HIGHLIGHTS

Improved food security and nutrition conditions in Eastern Africa

More than 60,000 people displaced in the north of Goma as M23 takes over

More than 11,000 former Burundian refugees voluntarily repatriated from Tanzania

Kenya’s Department of Refugee Affairs allows a two-week refugee registration in Dadaab refugee complex

Water trucking operations stopped in Dawe Sarar woreda (Oromia) and Somali Region due to increased rain

The Kenyan Parliament and Human Rights activists call for investigation of military deployment to Garissa and Samburu districts

One in four children in camps outside the Somali capital malnourished, amidst spread of suspected malaria, cholera and whooping cough

Sudan begins a 10-day vaccination drive as yellow fever claims 116 lives

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Improved food security and nutrition conditions in most parts of the Horn

The 15 November brief from the East and Central African Regional Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) indicates that the food security situation in the region continues to improve, although Stressed and Crisis food insecurity (IPC Phases 2 and 3) persists in most parts.

The October rainfall was generally above average for the eastern part of the Horn with a Short Rains season, in particular for southern and central Somalia. However, parts of eastern Kenya and southern Somalia remained dryer than usual in November. This possibly marks an early end of the Deyr rains in Somalia.

Most regional markets have recorded an overall decline in food prices following the harvests, reports FEWS NET. The prices are however still higher than the five-year average in all countries in the region. Somalia has however recorded an increase due to early depletion of the poor Gu harvest. About 2 million people in Somalia are expected to remain in Emergency, Crisis and Stressed IPC Phases through March 2013.

Pastoralists in the north, north-east, north-west and east of Kenya will reportedly improve from the Crisis to the Stressed IPC phases through March 2013, according to FEWS NET. Marginal agricultural south-eastern and coastal lowlands are expected to improve to Stressed IPC Phase 2 through March due to good crop and livestock production.

Sudan has registered substantial improvement in food security reducing the number of food insecure to 3.3-3.5 million, down from 4.6 million people. FSNWG attributes this to a crop output 15 per cent higher than average, reduction in food prices and reduced conflict. SPLM-N controlled areas in South Kordofan are expected to be at least in Crisis IPC Phase 3 through March 2013.

Food insecurity levels are likely to remain high for flood-affected in Jonglei, Warrap, North Bar El Ghazal and Upper Nile, in South Sudan. Critical levels of food insecurity have been predicted for pastoral livelihoods in Jonglei (Pibor) due to heightened conflict. FEWS NET indicates that overall food security in the conflict areas (Pariang, Mabian and Abyei) is expected to deteriorate in January - March as production is exhausted.

Critical levels of food insecurity have also been predicted for Oromia, Hararghe, Oromia, Wollo and Tigray Regions in the eastern marginal Meher areas of Ethiopia, which have experienced poor harvests, crop damage, high food prices and low wages. Severe water shortages in south-eastern Afar Region are likely to result in critical levels through March. Food security is expected to improve for pastoralists in Afar and northern Somalia due to
improved livestock production, enhanced terms of trade and food from other Meher harvest areas.

In Djibouti, the north-western pastoralist population is expected to improve due to increased production from favourable rains. The situation is however expected to remain critical in south-eastern pastoral border zones due to poor access, asset depletion, and unsustainable coping strategies.

Regionally, the flood risk remains high-to-very-high in the flood-prone areas of South Sudan and Lake Victoria basin, as more heavy-to-moderate rains (50-250 mm) are forecast for the Lake Victoria region, Rwanda, Burundi, western Uganda and Tanzania into parts of eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Moderate to heavy rains have also been forecast for Somali Region of Ethiopia and southern and northern Somalia. The rains will however slightly subside in eastern Kenya and parts of northern Tanzania, reducing the flood risk threat in the coming week.

**Great Lakes Region**

Turmoil prevailed in recent days in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) as the M23 rebel group launched an offensive that succeeded in taking control of Goma, capital of North Kivu Province, and other locations in the vicinity. The advance was widely condemned by the international community, including the African Union, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, and the United Nations Security Council, the latter of which demanded the immediate withdrawal of M23 from Goma and the cessation of any further advances by the M23. The Council furthermore strongly condemned M23 for its attacks on civilians, UN peacekeepers and humanitarian actors, reiterating that those responsible for crimes and human rights abuses would be held accountable. The Council also called for sanctions against the M23 leadership, and demanded that any and all outside support to the M23 cease immediately.

Tens of thousands of people who were already displaced in North Kivu have been forced to flee their camps and temporary shelters over the past week. In one instance, more than 60,000 people were estimated to have fled insecurity in the Kanyaruchinya area north of Goma, where a large IDP camp was located.

According to OCHA, despite the challenging security environment, humanitarian agencies are committed to staying and supporting those affected in the Kivus and neighbouring areas. Humanitarian operations would continue to the extent allowed by security and physical access. In response to the deteriorating situation, the humanitarian community has issued appeals for additional funding: US$9 million for North Kivu and $4.6 million for South Kivu to provide urgent relief to more than 2.9 million displaced people and host families. The current deterioration of the situation may further deepen the financial deficit which humanitarians are already struggling to overcome.

South Kivu province is also affected by the deteriorating security situation, which has led to the temporary suspension or reduction of humanitarian activities in some areas. Thousands of vulnerable people are not receiving the humanitarian assistance and protection they urgently need, and many of the communities hosting them are already overstretched. Basic aid such as food, water and health care are becoming a major concern.

The UN refugee agency, UNHCR, called on governments not to forcibly return people to North and South Kivu Provinces, pending improvement in the security and human rights situations. The agency said it considers people fleeing the conflict in the Kivus and nearby affected areas as likely to be needing international refugee protection. It also cautioned against returning them to safer parts of the DRC, unless they had strong and close links there.

Fighting over recent months in the Kivus has been particularly intense between Government forces and the rebel M23 movement in North Kivu, but also in South Kivu between Government forces and other armed groups as well as between rival armed groups.
UN investigators call for a systematic verification of the human rights records of individuals and their commanders during any future integration of armed groups into the national army, following reports of arbitrary execution of 264 civilians in southern Masisi, North Kivu.

Deadline for the repatriation of the 36,000 former Burundian refugees in Tanzania remains 31 December 2012.

According to UNHCR, since the beginning of this year, renewed conflict in the Kivus has exacerbated an already dire humanitarian situation and uprooted close to 650,000 people. This includes 250,000 newly displaced civilians in North Kivu and 339,000 others in South Kivu since April. Over the same period, more than 40,000 people have fled to Uganda and 15,000 to Rwanda, while Burundi has been receiving around 1,000 new Congolese arrivals every month since August. The total number of Congolese refugees in neighbouring countries is estimated at more than 460,000. These are mainly in Uganda, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Tanzania.

This new escalation in fighting and around Goma and elsewhere in the Kivus adds to what are already monumental humanitarian needs in the DRC. Over 2.4 million people are internally displaced in the country as a result of violence and conflict, and 4.5 million people country-wide are suffering from food insecurity.

In a related development, a UN investigation into the human rights situation in southern Masisi in North Kivu Province found that at least 264 civilians, including 83 children, were arbitrarily executed by armed groups in more than 75 attacks on villages between April and September this year. Investigators from the UN Joint Human Rights Office in the DRC (UNJHRO) found that the victims were often those least able to flee the attacks, largely children and the elderly. Due to security constraints, the investigators were not in a position to confirm many more human rights violations that were reported to them, meaning the actual number of victims could be considerably higher. The figures noted in the report reflect cases documented in only some parts of Masisi over a relatively limited period of time and are thus far from presenting a comprehensive overview of the human rights situation throughout eastern DRC. Recommendations made in the report include a call for Congolese security forces to urgently take additional measures, with the support of the international community, to restore security in southern Masisi and to ensure the protection of civilians. Congolese authorities were also urged to take into account the human rights violations detailed in the report and to implement a systematic verification of the human rights records of individuals and their commanders during any future integration of armed groups into the national army.

For more information, please visit www.rdc-humanitaire.net or www.unocha.org.

Burundi/Tanzania

Repatriation of former Burundian refugees in Tanzania commences

UNHCR, partners and the Governments of Tanzania and Burundi are facilitating the return operation of former Burundian refugees from Mtabila camp in Tanzania. The refugees who entered Tanzania during the civil war in the 1990s have been verified as being able to return home in safety and dignity following a fundamental change in the circumstances that forced them to flee originally. Following the cessation of their refugee status in August 2012, the Government of Tanzania has set a deadline for return by 31 December 2012. According to UNHCR, since the orderly returns commenced on 31 October 2012, a total of 11,963 former refugees have been assisted to return and start their reintegration in Burundi. The total number of Burundian former refugees in Tanzania at the start of the operation was estimated at 36,000. Returns are taking place daily and are expected to continue until the end of March 2013. The majority of the returnees (60.5 per cent) are children between 0 and 17 years. The main locations of return are Nyanza-lac, Rumonge, Giharo and Gisuru.

Ethiopia

Relief Food Update

As of 14 November, distribution of sixth round relief food, targeting 3.8 million people, reached 60 per cent. Dispatch of seventh round relief food, targeting 2.6 million, stood at 21 per cent including: 8 per cent dispatched in areas covered by the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS); 34 per cent in WFP-covered parts of the Somali Region; and 2 per cent in areas covered by the NGO consortium Joint Emergency Operation (JEOP). As previously reported, all beneficiaries in the Somali
Region have been allocated food under the seventh round, but only those in “Priority 1” nutrition hotspot woredas in other regions have been targeted.

WASH Update

Previously dry Dawe Sarar woreda and other drought-prone woredas of Bale zone (Oromia) have reportedly received rainfall during the first two weeks of November. Water trucking stopped in Dawe Sarar after the rainfall supplied ponds with runoff water, even though the recorded amount of rainfall was less than in other parts of the region. All lowland areas of Borena zone (Oromia), are also getting hagaya rainfall, with a few exceptions. In Somali region, deyr rainfall continues in all seven deyr receiving zones with good intensity. In Tigray region, kiremt rainfall (June to September) performed well, increasing water availability for both livestock and human consumption. Around the country, a few pocket areas remain dry, however, including Kumbi woreda (East Hararghe zone, Oromia), Dollo Ado woreda in Liben, Dolobay in Ader and Adadile in Shabelle zones (Somali Region) and parts of Tigray Region.

Currently, 15 water trucks are operational countrywide (benefiting an estimated 70,000 people), including seven in Tigray, six in Afar, and two in Oromia. In Afar, water trucking is ongoing for the dry woredas of Kori, Bidu and Elidar benefiting 9,700 people. In Tigray, seven water trucks are deployed in six woredas in North-Western (one truck), Western (two), Central (one), Eastern (one) and Southern (two) zones. WASH partners in Tigray recommended the deployment of more water trucks in addition to rehabilitation and maintenance of existing water points until the drilling of five new boreholes is completed by the Government. In Oromia, one water truck continues to operate in Kumbi woreda, while the second truck is providing support to conflict-affected populations in Moyale woreda of Borena zone. All water trucking operations in Somali Region have been suspended as sufficient rain has been received to replenish water sources.

Nutrition Update

According to DRMFFS’ Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit (ENCU), 24,137 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were admitted at Therapeutic Feeding Programme (TFP) sites (85 per cent reporting rate) based on reports from 9,360 TFPs in seven regions in September. In general, this indicates that new TFP admissions stabilized during the month, with overall September admissions at 96.3 per cent of projected admissions (according to the revised Humanitarian Requirements Document for July-December 2012). Overall, September admissions trends varied. In Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples Region (SNNPR), admissions remained stable in comparison to August, with 6,371 new admissions in September (90 per cent reporting). In Oromia, admissions decreased by 10.9 per cent, from 9,368 in August to 8,291 in September. In Amhara, admissions increased significantly, by 27 per cent, partially attributed to the Child Health Days screening conducted during the month, as well as food security concerns in some woredas of South Wollo, North Gondar, Oromia and Waghemira zones. In Somali Region, admissions were stable in September (2,010 new admissions) compared to August (2,054 admissions) with both months having relatively similar reporting rates (about 80 per cent). In Afar, where the reporting rate remained below 80 per cent, it is difficult to characterize admissions trends. However, there are a number of woredas where nutrition situations of concern have been reported. As a result, ENCU requested Save the Children to strengthen its nutrition response in six woredas, and Islamic Relief in two woredas.

Floods Update

Distribution of non-food items and water, sanitation and hygiene assistance to flood-affected households in Korahe zone (Somali Region) continues. It is estimated that the late October floods in the zone affected more than 3,500 people. To date, 950 of the approximately 1,270 flood-affected households in Kabridahar township have received non-food item (NFI) kits, as have 850 flood-affected households in Marato town (both locations in Korahe zone) supported by IOM. The NGO Action Contre la Faim (ACF) started water trucking in Marato, and plans to support household water treatment as well. All 500 flood-affected households in Shekosh have received water purification materials (Bishangari sachets) from UNICEF, which sent 72,000 sachets to the zone. The
The Kenyan Parliament and human rights activists have condemned recent attacks on civilians and destruction of property by military forces during an operation in Garissa.

Kenya

Calls for investigation of Garissa military involvement

The Kenyan Defence Forces (KDF) started a military operation on 20 November in Garissa after three KDF soldiers and two policemen were killed by unknown attackers. According to local witnesses, the Kenyan Army surrounded the town, shot at people, and set fire to businesses and the local market.

According to local sources, over 50 people were admitted to the Garissa Provincial Hospital with severe injuries, including 2 school boys with gunshot wounds. The BBC was told by a County High School that KDF soldiers entered the school at 0900 and shot two students waiting to take an exam. It was reported by the Kenya Red Cross that one person died. According to witnesses, the military remained in barracks on 20 November, while the regular police, administration police, and riot police continued the attacks.

According to UNHCR, the immediate impact of this violence on the Dadaab refugee operation was that the Garissa road was closed for a few days. The Garissa road is the main supply route to Dadaab and longer disruptions could have consequences for service delivery to the refugees.

The KDF spokesperson said that the violence started when they encountered resistance of the locals during a hot pursuit on attackers who killed the three soldiers. The Kenyan media reported that the police would continue door to door searches for illegal foreigners in Garissa.

Human Rights Watch called on the Kenyan Government to end arbitrary attacks and to conduct a speedy and independent criminal investigation. Operations of the KDF, which have been undertaken without parliamentary approval, have been condemned by members of the Kenyan parliament. A parliamentary committee was directed to investigate the recent KDF action in Garissa.

Fear of reprisals produce internal displacement in Baragoi

The Kenyan Defence Forces were deployed in Baragoi area after some 42 policemen, on mission to return stolen cattle in the Suguta Valley, were ambushed by armed bandits on 10 November. It was reported that due to fear of reprisals by the KDF, residents of Baragoi area of Samburu District and Lokori Division of Turkana East District were fleeing to Lokichar, Lokori, Lodwar in Turkana County and the Nachola area of Samburu District.

Due to the vastness of the region and poor transportation network, it has been difficult for the Kenyan Red Cross and other agencies to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the impact of the violence in Baragoi. Fleeing in different directions was reported and as far as to Maralal, Marsabit and Lake Turkana. Affected and displaced persons are in need of assistance.

The Kenyan National Commission on Human Rights estimates that over 11,000 people have been displaced in the Baragoi area due to the recent events. Unconfirmed figures point to 2,400 affected people in Loikas, mainly of Turkana origin. The figure is expected to be higher as some of the people have integrated into the community for fear of being targeted by KDF. An unknown number of people from the interior of the district has fled to Baragoi town seeking refuge. 6,000 people fled from Turkana south. The rest were said to be blocked by the KDF and remained stranded in the Suguta Valley. 600 people were said to have fled to Salima (Marsabit County). An assessment is yet to be conducted in Maralal, to where it is reported that a huge number of displaced person fled. More displacement is expected with intensification of the KDF operations and as Maralal
Kenya’s Department of Refugee Affairs has allowed a two-week refugee registration in Dadaab refugee complex

At least 8 people were killed and property destroyed following an explosion in a Public Service Vehicle in Nairobi

MSF finds one in four children living in camps outside the Somali capital is malnourished, as insecurity, heavy rains and flooding impede access

Malnutrition rates remain alarming in many parts of Somalia

Suspected cases of malaria and cholera rise in parts of Somalia during rainfall season

Somalia

Insecurity persists in most parts of the country restricting humanitarian access. Heavy fighting broke out between Somali Government soldiers and Al Shabaab in rebel-held locations outside Baidoa on 16 November. Twelve people were killed during heavy fighting between Al Shabaab and Somali forces in Bulohawo on the Kenya Somalia border on 24 November. A bomb blast on 25 November in Kismayo killed at least 5 people. Humanitarian access has also been impeded by heavy rains and flooding. For more information on how heavy rains and flooding have affected the physical condition of the roads in Somalia, please see the map published by the Logistics cluster.

Despite an overall improvement in food security since 2011, a Doctors Without Borders/ Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) assessment shows that malnutrition rates are still alarming in many parts of the country. MSF medical staff visited 34 camps hosting more than 15,000 displaced people who live without sufficient access to health care. The assessment concluded that one in four children living in camps outside the Somali capital is malnourished. In response, an MSF team launched an emergency three-day intervention to provide urgent nutritional treatment and on-site medical care to children under the age of five.

The number of suspected cholera and malaria cases usually increases during the ongoing Deyr rainfall season in Somalia, which marks the onset of the observed transmission season. Suspected cholera cases continue to be reported across central and southern regions of Somalia. In southern Somalia, the number of reported cases increased by 55 per cent between 10-23 November. A cholera task force has been formed in Baidoa, and both water and sanitation (WASH) and health partners are working to prevent further spread and increase in number of suspected cholera cases. Planned activities supported by WHO and UNICEF include provision of medical supplies including chlorination, and the dissemination of health messages to sensitize the communities in the area.

Refugee registration resumes in Dadaab

UNHCR reports that registration of new arrivals in the Dadaab refugee complex resumed on 15 November after a decision by Kenya's Department of Refugee Affairs to go ahead with a two-week registration exercise. It is assumed that some 5,000 refugees have arrived to the Dadaab camps since registration was last suspended on 6 July. The verification exercise has been put on hold for the time of the registration.

Bomb attack in Nairobi sparks clashes

An Improvised Explosive Device exploded in a passenger minibus in Eastleigh, Nairobi on 18 November killing at least 8 people and seriously injuring over 20 others. Eastleigh is a suburb of Nairobi with predominantly ethnic Somali and Kenyan Somali inhabitants. Immediately after the explosion, an angry Kenyan mob attacked Somali homes and looted Somali businesses in Eastleigh. Somali youth fought back with machete and rocks. The Kenyan Police used tear gas and fired in the air to disperse the rioters. Three bombing suspects were arrested.

These violent events took place against the backdrop of the start of voter registration for the March 2013 general elections.

Somalia

Renewed fighting impedes humanitarian access in parts of the country

Assessment is conducted. Military personnel in charge of KDF operations maintain that the residents of Baragoi, Nachola and Lomerok should not fear the military since their aim is to restore peace, offer security and bring normalcy to this region.
Malaria remains the leading cause of morbidity in southern and central Somalia, in addition to suspected cases of measles and whooping cough being reported.

South Sudan Overview

- According to the latest Humanitarian Bulletin of OCHA South Sudan, 2,000 Sudanese refugees arrived in Unity State in mid-November from Sudan’s South Kordofan. This may indicate a surge in arrivals on the horizon coinciding with the coming dry season. 85 per cent of these new arrivals were women and children. UNHCR is in the process of assessing new refugee sites in Unity State which might be needed for new arrivals fleeing the South Kordofan.

- Movements of UN humanitarian workers were limited in the Abyei area, following mounting tensions resulting in the death of a national staff member of the UN peacekeeping mission, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

- Humanitarian organizations responded to flood-affected communities in Jonglei, Upper Nile and Western Equatoria states with emergency shelter, medicine and household items.

- Flights of extremely vulnerable returnees from Khartoum to Aweil were suspended after a plane carrying 57 returnees crash landed in Aweil. Fortunately no serious injuries were sustained by the passengers.

- Elsewhere in Jonglei State, relief workers mobilized emergency aid to support some 10,000 people displaced by recent insecurity in Pibor County.

- The borders between South Sudan and Sudan reportedly remain closed, despite September agreements between the two Governments to reopen them to trade. Prices remain high as a result, especially in the northern border states.


Sudan

Yellow fever outbreak

The World Health Organization (WHO) reported that as of 17 November yellow fever outbreak in Sudan claimed 116 lives out of 459 suspected cases in 26 localities in Darfur. Experts expressed fears of a pending catastrophe if the disease spreads beyond Darfur. Vaccinating against yellow fever is the best way to prevent this viral disease which is transmitted by mosquitos in tropical climates.

The Ministry of Health of Sudan and WHO teamed up in efforts to assess the outbreak and determine priority areas for mass vaccinations. Sudan ordered 3.6 million vaccines but only 2.4 could be delivered due to shortages in the global supply of the yellow fever vaccination and its short shelf life. The Ministry of Health started a 10-day vaccination drive in the most affected areas. In addition, several INGOs are actively supporting emergency response in the 12 prioritized vaccination areas.

WHO also set up several isolations centers in Darfur, trained medical staff to respond to yellow fever and activated the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network. Some
25,000 mosquito nets have been distributed to pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and children under five in Zamzam and Abu Shouk IDP camps. Additional mosquito nets will be distributed in Kassab and Fata Borno IDP camps. In South Darfur, health awareness raising messages are aired on local radio stations.

There are concerns for Rokero and Hashaba localities, where due to Government restrictions, humanitarian organizations have no access to determine the extent to which the disease has spread in this area.

**Access to affected populations**

Humanitarian assistance to affected populations in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states may be improved thanks to a tripartite agreement signed between the Government of Sudan, the African Union/Arab League/United Nations and the SPLM-N in August 2012. Once the mode of providing assistance is agreed upon and the implementation of the agreement is fully in effect, UN agencies should be enabled to provide humanitarian assistance in SPLM-N controlled areas. Access to affected populations remains a concern for humanitarian community in Sudan. Access for international staff and to affected populations is restricted due to lack of travel authorizations and security restrictions.

**Darfur and South Kordofan**

It was reported by IOM that 130 families displaced by violence in Darfur, particularly in Sigili, Shawa and other villages arrived in Zamzam and Abou Shouk IDP camps in El Fasher. It is expected that the number of displaced may increase.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that 75 per cent of population of Kadugli town in South Kordofan fled due to attacks by SPLM-N who appealed to civilians to move away from military installations since they would be targeted. According to UNICEF, since 8 October, 18 people have been killed in Kadugli when it was shelled by SPLM-N forces. Other reports claim that the Sudanese Armed Forces have been conducting aerial bombardments south, east and south-east of Kadugli. UNHCR indicates that some 2,200 Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan arrived in South Sudan’s Yida settlement.

For more information on the humanitarian situation in Sudan, go to [http://unocha.org/sudan/](http://unocha.org/sudan/)

**Uganda**

**Government battles recurring Ebola amidst strained response to Marburg**

As the country was struggling to contain an outbreak of the Marburg haemorrhagic fever, the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Uganda confirmed a fresh Ebola outbreak in Luweero district, central Uganda. As of 23 November, the MoH of Uganda reported 10 cases (6 confirmed and 4 probable), including 5 deaths in Luweero and Kampala. The last confirmed case was hospitalised on 17 November 2012. Close contacts of the Ebola cases are being identified and followed up for a period of 21 days. All the cases alerted to the field teams are being investigated.

The outbreak comes roughly a month after Uganda declared itself Ebola-free following an earlier outbreak of the Ebola Congo strain that killed 16 people in Kibaale district, western Uganda. The latest Ebola outbreak is of the Sudan strain and has no links with the previous one.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the recurrence of the Ebola fever in Uganda is largely blamed on continued human contact with animals through encroachment on wildlife habitats. Monkeys and fruit-eating bats are reportedly the natural hosts for the Ebola and Marburg viruses.

The Ministry of Health, WHO and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) have sent a team to conduct preliminary investigation into the outbreak. Health authorities are conducting active case search and tracing close contacts of the confirmed and probable cases. The isolation facility at Mulago hospital in Kampala is reactivated and another isolation facility at Nyimbwa Health Center IV at the epicentre is being established. The military hospital in
Bombo, Luweero district is also serving as a holding centre until the isolation facility is properly set up at the Nyimbwa Health Center IV.

Ebola is especially feared in Uganda, where multiple outbreaks have occurred over the years. In 2000, the disease infected 425 Ugandans and killed more than half of them in the country’s north. Another outbreak in 2007 killed 37 people in Bundibugyo, a remote district close to the Congolese border.

In the meantime, health responses to the haemorrhagic outbreak confirmed by the Ministry of Health on 19 October are ongoing. WHO reports that as of 23 November 2012, a total of 20 (probable and confirmed) cases, including 9 deaths have been reported from 4 districts namely Kabale district, in south-western Uganda, Kampala (the capital city), Ibanda and Mbarara. The last confirmed case was hospitalised on 31 October 2012. The Ministry of Health continues to conduct active surveillance and investigation on all cases alerted in the 4 districts. Close contacts of the Marburg cases are being followed-up for a period of 21 days. WHO and international partners are supporting the national authorities in the investigation and response to the outbreak.

In Brief

ETHIOPIA: Meher assessment

The Government of Ethiopia and humanitarian partners are preparing for the upcoming meher seasonal assessment that will take place in all regions countrywide. The findings of the assessment will define requirements for food assistance for the next Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD), expected to be issued in January 2013. The assessment will begin on 24 November and continue until 15 December. In the Somali Region however, the assessment will start a week after the other regions. OCHA will deploy 10 staff to support the assessment.

HoA Funding Update

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