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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 #8, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

August 13, 2008

Note: The last situation report was dated July 16, 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 \$265 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.....	\$47,077,637
USAID/FFP² Assistance to Somalia	\$197,415,500
State/PRM³ Assistance to Somalia	\$20,100,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$264,593,137

CURRENT SITUATION

According to FSAU, the number of people in need of emergency humanitarian assistance continues to increase in drought-affected areas of Somalia, including Hiran, Galgadud, and Bakool regions. Countrywide, the collective impact of rising food prices, civil insecurity, hyper-inflation, and water shortages are contributing to deteriorating humanitarian

conditions and exacerbating food insecurity. FSAU anticipates that the number of individuals in need of livelihood support or emergency assistance will increase from the current 2.6 million individuals to as many as 3.5 million people, representing half of the total population of Somalia, by the end of the year. However, deteriorating security conditions, including an escalation in the targeting of humanitarian staff,

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)

continue to significantly impede response efforts, resulting in reduced access and the suspension of relief operations in some areas.

In addition, 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 August 6, WFP cites a shortfall of 67,232 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance, valued at approximately \$67 million, to meet projected food needs from August through December. During the week of August 11, USAID/OFDA committed more than \$20 million for the local purchase of 26,107 MT of maize to support WFP food aid operations in Somalia targeting an estimated 2 million beneficiaries.

On July 16, U.N. and cooperating relief agencies released the revised 2008 Consolidated Appeal Process (CAP) totaling \$641 million for Somalia and representing a 57 percent increase from the original \$406 million requirement announced in December 2007. As of late July, the U.N reported that only 37 percent of the revised appeal had been funded.

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

According to FSAU, several factors, including heightened armed conflict, the targeting of humanitarian aid workers, and increased sea piracy, are creating the worst security environment in Somalia since the early 1990s, resulting in new displacement and significantly undermining humanitarian response efforts.

More than 95,000 people were displaced in Somalia during the month of July, including 10,000 residents displaced from Mogadishu due to insecurity and nearly 75,000 people displaced from Beletweyne, Hiran Region, following clashes between Ethiopian troops and armed opposition groups, according to UNHCR. Since January 2008, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that approximately 400,000 people have been displaced countrywide.

Between January and July, OCHA reported nearly 110 security incidents involving humanitarian staff or assets in Somalia, including the deaths of 20 aid workers, 18 abductions of humanitarian staff, of which 11 remain held hostage as of August 5, and 49 carjackings and/or attempted carjackings. As a result of escalating insecurity, USAID/OFDA non-governmental organization partner Horn Relief

formally announced the cessation of relief activities in Kismayo, Lower Juba Region, on July 23. In addition, USAID implementing partner CARE operations in Galgaduud Region remain suspended following the June 16 abduction of a CARE staff member.

Nutrition

Recent nutrition assessments indicate sustained critical rates of acute malnutrition throughout central and southern Somalia, according to FSAU. Eleven of 17 nutrition surveys conducted in May and June in Gedo, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud, and Mudug regions indicate global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates above the emergency threshold of 15 percent, including six surveys reporting GAM rates above 20 percent. In addition, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported that preliminary results from 38 rapid assessments conducted in Burco and Hargeysa districts of northwest Somaliland indicated a significant deterioration in the nutrition status of individuals to serious or critical levels, including critical malnutrition rates among urban internally displaced persons.

Based on recent nutrition surveys, an estimated 180,000 children in Somalia are acutely malnourished, representing one in six of all children under five years of age and an increase of 11 percent since January 2008. FSAU notes that the effects of rising food prices are reflected in the increasing numbers of severely malnourished children in urban settings, including Mogadishu, Afgooye, Wajid, Galkahyo, Beletweyne, and Baidoa towns. In addition, low measles vaccination rates, limited access to protected water sources, and lack of sanitation facilities and health services is further compounding the critical nutrition status, according to the U.N. Somalia Nutrition Cluster. The caseload of severely malnourished children in Action Contre la Faim (ACF) therapeutic feeding centers in Dhusamareb, Galgaduud Region, has doubled since May 2008. However, limited numbers of acutely malnourished children have access to rehabilitation centers for treatment due to widespread insecurity, funding constraints, and limited capacity of local health services, according to FSAU.

To date in FY 2008, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$5.2 million for nutrition activities in Somalia, including an additional \$2 million to 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.

Emergency Food Assistance

Due to increasing needs, WFP has expanded its beneficiary caseload in recent weeks. In June, WFP increased the number of targeted beneficiaries in and around Afgooye, Lower Shabelle Region, by more than 120,000 from 200,000 to 326,000 and contracted three

additional cooperating partners to assist with program operations. In addition, WFP has increased the number of beneficiaries of a wet feeding program in Mogadishu from 50,000 to 80,000 in recent weeks.

On August 6, WFP announced that the Government of Canada will provide naval escorts for WFP shipments of emergency relief commodities to Somalia through September 27. The Canadian commitment represents a temporary solution to the long-term need for escorts in the region to ensure the delivery of the approximately 90 percent of WFP food assistance to Somalia transported by sea. Between November 2007 and June 2008, France, Denmark, and the Netherlands provided successive escorts for WFP ships.

To date in FY 2008, USAID/FFP has provided more than 211,320 MT of food assistance, valued at nearly \$198 million. In total, USAID/FFP assistance is benefiting approximately 1.7 million Somalis countrywide.

Agriculture and Food Security

The poor performance of the most recent April to July *gu* rains represents the fourth consecutive failed rainy season in affected areas. According to FSAU, severe water and pasture shortages are unlikely to sustain pastoralist populations through the arrival of the next rainy season in October and are resulting in the significant migration of people and livestock to limited permanent water sources. In Hiran and Bakool regions, pastoralists have already resorted to selling breeding animals in order to meet the high costs of food, fodder, and water.

Fuel price increases are compounding the impact of drought by significantly increasing water and food prices, according to FSAU. In central Somalia, fuel prices have increased 77 percent since January 2008. Since May 2007, the U.N. reports that prices of locally produced cereals have increased between 300 and 455 percent while imported commodities, such as rice, have increased by 200 to 300 percent, significantly reducing the purchasing power of local populations.

To date in FY 2008, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$2.5 million for agriculture and food security activities countrywide, including programs to facilitate the diversification of agricultural-based livelihoods and enhance livestock disease preparedness and mitigation efforts.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

The poor performance of the 2008 seasonal rains has significantly reduced access to clean water, resulting in an increase in water-related diseases in drought-affected areas. In mid-July, health workers reported an outbreak of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) in Barghaal District, Bari Region, in Puntland, which as of July 30, included 109 cases and 7 deaths. In addition, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reported new AWD cases in Bakool Region on August 4. Nearly \$9 million in FY 2008 USAID/OFDA funding supports water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions countrywide, including Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA) and International Medical Corps (IMC) programs in Bakool Region.

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
International Committee of the Red Cross (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	\$893,978

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
WFP	Local Food Procurement and Distribution	Countrywide	\$20,100,000
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		\$81,583
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$47,077,637
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
CARE	81,030 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Hiran, Gedo, Middle Shabelle, Galgadud, Mudug Regions	\$70,622,400
WFP	130,290 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$126,793,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP³			\$197,415,500
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance, IDP Protection, Logistics, and Shelter	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
ICRC	Protection, Health, Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$16,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$20,100,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008			\$264,593,137

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of August 13, 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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