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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 #3, Fiscal Year (FY) 2010

March 10, 2010

*Note: The last situation report was dated February 3, 2010.*

### **BACKGROUND**

Since 1991, widespread violence, endemic poverty, recurrent droughts, and floods have generated a complex emergency in Somalia. From December 2006 to January 2009, fighting between the Somalia Transitional Federal Government (TFG), backed by Ethiopian forces, and armed militias opposed to the TFG led to a further deterioration in humanitarian conditions. Following January 2009 Ethiopian troop withdrawals, conflict between armed militia groups in Somalia continues to displace populations and limit access to affected areas. As a result, nearly 559,000 Somali refugees have fled the country and approximately 1.39 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), including long-term IDPs and individuals displaced by increased fighting since February 2007, remain uprooted within Somalia.

On January 29, 2010, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) reported that more than 3.2 million people would require humanitarian assistance in Somalia through June 2010, representing a 9 percent decrease since July 2009. The January to June 2010 estimate includes 580,000 urban poor, nearly 1.25 million individuals residing in rural areas, and approximately 1.39 million IDPs. The combined effects of consecutive seasons of failed or poor rainfall, conflict, rising inflation, displacement, and diarrheal disease outbreaks have severely exacerbated food insecurity and resulted in a significant increase in acute malnutrition rates. 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 1, 2009, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Michael E. Ranneberger renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Somalia for FY 2010. USAID/OFDA staff continue to monitor humanitarian conditions and respond to the needs of affected populations in Somalia.

| NUMBERS AT A GLANCE                                     | SOURCE                    |                                 |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Total Population in Need of Emergency Assistance</b> | 3.2 million               | FSNAU – January 2010            |
| <b>IDPs in Somalia</b>                                  | 1.39 million <sup>1</sup> | UNHCR <sup>2</sup> – March 2010 |
| <b>Somali Refugees in East Africa and Yemen</b>         | 569,000                   | UNHCR – March 2010              |

### **FY 2010 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE**

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia.....</b>               | <b>\$8,846,069</b>  |
| <b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup> Assistance to Somalia.....</b>    | <b>\$14,700,000</b> |
| <b>Total USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....</b> | <b>\$23,546,069</b> |

### **CURRENT SITUATION**

Despite improved food security in southern Somalia due to above-normal October to December *deyr* rains, food insecurity and other humanitarian needs persist in drought- and conflict-affected areas. In mid-February, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) revised planned beneficiary estimates from 2.8 million people to 2.5 million people based on the findings of the recent FSNAU post-*deyr* assessment, which indicated general improvements in food security conditions in Somalia. However, approximately 70 percent of Somalis in need of food assistance reside in conflict-affected areas where escalating insecurity, attacks against aid workers, humanitarian staff abductions, and demands

from armed groups continue to hinder humanitarian access.

Renewed clashes between armed groups and TFG forces since early January have resulted in increased displacement in Mogadishu and surrounding areas, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In response to increased tensions in Mogadishu and surrounding areas, OCHA and humanitarian partners have prepared contingency plans in case of sustained high displacement levels. In the worst-case scenario, OCHA estimates that insecurity may displace as many

<sup>1</sup> The total includes 275,000 long-term IDPs

<sup>2</sup> Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

<sup>3</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

as 218,000 people from and within Mogadishu during the next three months.

### ***Security and Population Movements***

Ongoing conflict and insecurity in south and central Somalia continue to result in displacement and reduced humanitarian access to affected populations. On March 5, UNHCR reported that approximately 28,200 people have been displaced within Somalia as of February 1. Of the total, an estimated 25,900 individuals were displaced from or within Mogadishu, including 19,600 people that fled the city and 6,300 others displaced to other areas within Mogadishu. Of the individuals displaced from Mogadishu between February 1 and March 5, an estimated 11,630 people fled to the Afgooye corridor.

Armed groups continue to conduct attacks on humanitarian groups in southern and central Somalia. OCHA noted six such incidents in Bakool, Bay, and Mudug regions between February 1 and 26, including the theft of a U.N. vehicle and looting of U.N. compounds and humanitarian non-governmental organization (NGO) offices.

Insecurity continues to result in significant displacement of Somalis into neighboring countries. In Kenya, UNHCR registered 8,421 new arrivals from Somalia between January 1 and March 5. UNHCR noted considerable fluctuations in the recent population figures reported for the Dadaab refugee complex in North Eastern Province of Kenya due to continuing new arrivals and ongoing population verification activities. On February 19, UNHCR reported that 262,838 individuals resided in the Dadaab refugee complex. As of February 5, Kakuma refugee camp in the Rift Valley Province of Kenya hosted 62,123 refugees, according to UNHCR.

Relief organizations continue to note concern regarding humanitarian conditions at the Dadaab refugee complex in North Eastern Province, as the three camps host more than three times the intended capacity. The GoK has yet to allocate additional land for a fourth refugee camp in Dadaab, but the Garissa county council has approved land for expanding Ifo camp, one of the existing three camps at Dadaab. UNHCR plans to resettle an estimated 30,000 current Ifo camp residents in the extension as well as an additional 5,000 to 10,000 residents of Daghaley camp. The remaining space, which could accommodate up to 40,000 people, would be reserved for newly arriving refugees. The camp extension may begin accepting residents in September 2010.

On February 16, UNHCR reported the opening of an additional refugee camp at Melkadida town in Ethiopia's Somali Region, bringing the total number of camps in Ethiopia housing Somali refugees to five. The new camp is expected to accommodate up to

20,000 refugees. As of February 16, approximately 60,000 Somali refugees resided in camps along the Ethiopia–Somalia border, according to UNHCR. An additional 200 refugees arrive in Ethiopia each day.

In FY 2009, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) provided more than \$56 million to support affected Somalis, including \$39 million in earmarked funding to assist Somali refugees in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen, and \$17 million to support UNHCR and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) operations within Somalia.

### ***Emergency Food Assistance***

Insecurity continues to hinder the provision of food assistance in southern and central Somalia. As of February 26, no WFP food assistance from Mogadishu had successfully reached distribution points in the Afgooye corridor since a test delivery of 60 metric tons (MT) of food supplies during the week of January 22. On February 28, Al Shabaab issued a statement banning WFP operations in Somalia. The following day, Al Shabaab forces seized WFP facilities at Bu'aale town, Middle Juba Region, and Afmadow town, Lower Juba Region, forcing the facility managers to surrender the keys. WFP stated that the organization remains determined to help food insecure populations in Somalia while prioritizing the safety of WFP staff. WFP is continuing food distributions in Mogadishu, north central and northern Somalia.

Seeking an alternative to the increasingly insecure Mogadishu–Gaalkacyo corridor, WFP conducted a test delivery during the week of January 28 of 300 MT of food assistance through a newly-opened corridor from Berbera Port in northern Somalia to populations in need in central Somalia. In subsequent weeks, WFP has delivered approximately 4,000 MT of additional food assistance using this route.

In FY 2010 to date, USAID/WFP has provided more than 18,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at nearly \$15 million, to WFP for distribution to vulnerable populations. In addition, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$1.7 million in FY 2010 to date to support agriculture and food security programs, including interventions in areas of central Somalia.

### ***Health and Nutrition***

Despite some recent improvements in food security, child malnutrition levels remain high. In October and November 2009, FSNAU and humanitarian partners conducted 36 representative nutritional surveys in areas throughout Somalia. Of the surveyed areas, 16 reported global acute malnutrition (GAM) rates between 15 and 20 percent and eight reported GAM rates exceeding 20 percent. The U.N. World Health

Organization defines the nutrition emergency threshold at 15 percent GAM.

Although Somalia's median GAM rate has fallen to 16 percent from a 19 percent average in mid-2009, GAM rates in conflict-affected areas in south and central Somalia remain at 19 percent. FSNAU estimates that more than 80 percent of Somalia's malnourished children reside in conflict-affected areas with limited humanitarian access. According to FSNAU, improved food security in areas of southern Somalia has not resulted in an improved nutrition situation, as children rely on a primarily cereal- and oil-based diet that lacks essential nutrients for health and growth.

IDPs remain a population of particular concern with regards to nutrition. The median GAM rate of 16.7 among IDPs exceeds the WHO emergency threshold and the national average; however, it represents a significant decrease from the 20 percent median GAM rate recorded in mid-2009. FSNAU attributes the decrease primarily to improved humanitarian access to IDP populations near Bossaso town in northern Somalia. Conversely, the situation among IDPs in the Afgooye corridor—where ongoing conflict limits humanitarian access—has deteriorated, with GAM rates increasing from 11.7 percent to 15.9 percent since mid-2009.

During the week of February 12, WHO conducted diphtheria screenings following reports of an outbreak in Ceel Waaq District, Gedo Region, according to OCHA. During the assessment, WHO confirmed 10 deaths and the presence of 36 additional diphtheria cases in the district. WHO and humanitarian partners continue to monitor the situation.

In FY 2010 to date, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$1.2 million to support health and nutrition activities in Somalia, including programs designed to mitigate the spread of disease, improve access to critical basic health care services, and enhance the capacity of health care providers through health worker training.

### **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene**

The FAO Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) project recorded moderate to heavy rains in areas of northern and southern Somalia during the week of March 5. SWALIM notes that the rainfall may potentially represent an early commencement of the *gu* rains, which normally fall from April to June. Although water levels in the Juba and Shabelle rivers have risen as a result of the rains, SWALIM does not expect either river to exceed its banks. However, media reports indicate that heavy rains have displaced approximately 1,000 families in northern Somalia.

Although above-normal October to December *deyr* rains replenished water sources in some areas of Somalia, humanitarian organizations remain concerned about the availability of safe drinking water, particularly in drought-affected areas and areas with a high concentration of IDPs. OCHA reported that NGOs continue to work to improve water quality and availability through interventions such as water trucking, borehole rehabilitation, and distribution of chlorine tablets.

In FY 2010 to date, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$4.6 million to support water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions in Somalia, including programs designed to increase access to safe drinking water and reduce the spread of waterborne diseases through water point rehabilitation and hygiene awareness campaigns.

### **USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

In FY 2009 and FY 2010 to date, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided nearly \$174 million for humanitarian assistance programs in Somalia, including more than \$18 million in USAID/OFDA funding to support agriculture and food security, economic recovery and market systems, health, nutrition, protection, and WASH interventions.

## USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

| <b>FY 2010</b>   |  |  |                     |
|--|--|--|---------------------|
| <b>Implementing Partner</b>                                    | <b>Activity</b>  | <b>Location</b>                              | <b>Amount</b>       |
| <b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>                       |  |  |                     |
| NGO Implementing Partner                                       | Agriculture and Food Security; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene  | Bakool, Bay, and Galgadud Regions            | \$1,500,000         |
| NGO Implementing Partner                                       | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics and Relief Commodities; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene | Northern Somalia                             | \$2,000,000         |
| NGO Implementing Partner                                       | Agriculture and Food Security; Nutrition; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene   | Bakool and Hiran Regions                     | \$1,200,000         |
| NGO Implementing Partner                                       | Agriculture and Food Security; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene  | Galgadud and Mudug Regions                   | \$1,381,663         |
| NGO Implementing Partner                                       | Economic Recovery and Market Systems; Protection; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene                                       | Bari Region                                  | \$1,499,990         |
| NGO Implementing Partner                                       | Health; Nutrition; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene  | Galgadud, Hiran, and Middle Shabelle Regions | \$1,264,416         |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>  |  |  | <b>\$8,846,069</b>  |
| <b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE<sup>2</sup></b>                        |  |  |                     |
| WFP  | 18,650 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance   | North Central and Northern Somalia           | \$14,700,000        |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>   |  |  | <b>\$14,700,000</b> |
| <b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2010</b> |  |  | <b>\$23,546,069</b> |

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of March 10, 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance as of March 10, 2010.



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