

Food Aid Cluster Meeting
04 June 2008
ICRC Somalia Office

Agenda

1. Review of last meeting minutes
2. Update by agencies – including security
3. Pipeline status (at least for June/July)
4. A.O.B

The meeting began at 14:45 and was chaired by WFP

Update by Agencies.

1. ICRC

ICRC has no food distribution ongoing.

In the coming four months, (June to September), ICRC plans to distribute monthly food to 72,500 families (435,000 persons). 12,000 families in Puntland/Somaliland, 37,000 families in Galgaduud, and 23,500 families in South Mudug will benefit from the distribution. The target population consists of vulnerable residents and IDP families.

The first round will be distributed in mid June and it will consist of two full rations. The second round will be given in mid August and it will also consist of two full rations. The package will include 72 kgs of rice, 24 kgs of pulses and 12 litres of vegetable oil per family per month.

2. UNICEF

UNICEF currently has emergency nutrition programmes ongoing. They have 210 feeding programmes of different types in 80 sites in South and Central Somalia. UNICEF is also running supplementary feeding programmes in 75 sites. They are putting special focus on areas of nutrition.

They have been carrying out a study on ready to use food. A pilot programme with Plumpy Doz is being tried in Bosasso and Middle Shabelle.

3. World Vision

SFP: 341 MT benefiting 5,241 hh's and TB patient feeding in Baidoa 348 MT has been carried out. Food for education amounted to 986 MT. This has not been delivered yet.

WVI proposed to implement a FFW program that would benefit 44,000 people with 2,475 MT of food. Local leaders did not agree with the distribution system used, and demanded that WVI either feed everyone or no one at all. World Vision was finally able to find a solution.

World Vision in June, will have shortcomings in terms of cereals and is thus planning to approach CARE and WFP. They only have 790 MT of Pulses, no CSB and no vegetable oil. They can only give assistance until August and expect to have a better pipeline after that.

In June World Vision pulled their international staff out of Buale because of security issues. Demands were raised by the local population, which they were not able to meet.

4. FAO

FAO is working on canal rehabilitation on a cash for work basis in Lower Shabelle regions.

5. Islamic Relief

Islamic Relief targets 2,000 hh's with food aid in Lafole 1,2 and Afgoye camps. The food ration given by Islamic relief consists of Sugar, Sorghum, Maize, Cooking oil and sometimes dates.

Due to the inflation of food commodity prices, Islamic Relief has been forced to cut the rations per family. They have divided Afgoye into 5 camps where they are working with partners. It was remarked that there seems to be a distribution overlap in the area, as WFP distributes food in the same area.

A complimentary meeting should also be held to fill the gaps because rations are not similar. OCHA is again proposed to be the coordinating body.

6. CARE

In the month of April 15th – May 15th relief food to IDP's and residents was given as follows:

Galgadud	2,590 MT covering	200,000 people
S. Mudug	1,300 MT covering	81,042 people
Gedo	180 MT covering	500 people

In the CARE Food For Work programme, distributions were as follows:

Hiran	3,900 MT covering	45,500 people
M Shabelle	150 MT covering	1,685 people

In the month covering May 15 – June 15 they will do distributions as follows:

Free food - 768 MT in Galgadud
Food for Work – 1,685 MT in Hiran

Challenges: – When running their FFW programme in Mata Baan, the whole population of the region demanded food and it took a lot of negotiation for the distribution to continue. More food had to be transported from Mogadishu, thus delaying the actual distribution for about six days.

CARE's food basket is composed of:

Free food		Food for Work	
Sorghum	75 kgs	Sorghum	75 kgs
Lentils	5 kgs	Lentils	5 kgs
CSB	10 kgs		
Vegetable Oil	1.837 litres		

According to CARE's observations, the needs on the ground are increasing significantly.

7. WFP

WFP is running a sanitation campaign in all the districts of Benadir through food for work programmes. WFP is also involved in the rehabilitation of the three main meat markets in Mogadishu (FFW).

On the 14th May an IDP camp in Kismayo was attacked. In connection with food distributions, one woman was killed and two people were injured. On the 17th May 2008, a truck driver was killed in Galkacyo.

In the month of May WFP distributed a total of 2,700 MT of food to 155,300 hh's and also distributed full rations in April.

WFP has allocated 1,400 MT of food to CARE areas. WFP anticipated shortfalls in pulses and oil in the month of June, and will distribute half a ration of pulses during this time. 300 MT of food will go to supplementary feeding programs. WFP wet feeding program is ongoing in 16 sites and feeds now 80,000 persons.

WFP anticipates an improved and functioning pipeline only by August. They are currently purchasing from South Africa and have diverted some ships destined for Sudan to Somalia.

8. NCA

NCA received food from WFP for 1,000 hh's in April and May, this was half of the amount intended. In early May, food intended for Khado village was looted and no recoveries have been made so far.

NCA shared their assessment findings with FSAU and are now awaiting the FSAU report. They reported that army worms are present in Garba Harey.

No expatriate staff is present in Garba Harey.

9. IMC

The SFP screening in Bodan was postponed due to a death threat towards the organisation. In May, family rations were distributed in only one side of Bakool. In April, the family rations in El Barde were not complete. The IDPs who missed out proceeded to Huddur in May demanding the balance of the April ration.

10. FSAU

FSAU is currently carrying out a nutritional assessment in the Juba and Hiran regions. The data analysis for the Shabelles and Gedo area has been completed. The FSAU representative explained the general FSAU terminology and procedures of the organisation, which was well appreciated by the participants of the meeting (HE, AFLC, etc).

A.O.B.

The ECHO representative on behalf of European donors, requested to have a harmonized monthly report showing what all cluster members have done, including: areas covered, activities carried out, as well as the number of beneficiaries. The report should also include monitoring, impacts and show the levels of intervention, and prioritize how activities are carried out.

In addition, the ECHO representative stated that there are obvious gaps between the FSAU findings and what assistance happens on the ground.

The ECHO representative queried how organisations could assess the impact of various programmes in Somalia, based on the activities done by the different agencies, and on what has been reported by FSAU.

While there is too much reporting on tonnage, it needs to be reported where the difference has been made.

Donors tend to feel that there is no follow up once activities have been implemented. e.g. is anyone monitoring the impact of food aid, are technical results from surveys available?

The next meeting will be held on 1st July at World Vision at 1100hrs.

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