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

Somalia – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

July 10, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated June 2, 2006.

BACKGROUND

Widespread violence since the collapse of Muhammad Siad Barre’s government in 1991, combined with endemic poverty, has led to a complex emergency in Somalia, including the migration of approximately 350,000 Somali refugees to Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen. Ongoing civil strife, inter-clan conflicts, and the lack of a functioning central government are further complicating the humanitarian situation and limiting access to affected areas. Multi-agency assessments indicate that approximately 2.1 million Somalis, including 1.4 million pastoralists in the south and 400,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), face a critical situation following failed October to December 2005 *deyr* rains and the cumulative effects of drought conditions across the Horn of Africa.¹ In March, the U.N. launched a Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) for Somalia followed by a regional Horn of Africa CAP in April. The Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia based in Baidoa and humanitarian agencies are coordinating efforts to improve humanitarian access, but insecurity continues to hinder emergency assistance to affected populations.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Total Affected Population	2.1 million	Horn of Africa CAP – April 7, 2006
IDPs	400,000	Revised Somalia CAP – March 21, 2006
Somali Refugees	350,000	Revised Somalia CAP – March 21, 2006

Total FY 2006 USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia\$4,978,035
Total FY 2006 U.S. Government (USG) Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia\$90,448,035

CURRENT SITUATION

Security situation remains fluid. Humanitarian agencies continue to monitor the security situation in Mogadishu and surrounding areas since the resurgence of violence in May and June between militias of the Islamic Courts Union (ICU), recently renamed the Council of Somali Islamic Courts (CSIC), and the Alliance for the Restoration of Peace and Counter-Terrorism (ARPCT).

On July 3, a two-member team from the U.N. Department of Safety and Security returned from a security assessment mission of Mogadishu. Accompanied by members of the CSIC, the team visited a broad expanse of Mogadishu, including the airport and the port. In the 85 percent of the city under CSIC control, the team found an absence of checkpoints and free movement of people and goods.

After a period of relative calm in Mogadishu, which improved humanitarian access throughout south and central Somalia, renewed fighting on July 9 between Islamic militias and supporters of warlord Abdi Qeybidid led to at least 20 deaths and 40 people injured, according to international media reports. Continued clashes on July 10 have increased the death toll to at least 60. Despite ongoing security concerns, aid agencies are continuing to provide humanitarian assistance and developing

contingency plans in response to the evolving situation in Mogadishu and neighboring areas.

Long season rains bring limited relief. The USG-funded Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization reports that the performance of the April to June main rainy season was mixed. Large areas in Gedo, Bakol, and Hiran, as well as parts of Bay, Lower Shabelle, Lower and Middle Juba, Galgadud, Toghdeer, Sool, Sanaag, and Bari regions received below-average rains. FSAU predicted the overall cereal crop harvest to be below normal due to poor rains in key cropping areas, army worm outbreaks, localized flooding, and insufficient agricultural inputs. Food access and supply will likely be stressed through December. The presence and intensity of conflict will be a key factor in determining the severity of the humanitarian situation.

FSAU began comprehensive field assessments in late June to determine humanitarian conditions and outstanding needs for the upcoming months. Although findings will not be released until mid-August, FSAU and FEWS NET/Somalia predict that the humanitarian emergency in southern Somalia will continue through December.

¹Further information on the situation in the region and the USG response can be found in USAID/OFDA Horn of Africa Situation Reports, located at www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance

Continued food insecurity. According to FEWS NET and FSAU, several factors continue to affect food security, including persistent high rates of malnutrition, increasing conflict in the south, continued piracy, likely poor agricultural production from the main season, and heavy losses of productive assets in recent years due to drought and conflict.

In Hiran Region, Lower Shabelle, and parts of Bakol Region, the August harvest is projected to be below normal due to localized rain failure in some key cropping areas. Armyworm outbreaks, localized flooding, and insufficient agricultural inputs, such as seeds have further aggravated the situation.

Although improved rangeland and livestock body conditions have been reported in many drought-affected areas, cattle were unable to reproduce and thus lactate following the long dry season. As a result, livestock products, especially milk and ghee will be in short supply during the coming months, reducing household food availability and income and contributing to an already poor nutritional situation. In contrast, FEWS NET and FSAU report that goats, sheep, and camels are generally in good condition and have had normal calving rates in most pastoral regions in Somalia.

Malnutrition rates remain critical. According to UNICEF, humanitarian organizations conducted nine nutrition surveys in Somalia between January and May 2006, focusing particularly on the most affected areas of the country. The surveys indicated rates of global acute malnutrition (GAM) ranging from 15 to 24 percent. The highest rates of malnutrition—23.8 GAM and 3.7 percent severe acute malnutrition (SAM)—were reported in Gedo Region, according to a March survey. The most recent surveys undertaken in April and May in Gedo and Juba regions showed critical malnutrition rates between 16.2 percent in Jilib Riverine, and 21.9 percent in Buale and Sakow districts, Middle Juba Region.

While support for food distribution, including supplementary and therapeutic feeding, is essential, relief agencies have been unable to meet priority food needs due to limited stocks, insecurity, and impassable or difficult road conditions, according to UNICEF. Insecurity and a difficult operating environment have also prevented agencies from undertaking nutritional interventions on a larger scale.

Polio vaccination campaign concluded. According to the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), relative calm in Mogadishu at the end of May allowed for approximately 286,000 children under the age of 5 to be vaccinated against polio, representing a coverage rate of 99 percent. UNICEF noted that past campaigns have been hampered by insecurity and lack of access to families throughout Mogadishu.

Food distributions continue. WFP reported that during June, more than 12,000 metric tons (MT) of food were distributed to 642,000 out of 735,000 planned beneficiaries across southern Somalia. Additional rounds of food distributions will continue through mid-July when the harvest begins. According to WFP, fighting in Mogadishu has not delayed or obstructed the food distribution pipeline in Somalia. However, distributions have been delayed in some other areas due to poor road conditions, security concerns, and the delayed arrival of commodities at ports. WFP plans to reduce distributions during the mid-July through September harvest period, although school feeding, nutritional feeding, and social support will continue during this time.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

On October 27, 2005, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya William M. Bellamy redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing humanitarian emergency in Somalia. In response, the USG is providing more than \$87.4 million to improve the humanitarian situation of the most vulnerable populations. The USG's primary humanitarian focus in Somalia is on water and sanitation, health, nutrition, and food activities, where security conditions allow. A USG assessment team deployed to the Horn of Africa in late March 2006. The team is working with the USG humanitarian regional advisors to monitor the unfolding security situation in Somalia and make recommendations for funding.

To date in FY 2006, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) has provided nearly \$5 million for humanitarian water and sanitation, food security, agriculture, and nutrition programs in Somalia. NGO partners Action Against Hunger (ACF), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), and International Medical Corps (IMC) received more than \$2.3 million for projects in Bakol Region, while World Vision received \$250,000 for programs in Middle Juba Region. USAID/OFDA also committed nearly \$1.2 million to UNICEF for countrywide water and sanitation activities and \$700,000 through FAO to FSAU for nutritional surveillance in southern Somalia.

To date in FY 2006, USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) has provided more than 120,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$81.4 million, through WFP and CARE. USAID/FFP assistance is provided to beneficiaries in Bay, Bakol, Gedo, Lower and Middle Shabelle, Lower and Middle Juba, Hiran, Benadir, Bari, Nugal, Mudug, Awdal, Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag, and Sool regions.

To date in FY 2006, the Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration has provided more than \$1 million to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for programs to assist refugees and \$3 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to assist emergency operations in country.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
ACF	Water and Sanitation	Bakol Region	\$852,569
ADRA	Water and Sanitation, Food Security and Agriculture	Bakol Region	\$1,315,133
IMC	Nutrition, Food Security and Agriculture	Bakol Region	\$199,833
FAO	Nutrition Surveillance	Countrywide	\$700,000
UNICEF	Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,650,000
World Vision	Water and Sanitation	Middle Juba Region	\$250,000
	Administrative and Support Costs	Countrywide	\$10,500
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$4,978,035
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
CARE	73,410 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern and Central	\$48,113,000
WFP	48,350 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$33,287,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$81,400,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
ICRC	Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,070,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$4,070,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2006			\$86,378,035
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2006			\$90,448,035

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of July 10, 2006.



Gregory C. Gottlieb
Acting Director
Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/.