets. Maize prices in Mozambique are rapidly increasing and are up to 40 percent higher than last year. Increased cases of malnutrition have been reported in all districts, and the consumption of wild foods and plants continues. Due to a shortfall in WFP's commodity pipeline, current operations throughout the country are only able to meet 40 percent of beneficiary's food needs in many locations.
- (b) Following the activation of the government's national contingency plan and the appeal made to external partners, the UN system has developed an inter-agency strategy, which complements the authorities interventions to address transitory food insecurity. The strategy is multi-sectoral, with activities in the sectors of food security, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, health, social protection, and advocacy and coordination.
- (c) Mozambique has revised its official adult HIV infection rate from 14 to 16 percent. HIV prevalence has increased in Maputo and Gaza Province, which is home to many migrant workers from South Africa. The total number of people currently receiving anti-retroviral (ARV) medication through the national health system is estimated at 13,000. However, this falls short of the country's goal of providing ARVs to 29,000 people by the end of 2005, which is a small percentage of the estimated 200,000 people in need of treatment. Health authorities have noted the important contribution of food to ARV treatment and some physicians are not willing to begin ARV treatment unless minimum access to food is guaranteed. WFP has been providing limited food resources, but is hampered by the lack of donor contributions and commodities.

(5) Namibia

- (a) During the latter part of 2005, WFP plans to integrate Namibia into the regional

Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation and will continue to address the problems of HIV/AIDS, food insecurity and weakened governance, with special emphasis on orphans and other vulnerable children.

- (b) The government is drafting its first national policy on HIV/AIDS. The policy deals with the prevention and treatment, care and support of people living with the disease and has allocated at least two percent of the annual budget for related prevention activities. Local authorities have also been asked to allocate two percent of their annual budget for mainstreaming HIV/AIDS activities.

(6) Swaziland

- (a) During the reporting period (August 23-29), WFP and cooperating partners distributed food to over 27,000 beneficiaries.

(7) Zambia

- (a) As a precautionary measure in order to avert a food crisis, the government has lifted a ban imposed on the importation of maize allowing traders to import approximately 200,000 tons of duty free maize. According to reports from the National Farmers Union, Zambia has 266,000 tons of maize in its strategic reserve against an estimated requirement of 452,000 tons.
- (b) Access to maize is becoming increasingly difficult, especially for poor households who have already exhausted their own stocks. The increase in the price of maize during August has been significant and most pronounced in the districts of the Southern Province. Due to the critical pipeline situation, WFP's ability to assist those in need has been severely reduced. Food deliveries have also been hampered by fuel shortages and increased fuel prices (11 percent in August). Serious fuel shortages continue in rural areas and provincial towns.

(8) Zimbabwe

- (a) Food availability and/or accessibility remain problematic in much of the country. In Manicaland, Grain Marketing Board (GMB) depots have consistently received insufficient grain to meet the needs of vulnerable households. In addition to the problems and delays in sourcing adequate grain by the GMB, lack of transport and fuel supplies are exacerbating the situation. The GMB has reportedly asked local authorities to organize and collect grain from the depot with their own transport, but this has met with little or no success. Maize meal is occasionally available in some districts, but at prices far beyond the reach of vulnerable groups.
- (b) Traders in Mashonaland Province continued to refer to shortages of maize in the district as a result of the poor grain yields. The province is also anticipating a rise in maize prices soon due to the rising inflation rate and increased cost of living. In Masvingo Province, GMB maize grain was available in local shops in two districts, and reappeared in open markets in two additional districts. In Bulawayo urban, shortages of bread, milk and salt continue, with long queues for basic commodities.
- (c) There is a serious shortage of water in high-density suburbs in Bulawayo, reportedly due to low water levels at the supply dam. Some areas have gone for weeks without water and the residents in these suburbs are forced to rely on borehole water, which is also difficult to obtain. The City Council has been trying to supplement water by providing water to areas where there are no boreholes. However, very long queues have been observed at water collection points.
- (d) The UN Country Team continues its dialogue with the government in order to reach an agreement on the operational framework that would permit provision of shelter, food,

water, sanitation, health care and livelihood support to those affected by the government's urban "clean up operations". In the interim, WFP's cooperating partner, IOM has reached 169,000 people with food packs, along with blankets, soap and other non-food items. Since May, WFP has released nearly 2,200 tons of food to support affected households.

(F) Asia: (1) Korea (DPR)

(1) Korea (DPR)

- (a) The overall food security situation has improved somewhat throughout the country following the recently completed harvest of potatoes, wheat and barley and with the ongoing harvest of vegetables. Moreover, rice provided by the Republic of Korea as a concessional loan has arrived and is presently being distributed together with local basic food items (wheat/barley, maize and potatoes) through the Public Distribution System (PDS) in Kangwon, South Hamgyong and South Hwanghae Provinces. PDS rations continue to be distributed at 250 gr/person/day.
- (b) With the arrival of the cereals, WFP was able to provide cereal rations to all but 926,000 poor urban households and elderly people in August. Without new donations this number will increase to 2.1 million in September, 3.2 million in October and 3.3 million in November/December, including children in nurseries, kindergartens and primary schools, pregnant/nursing women, poor urban households and elderly people.
- (c) The shortfall of oil, which began in March, is still severe and from October to December up to 2.7 million elderly people, pregnant/nursing women and children in nurseries, kindergarten and hospitals will be without oil. All beneficiary groups are without pulses for both August and September.
- (d) Seventeen WFP-supported Local Food Production factories were operational during the reporting week- the Hyesan Biscuit and the Huichon Cereal Milk Blend factories are awaiting new distribution plans and had therefore halted production. Production for the period was 1,270 tons or 90 percent of the Emergency Operations (EMOP's) weekly requirement.

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

(1) Bolivia

- (a) Two road blockades were established in the Department of Santa Cruz: the rural municipalities of Abapó and San Julián have blocked the main roads that connect the city of Santa Cruz with the cities of Trinidad and Camiri. Peasants demand the provision of land for some thirty landless families in the private farm of Paila, from where they were ousted last week after eighteen months of illegal occupation. The peasants of Abapó, in turn, demand the definition of clear boundaries with other municipalities and the provision of mobile telephony.
- (b) The Department of Beni has declared State of Emergency due to the severe drought that is affecting the region. The Department of Santa Cruz reported the same situation. A Ministry of Agriculture mission is assessing both departments until the end of this week.
- (c) Road blockades in the Emergency Operation (EMOP) region (main road to Camiri) may affect distributions; however, no reports have been received so far. The recently approved extension of the EMOP until 30 September will allow final distributions to be carried out as per schedule.

(2) Colombia

- (a) After three weeks during which some 1,500 members of a major illegal armed group carried out an offensive in Putumayo affecting the normal distribution of food and other supplies - the situation is now tense; however, military sources indicated that the situation is under control. No new clashes have been reported, security conditions are normal and all main roads in the province are under surveillance.
- (b) In the context of the new PRRO 10366, "Assistance to People Displaced by Violence", last week WFP distributed 64 tons in 6 provinces reaching 14,282 beneficiaries, especially in School Feeding, Preschool feeding and Emergency Food Aid Activities.

(3) Cuba

- (a) During the period mid August, until the end of October, more hurricanes are expected to affect Cuba. Forecasts indicate that this season is likely to be one of the most active hurricane seasons in the region.
- (b) Resources for WFP operations have not been confirmed so far. Multilateral funds have been allocated to cover one month's needs of the EMOP.

(4) Ecuador

- (a) Negotiators seeking to end a 10-day demonstration that paralyzed Ecuador's oil industry have made substantial progress. On August 25, government authorities, oil companies and the leaders of the protests signed an agreement. The demands included repairing highways and building new infrastructure and medical facilities in the two jungle provinces, Orellana and Sucumbios.
- (b) Distribution of food rations will continue this week in Pichincha, Imbabura, Carchi, Emeraldas, Azuay, and Guayas. Distribution in Sucumbios has been postponed until the situation caused by the strikes normalizes.

(5) Guatemala

- (a) During the reporting period (24-29 August), heavy rains resulted in the overflowing of rivers, damage to bridges and loss of crops such as rice, cardamom and maize in the Departments of Izabal, Alta Verapaz, Huehuetenango and San Marcos. In the areas of project implementation, WFP's food monitors are evaluating crops and infrastructure damage.
- (b) No distribution took place during last week, due to shortfalls hampering the full food distribution plans.
- (c) 1.400 tons of maize and 30 tons of vegetable oil arrived at the Port on 17th August and are currently being transported to the warehouses.

(6) Nicaragua

- (a) On 26 August, the President of Nicaragua, Enrique Bolaños, issued a decree declaring a State of Emergency due to harvest losses caused by the rat infestation, pests and flooding along the Rio Coco along the border with Honduras located in the Municipality of Waspam in the Northern Atlantic Autonomous Region (RAAN) of Nicaragua. A joint UN Emergency Needs Assessment is planned for this week.
- (b) 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) benefited from food distributions under Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 10212.0.

- (c) Shortfalls of vegetable oil (93 tons), beans (75 tons) and maize (77 tons) are expected. 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