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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 #7, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

July 16, 2008

Note: The last situation report was dated June 18, 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. In addition, ongoing 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. To date in FY 2008, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided nearly \$234 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 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia.....	\$26,915,799
USAID/FFP² Assistance to Somalia	\$197,783,000
State/PRM³ Assistance to Somalia	\$9,100,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$233,798,799

CURRENT SITUATION

Rising food prices, below-normal April to June *gu* rainfall, market disruptions, protracted conflict, and reduced humanitarian access resulting from an upsurge in targeted attacks against international and national humanitarian staff continue to exacerbate chronic emergency levels of malnutrition and food insecurity in

Somalia. According to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), more than 2.6 million people currently require humanitarian assistance, an increase of 40 percent since January 2008. In addition, 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

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

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

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

Somalis, may require livelihood support or emergency 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 July 15, WFP cites a shortfall of 62,000 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance valued at approximately \$55 million to meet projected food needs from July through December.

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

Significant deterioration in security conditions in recent weeks in Somalia, characterized by increased attacks against civilians, humanitarian staff, and civil society groups, is resulting in new displacement and hindering relief efforts and in some cases halting critical humanitarian assistance.

During the month of June, UNHCR reported that 13,000 people were displaced, including 7,600 persons displaced due to insecurity in Mogadishu, bringing the total number of IDPs in the country to 1.1 million.

As of July 16, the U.N. reported that 20 aid workers have been killed in 2008, while another 13 aid workers remain held hostage in Somalia. Following the June 16 abduction of a USAID implementing partner CARE staff member, CARE suspended operations in Galgaduud Region targeting an estimated 250,000 beneficiaries. To date in 2008, the U.N. reports 25 carjackings and/or attempted carjackings, in addition to 82 incidents related to the looting of food aid distribution sites, warehouses, and convoys.

Nutrition

On July 4, FSAU released the results from 11 nutrition surveys conducted in Gedo, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud, and Mudug regions in May and June. Results indicate sustained critical levels of acute malnutrition in most areas and escalating global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates above 20 percent in parts of the country, including Gedo and Bakool regions and among IDP populations. The most significant deterioration in nutrition conditions occurred in Bakool Region, where the May 2008 assessment identified GAM rates of 24.1 percent and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rates of 3.2 percent, in comparison to 14.3 percent GAM and 3.4 percent SAM recorded in November 2007.

In addition, humanitarian organizations report significant increases in the number of admissions to therapeutic feeding centers. On June 26, Médecins sans Frontières reported that admissions to nutritional feeding programs near Mogadishu doubled in April and again in May. The relief organization is treating approximately 2,500 acutely malnourished children near Afgooye outside Mogadishu, where an estimated 255,000 internally displaced persons are settled.

According to FSAU, a variety of factors are causing the poor nutrition situation, including conflict, drought, high incidence of diarrhea, poor breast-feeding, weaning and child-feeding practices, rising food prices, and insufficient access to clean water, adequate health care, and sanitation facilities.

USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$2.4 million for nutrition activities in Somalia, including an additional \$2 million to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) to support a blanket feeding program in Lower and Middle Shabelle regions and Bossaso town in Puntland targeting displaced children under five years of age to prevent malnutrition. In addition, new funding is supporting UNICEF activities to augment current therapeutic and supplementary feeding programs and integrate nutrition, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions.

Emergency Food Assistance

On June 25, WFP released an operational update citing the need for monthly contributions of nearly \$40 million in order to increase the targeted caseload from 1.4 million beneficiaries in May to 2.4 million individuals by December. The expanded caseload includes approximately 600,000 urban residents countrywide, who are particularly vulnerable to rising food prices due to a dependency on the market for the purchase of the majority of staple food needs.

Multiple factors, including funding gaps and delays, continued insecurity, increased attacks on NGO staff, and reduced regional food availability have resulted in disruptions to planned distributions. WFP reported that only 23 percent of planned food distributions reached targeted beneficiaries in May, compared with 87 percent in April. In addition, WFP reported that only 14,000 out of 21,000 planned metric tons of June food assistance was expected to be delivered as of July 1.

As of July 16, WFP continues to appeal to the international community for additional naval escorts for ships carrying emergency food commodities to Somalia to replace Dutch naval escorts that ended on June 25. Approximately 80 percent of WFP food assistance to Somalia is transported by sea. WFP plans to ship an estimated 220,000 MT of food assistance between June and December 2008 are at continued risk in the absence of a secured naval escort.

In recent weeks, USAID/FFP has approved an additional 50,000 MT of food assistance to WFP, valued at approximately \$50 million, and 45,000 MT of food assistance to implementing partner CARE, valued at approximately \$38 million, for July to December distributions. To date in FY 2008, USAID/FFP has provided more than 211,320 MT of food assistance, valued at nearly \$198 million.

Agriculture and Food Security

According to the USAID-supported Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the poor performance of the April to June *gu* rains has resulted in poor crop production across central and southern Somalia, including Hiran, Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Bay, Bakool, and Gedo regions, increasing food security concerns.

Prices of locally produced cereals have increased up to 455 percent over the last 15 months and rice prices have increased by up to 360 percent, according to UNHCR. In addition, FSAU reported that results of a March to April rapid urban food security and nutrition assessment in 27 towns throughout Somalia indicate that food and non-food costs have increased between 55 and 130 percent throughout areas of northern, southern, and central Somalia, excluding areas utilizing the Somali shilling. Elevated prices are negatively affecting the purchasing power of Somali's and exacerbating food insecurity.

Since mid-June, USAID/OFDA has provided \$853,000 for agriculture and food security activities in Bay, Bakool, and Middle Juba regions, benefiting an estimated 13,450 people.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

USG ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ADRA	Agriculture and Food Security, Risk Reduction, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene,	Bay, and Bakool Regions	\$1,500,000
CARE	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Economy and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,100,000
IMC	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bakool, Bay, and Hiran Regions	\$1,022,629
ICRC	Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Medair Swiss	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Shabelle Region	\$865,384
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
Mercy USA	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Hiran, Galgadud, Middle Juba, and Middle Shabelle Regions	\$761,347
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	\$7,500,346
U.N. World Health Organization	Health	Countrywide	\$697,961
World Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$699,991

World Vision	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$750,000
FEWS NET	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$194,221
	Program support costs		\$48,339
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$26,915,799
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
CARE	81,030 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Hiran, Gedo, Middle Shabelle, Galgudud, Mudug Regions	\$70,622,400
WFP	130,290 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$127,160,600
TOTAL USAID/FFP³			\$197,783,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	IDP Assistance, Income Generation, Logistics, Protection, Shelter	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
ICRC	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			\$224,698,799
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008			\$233,798,799

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 16, 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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