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BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)

Sudan – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #4, Fiscal Year (FY) 2008

March 7, 2008

Note: The last situation report was dated February 7, 2008.

BACKGROUND

In 2008, Sudan continues to cope with the effects of conflict, displacement, and insecurity countrywide. In Sudan’s western region of Darfur, fighting among armed opposition factions, Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), militias, and ethnic groups persisted in 2007, displacing approximately 280,000 people, according to the U.N. Since 2003, the Darfur complex emergency has affected 4.2 million people, including 2.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The former Government of Sudan (GOS) and the southern-based Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) continue to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) through the joint Government of National Unity (GNU). The GNU was formed in 2005, when the parties signed the CPA and officially ended more than two decades of conflict between the north and the south. During the conflict, fighting, famine, and disease killed more than 2 million people, forced an estimated 600,000 Sudanese to seek refuge in neighboring countries, and displaced 4 million others within Sudan. The U.N. estimates that approximately 1.6 million people displaced during the conflict have returned to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas of Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei since 2005, taxing scarce resources and weak infrastructure. In eastern Sudan, the GNU and the Eastern Front coalition signed a peace agreement in 2006.

The U.S. Government (USG) is the leading international donor to Sudan and has contributed nearly \$3 billion for humanitarian programs in Sudan and eastern Chad since FY 2004. The USG continues to support the implementation of the CPA and joins the international community in seeking a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Darfur. On October 11, 2007, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Alberto M. Fernandez renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Sudan for FY 2008.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
IDPs in Sudan	From Southern Sudan: 2.7 million	UNHCR ¹ – November 2007
	In Darfur: 2.4 million	OCHA ² – October 2007
	In Eastern Sudan: 168,000	U.N. – September 2007
Sudanese Refugees	From Darfur: 240,000	UNHCR – February 2008
	From Southern Sudan: 255,000	UNHCR – December 2007
Refugees in Sudan	From Eritrea, Chad, Ethiopia, and Others: 215,630	UNHCR – December 2007

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE (FY 2007 AND 2008)

USAID/OFDA³ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad\$183,626,799
USAID/FFP⁴ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad\$830,881,800
State/PRM⁵ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad\$93,639,132
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad.....\$1,108,147,731

CURRENT SITUATION IN DARFUR

In February, insecurity continued to hamper humanitarian work throughout Darfur. Clashes between the SAF and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) armed opposition group, as well as SAF-conducted aerial bombings of villages in West Darfur limited humanitarian access for relief workers and displaced more than 58,000 thousand people to eastern Chad and areas in West Darfur.

From February 24-29, the newly appointed U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan, Richard S. Williamson, traveled to El Fasher, Darfur, and Juba, Southern Sudan, to focus on addressing the ongoing conflict in Darfur and the implementation of the CPA. The Special Envoy met with local officials and representatives from the U.N.–African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) and visited a USAID-funded humanitarian project in As Salaam IDP camp in El Fasher, North Darfur. Ambassador Williamson

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

² U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

³ USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

⁴ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

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

reiterated USG support for deployment of UNAMID troops to protect IDPs and other vulnerable populations.

Security and Humanitarian Access

Since December 2007, renewed clashes between the SAF and JEM in northern West Darfur have increased insecurity and restricted humanitarian operations in the area. Beginning on February 8, the SAF launched a series of aerial and ground attacks on Abu Surug, Sirba, and Silea villages north of El Geneina. From late December to February 11, the SAF blocked several key roads to areas north of El Geneina, and the U.N. declared several routes in the area as no-go. On February 18, the SAF and supporting militias bombed Aro Shorou, an IDP settlement north of El Geneina, and additional sites in the Jebel Moon area. On February 19, the GNU Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) suspended all U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) helicopter flights to the affected areas. Only UNAMID-escorted humanitarian aid workers were able to access affected populations in the area until UNHAS flights resumed the week of February 25. As of March 7, clashes in northern West Darfur are ongoing.

Carjackings and attacks targeting humanitarian workers continued in February. According to the U.N., a total of 52 carjackings have occurred throughout Darfur since the beginning of 2008, including two UNAMID vehicles and 32 U.N. World Food Program (WFP)-contracted trucks. Eighteen WFP-contracted drivers remain missing. During the SAF attacks on Abu Surug, Sirba, and Silea villages beginning on February 8, armed assailants looted and destroyed four humanitarian compounds and killed one International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) national staff member.

Population Movements

On March 3, OCHA reported that nearly 80,000 individuals are newly displaced in Darfur since the beginning of 2008, including the 58,000 residents of West Darfur displaced by insecurity throughout February. The recent fighting caused entire village populations to flee, leaving Hajaleija, Aro Shorou, and Gosmino villages completely empty, according to joint U.N. and non-governmental organization (NGO) assessments.

The U.N. reports that humanitarian agencies are providing food, relief commodities, and medicine to approximately 23,225 IDPs and 60,000 community residents in the conflict-affected areas near El Geneina. In mid-February, the GNU HAC provided tents and food aid to IDPs in Sirba and Abu Surug. In response to reports of missing children following the recent attacks, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and community leaders in Sirba and neighboring communities have developed a survey system to trace and reunite separated families.

In February, ongoing population movements from rural areas in southwestern South Darfur have increased IDP populations in camps near Nyala, particularly Al Salam IDP camp. According to Humedica International, the estimated population of Al Salam camp has expanded from 39,000 in November 2007 to 51,000 as of February 10. On February 13, GNU HAC closed Al Salam, the only camp in the Nyala area that was open to new arrivals. Aid workers continue to report significant numbers of new, unregistered arrivals to Al Salam. WFP and World Vision are distributing food and relief commodities for 12,413 recently registered individuals in Al Salam. During the week of February 25, UNICEF worked to improve sanitation conditions in Al Salam camp.

Health

In mid-February, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) reported new cases of diphtheria in the rural areas of Sharafa, Batano, Hilaat Salih, and Wara, near El Fasher, North Darfur, including five related deaths. WHO and the North Darfur State Ministry of Health collected samples, and WHO reported that two of the samples tested positive for diphtheria. WHO continues to monitor and conduct testing for suspected cases, and is currently conducting a vaccination campaign in the El Fasher area to prevent further transmission.

The acute jaundice syndrome outbreak, which began in January 2007 and declined throughout 2007, has continued to decline in 2008. USAID partners conducted intensive sanitation and hygiene promotion campaigns in Otash and Al Salam IDP camps, which promoted the rapid decrease in acute jaundice syndrome cases. Humanitarian agencies' efforts to improve the water, sanitation, and hygiene situation in Kass IDP camp have significantly decreased the number of weekly reported acute jaundice syndrome cases in Kass from 55 during the second week of August 2007 to five during the last week of February.

CURRENT SITUATION IN SUDAN, EXCLUDING DARFUR

In February, heightened tensions and sporadic fighting in Abyei and along the Northern Bahr el Ghazal–Southern Kordofan border negatively impacted humanitarian operations. The U.N. also reported clashes in Jonglei and Eastern Equatoria states.

Security and Humanitarian Access

During February, thousands of people fled from tensions and fighting along the Northern Bahr el Ghazal–Southern Kordofan border. On February 19, the U.N. reported several road closures near Abyei due to conflict in the area. On March 1, relief workers reported that at least 70 people died as a result of the latest clashes near Meiram along the Northern Bahr el Ghazal–Southern Kordofan border. While insecurity and heightened tensions have delayed implementation of relief programs in Abyei Area and parts of Southern

Kordofan State, USAID partners continue to provide humanitarian assistance in other areas of Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile states.

The situation in Khorflus, Jonglei State, remains volatile and unpredictable following recent fighting between the Southern Sudan Police Service (SSPS) and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) on February 7. The fighting displaced more than 3,500 individuals, particularly women and children. The U.N. Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) in Malakal, Upper Nile State, is coordinating the response, and the Ministry of Health, WFP, UNICEF, and other implementing partners are providing food and relief commodities to the IDPs.

According to the U.N., armed militias killed four people and abducted 16 others during attacks in Central Equatoria State in early February. More than 600 households, predominately women and children, fled from villages in Juba, Lainya, and Kajo Keji counties to Juba town following the armed attacks. The U.N. RCO, Medair, and WFP conducted rapid needs assessments, and WFP and UNICEF began distributing food and relief commodities to the families on February 20.

Returns

In February, USAID partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) helped more than 2,100 IDPs return from Khartoum to Warab and Unity states in Southern Sudan as part of the joint GNU, Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS), U.N. returns plan. IOM also assisted with organized return operations within Southern Sudan, aiding the return of more than 1,500 individuals from Nimule, Eastern Equatoria State, to Central Equatoria State. IOM technical teams continued to survey areas of recent IDP returns in central and Southern Sudan and identified a lack of water, sanitation, and hygiene services as the most pressing need in the 256 villages assessed to date. IOM completed construction of one community water system and drilled 14 boreholes and

in Aweil East and Aweil North in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State in the past several weeks, improving access to safe drinking water for approximately 20,000 beneficiaries. IOM is also conducting hygiene promotion campaigns and water point maintenance trainings for affected communities in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State.

After resuming repatriation activities from Kakuma refugee camp in northwest Kenya to Southern Sudan on January 24, IOM and UNHCR partnered to assist 611 refugees returning to Jonglei State and 196 refugees to Upper Nile State in February. Repatriations from Ethiopia resumed on February 23, with IOM and UNHCR facilitating the return of 605 individuals from Bonga refugee camp to Blue Nile State. IOM provided refugees with pre-departure medical screenings, and WFP distributed reintegration packages for returnees upon crossing the Ethiopia–Sudan border at Kurmuk.

Health

Humanitarian agencies working in the health sector in Southern Sudan responded to several reported outbreaks during the month of February. Health workers reported an outbreak of measles in Kapoeta, Eastern Equatoria State on February 14. Médecins Sans Frontières/Switzerland, GNU Ministry of Health, and OCHA staff assessed the area and reported that health workers have contained the situation. During the week of February 18, UNICEF and Medair conducted a short-term response to increased numbers of acute watery diarrhea and cholera cases in the area of Owinykubul, Eastern Equatoria State. During the week of February 25, the U.N. reported six suspected human cases of Hepatitis E in Eastern Equatoria State, and health workers confirmed a corresponding increase in the death rate of cattle and goats in Kapoeta South, East, and North counties. Hepatitis E is a waterborne disease transmitted to both humans and animals through contaminated water and food supplies. UNICEF is planning response efforts to address the new Hepatitis E cases.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND EASTERN CHAD			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2008 DARFUR, SUDAN			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
Action Contre la Faim (ACF)	Risk Reduction	North Darfur	\$60,000
CARE	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Darfur-wide	\$3,994,193
CHF International	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	North Darfur	\$256,034
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Darfur-wide	\$1,010,464
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$5,320,691
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	243,528 Metric Tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Darfur-wide	\$286,590,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$286,590,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR			\$291,910,691
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR			\$291,910,691
FY 2008 EASTERN CHAD			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
AirServ International	Humanitarian Air Service	Eastern Chad	\$36,483
USAID Stockpile	Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$78,900
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Eastern Chad	\$71,180
World Concern	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$409,676
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$596,239
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	46,960 of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$55,327,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$55,327,100
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
Christian Children's Fund (CCF)	Psychosocial, Protection	Eastern Chad	\$399,999
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$399,999
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD			\$55,923,339
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD			\$56,323,338
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR AND EASTERN CHAD			\$348,234,029
FY 2008 SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
Food for the Hungry International (FHI)	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Upper Nile State	\$793,055
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	Agriculture and Food Security	Upper Nile State, Jonglei State	\$2,497,755
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Sudan-wide	\$975,428
ZOA Refugee Care (ZOA)	Health	Central Equatoria State	\$129,999
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$4,396,237
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
NPA	7,140 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan	\$9,492,200
WFP	72,742 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan, Eastern Sudan, and Three Areas	\$85,604,800

TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$95,097,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
FHI	Education, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Upper Nile State, Jonglei State	\$508,048
International Relief and Development (IRD)	Livelihoods, Conflict Prevention	Upper Nile State	\$499,968
Relief International (RI)	Health, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Upper Nile State	\$500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$1,508,016
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR			\$99,493,237
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR			\$101,001,253

¹USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of March 7, 2008.

²Estimated value of food assistance.



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