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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Somalia – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #6, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

June 18, 2008

Note: The last situation report was dated May 21, 2008.

BACKGROUND

Since 1991, widespread violence, endemic poverty, and recurrent droughts and floods have generated a complex emergency in Somalia. Continued civil strife and inter-clan conflicts have complicated the humanitarian situation and limited access to affected areas. Large-scale fighting since late December 2006 between the Somalia Transitional Federal Government (TFG), Ethiopian forces, and armed militias opposed to the TFG has led to a further deterioration in humanitarian conditions. As a result, approximately 476,000 Somali refugees have fled the country, and more than 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are uprooted within Somalia, including long-term IDPs as well as individuals displaced by increased fighting since February 2007.

In May 2008, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Security Analysis Unit for Somalia (FSAU) reported that 2.6 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, an increase from approximately 1 million people as of January 2007. The combined effects of consecutive seasons of failed or poor rainfall, continuing conflict, rising inflation, massive displacement, and diarrheal disease outbreaks have severely exacerbated the food security situation and resulted in a significant increase in acute malnutrition rates, according to the 2008 U.N. Consolidated Appeal for Somalia. U.N. and partner agencies are coordinating efforts to improve access, but insecurity and targeted attacks against relief staff hinder the provision of emergency assistance to affected populations.

On October 3, 2007, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Michael E. Ranneberger redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing complex emergency in Somalia. In FY 2007 and to date in FY 2008, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided more than \$198 million for emergency food assistance, health, nutrition, agriculture and food security, livelihoods support, humanitarian coordination, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs, as well as peace-building activities, refugee assistance, and air operations.

| NUMBERS AT A GLANCE | SOURCE | |
|--|---------------|---|
| Total Population in Need of Emergency Assistance | 2.6 million | FSAU – May 2008 |
| Urban Caseload | 580,000 | FSAU – May 2008 |
| IDPs since February 2007 | 855,000 | FSAU – May 2008 |
| Long-Term IDPs | 275,000 | FSAU – May 2008 |
| Rural Caseload | 920,000 | FSAU – May 2008 |
| Somali Refugees in Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen | 334,000 | UNHCR ¹ Global Trends Report – June 2008 |

FY 2008 AND 2007 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia..... | \$37,916,921 |
| USAID/FFP ² Assistance to Somalia..... | \$144,416,500 |
| USAID/OTI ³ Assistance to Somalia..... | \$1,000,000 |
| USAID/CMM ⁴ Assistance to Somalia..... | \$750,000 |
| State/PRM ⁵ Assistance to Somalia..... | \$13,971,560 |
| Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia..... | \$198,054,981 |

CURRENT SITUATION

Increasing prices of food and non-food items, worsening drought conditions, and insecurity that continues to impede relief operations are resulting in continued

deterioration of the humanitarian situation throughout the country. More than 2.6 million people currently require emergency assistance in Somalia, according to

¹ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI)

⁴ USAID's Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (USAID/CMM)

⁵ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

FSAU. Furthermore, U.N. agencies and relief organizations are planning for a worst-case scenario in which half of the total population, or up to 3.5 million Somalis, may require humanitarian assistance by the end of 2008.

The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) and CARE report possible pipeline breaks in emergency food rations in the coming months due to commodity shortfalls. As of June 16, WFP cites a shortfall of 97,000 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance valued at approximately \$85 million to meet projected food needs from June through November. In addition, CARE reports a 55,592 MT shortfall in emergency food commodities for June through December, valued at approximately \$55 million.

In response to growing humanitarian needs in Somalia, on May 22 the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) issued an expanded appeal for more than \$81 million to address critical food and water needs of 435,000 targeted beneficiaries in central regions of Somalia over a four-month period. As of mid-June, U.N. and cooperating relief agencies are revising the 2008 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP). The current CAP includes humanitarian programs totaling more than \$406 million, targeting 1.5 million people. The preliminary revised 2008 CAP totals more than \$600 million and aims to provide support to the growing population in need of emergency assistance.

USAID/OFDA has augmented staff at the East and Central Africa Regional Office to address evolving needs related to the regional drought and food security crisis impacting Somalia. USAID/OFDA staff are monitoring conditions, identifying priority needs, and facilitating coordination and information sharing among international relief organizations.

Security and Population Movements

Insecurity has displaced nearly 54,000 people from Mogadishu since March 1, according to UNHCR. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that daily clashes between anti-government groups and TFG or Ethiopian forces in Mogadishu and areas of southern and central Somalia continue to pose a security risk to civilians, spur additional population movements, and disrupt livelihood activities. To date in 2008, nearly 1,500 people have reported to hospitals in Mogadishu with conflict-related injuries, according to OCHA.

Three humanitarian relief staff and one journalist have died in targeted attacks in recent weeks. On June 7, unknown attackers killed a journalist in Kismayo in Lower Juba Region, representing the ninth killing of a Somali journalist since 2007, according to OCHA. On June 11, assailants killed the driver and head of a Somali humanitarian organization, Women and Child Care Association, in Mogadishu. On June 12, assailants killed a WFP-contracted truck driver transporting food aid from Mogadishu to Bay and Bakool regions, the third WFP

staff member killed in Somalia since January. As of June 17, seven relief staff remain held hostage, 22 humanitarian vehicles have been hijacked, and 16 humanitarian workers have died in targeted attacks in 2008, according to OCHA and international media.

On June 10, the TFG and the Alliance for the Re-Liberation of Somalia opposition group signed a ceasefire agreement in Djibouti. The accord calls for a three-month cessation of armed confrontation and the deployment of international peacekeeping forces within four months. International media reported continued clashes as of June 16.

Emergency Assistance

As a result of funding delays and commodity shortfalls, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) provided only 23 percent of planned food distributions in May, compared with 87 percent in April. The USG is currently the largest contributor to emergency food programs in Somalia, providing approximately half of WFP distributions countrywide in 2008. USAID/FFP has provided more than 116,000 MT of emergency food commodities valued at an estimated \$109 million to WFP and CARE to date in FY 2008.

WFP has urgently renewed an appeal for naval escorts for ships carrying emergency food commodities to Somalia. Royal Netherlands Navy escorts are scheduled to conclude on June 25, and WFP plans to ship 220,000 MT tons of food by sea to Somalia between June and December to reach a total of 2.4 million people. WFP reports that pirates have not targeted commercial ships carrying humanitarian food commodities since the implementation of international naval escorts beginning November 2007, despite a general upsurge in piracy attacks off the Somali coast.

In light of the challenges posed by severely restricted access and insecurity confronting humanitarian activities in Somalia, international aid agencies are increasingly utilizing local implementing partners to facilitate the timely delivery of assistance to conflict and drought-affected populations, according to OCHA.

In early June, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$700,000 to support emergency health interventions countrywide, and nearly \$1.5 million for the purchase and distribution of emergency relief supplies as well as water, sanitation, and hygiene services and economic asset support targeting populations in southern regions of Somalia. In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA has also provided an additional \$3.5 million for critical health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene services targeting displaced populations throughout the country, as well as protection monitoring efforts for displaced and vulnerable persons.

Agriculture and Food Security

Multiple relief agencies report that drought remains a serious threat in many parts of Somalia with Bakool, Mudug, Galgadud, and Hiran regions comprising the

most affected areas. On June 10, USAID-supported Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reported that poor April to June *gu* rains have resulted in reduced crop germination with some sorghum-producing districts in Middle Juba and Gedo regions experiencing complete crop failure. As the *gu* harvest typically accounts for more than 75 percent of annual domestic cereal production, insufficient crop yields are further exacerbating food insecurity concerns. FEWS NET and FSAU plan to conduct a comprehensive post-*gu* harvest assessment in the coming weeks.

Increased inflation and continued devaluation of the Somali shilling are further compounding food security concerns throughout Somalia. As of May 9, the value of

the Somali shilling is the lowest in relation to the U.S. dollar in 17 years, according to FSAU. In addition, FEWS NET notes that prices for imported and locally produced cereals have increased by up to 375 percent since May 2007. FSAU projects that a continued depreciation of the Somali shilling in the coming months will further increase the cost of imported food items.

In response to growing food security concerns, OCHA reports that a wet feeding program covering more than 50,000 people per day in Mogadishu is scheduled to continue for six months following an agreement between WFP and the Danish Refugee Council. The program is expanding to serve an additional 30,000 beneficiaries per day in the coming weeks.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

| FY 2008 | | | |
|--|---|---|----------------------|
| <i>Implementing Partner</i> | <i>Activity</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
| USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹ | | | |
| FAO | Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition | Countrywide | \$2,100,000 |
| International Medical Corps | Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene | Bakool, Bay, and Hiran Regions | \$1,022,629 |
| Mercy Corps | Economy and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene | Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, and Bari regions | \$2,099,307 |
| Merlin | Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene | Galgadud Region | \$576,274 |
| OCHA | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management | Countrywide | \$300,000 |
| UNHCR | Protection, Shelter and Settlements | Countrywide | \$2,000,000 |
| UNICEF | U.N. Common Air Service | Countrywide | \$800,000 |
| UNICEF | Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene | Countrywide | \$5,500,346 |
| U.N. World Health Organization | Health | Countrywide | \$697,961 |
| FEWS NET | Agriculture and Food Security | Countrywide | \$194,221 |
| | Program support costs | | \$48,339 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA | | | \$15,339,077 |
| USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE² | | | |
| CARE | 35,890 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance | Hiran, Gedo, Middle Shabelle, Galgudud, Mudug Regions | \$31,981,000 |
| WFP | 80,290 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance | Countrywide | \$77,129,900 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP³ | | | \$109,110,900 |
| STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE | | | |
| UNHCR | IDP Assistance, Income Generation, Logistics, Protection, Shelter | Countrywide | \$3,700,000 |
| International Committee of the Red Cross | Health, Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene | Countrywide | \$5,400,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM | | | \$9,100,000 |
| TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008 | | | \$124,449,977 |
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008 | | | \$133,549,977 |
| FY 2007 | | | |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA | | | \$22,577,844 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP | | | \$35,305,600 |
| TOTAL USAID/OTI | | | \$1,000,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/CMM | | | \$750,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM | | | \$4,871,560 |
| TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2007 | | | \$59,633,444 |
| TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2007 | | | \$64,505,004 |

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 18, 2008.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

³ The USAID/FFP FY 2008 funding figure includes \$24 million initially reported in FY 2007. The revised reporting reflects a reduction in food and associated costs that were purchased with FY 2008 funds but used in calendar year 2007.



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