

Food Aid Cluster Meeting 01 July 2008 World Vision Somalia Office

Agenda

1. Review of last meeting minutes
2. Update by agencies – including security
3. CSB end user survey result (Afgoi) - presentation
4. A.O.B

The meeting began at 11:00 and was chaired by WFP.

1. Review of last meeting minutes

In the last meeting minutes CARE's quantity of vegetable oil has to be in kg and not in litres.

2. Update by agencies – including security

a. ICRC

- Security situation in South Mudug remains tense as a group of people tried to loot propositioned food stock. Local security team managed to capture them.
- One convoy, with 30 trucks load with ICRC food, got stuck close to Jowhar, due to the late heavy rains, leading to a delay in the General Food Distribution (GFD).
- 5'402 HH received food (2 months food ration) in Obio, Wisil and Galinsor district (South Mudug) and 4'810 HH received the same ration in Sool region.
- The food in Galgaduud is propositioned and distribution is supposed to start today.

b. CARE

- The Senior Officer in Galgaduud was kidnapped two weeks ago. During that time operations were suspended. Elders have now provided assurances on staff and commodity safety and distributions for Ceel bur and Galhareri have now be resumed. Efforts to secure the release of the CARE staff are underway. .
- Food has arrived in the area as of yesterday. In Gedo region food is being distributed.
- The reporting period is from 15.05.08 to today.
- Galgaduud received 2,273.370 MT of food. The distribution is still ongoing. The target population is 219,504.
- In Gedo 120,764 people received 3,055.94 MT.
- In Hiran 126,522 people received 1,420.87 MT.
- In July distribution will take place in Gedo, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle.
- The pipeline is still experiencing gaps that are expected to improve by September/October

c. NCA

- No distributions were conducted.
- The FLA with WFP was prolonged and activities will possibly resume in September. The school feeding is to start in September also.

d. FSAU

- In May and June FSAU conducted 11 assessments across Somalia. They will be shared by the end of this week.
- The post Gu assessment is ongoing throughout Somalia with 5 nutrition assessments conducted. 3 in the Jubas and 2 in Hiraan. More assessments are planned.
- The major findings of the 11 assessments include deterioration or a stable bad situation in many areas.
- None of the areas showed an improvement.

e. World Vision

- In mid May one of World Visions trucks was looted at gun point in Middle Juba loosing 3.6 MT of oil.
- No activities were conducted in Middle Juba as there was no food delivered.
- World Vision distributed 104 MT of food to 1021 beneficiaries in the month of June in Bay/Bakool.
- ECHO noted that ACF is looking at more activities in Wajid and it was agreed that coordination is important.

f. UNICEF

In the last nutrition cluster meeting two NGOs (Med Air and Mercy USA) mentioned that would like to work together with CARE.

- UNICEF through its partner JUMBO is providing blanket feeding to 44,500 children under-5 years in the Afgooye corridor with 10 kg of UNIMIX per child/monthly. The July distribution was delayed by 2-weeks due to problems with the Nairobi supplier. The BFD will be extended to cover another 10,000 children from Daynille to Mogadishu North.
- The UNICEF-led nutrition cluster has noted the worrying trends of increasing rates for severe acute malnutrition and case fatality rates (e.g. Gedo, Shabelles, Wajid), as shown by the 12 May'08 FSAU nutrition assessments
- There are ongoing discussions on the modalities for partnership with WFP defining the areas of operation and programme responsibilities.
- UNICEF's Nutrition Manager emphasised the need for GFDs in areas of high-priority and in combination with selective feeding programmes – some programmes areas for the management of acute malnutrition are not receiving complete HH rations and/or are receiving them inconsistently (e.g. Afgooye).
- UNICEF will implement its RUF strategy using Plumpy'doz in the Shabelles and Bossaso and in synchronicity with WFP's GFDs, wherever feasible It was stressed that RUF needs to be combined with a GFD and WASH activities (handwashing education, Aquatabs, ORS) in order to make a real difference.
- UNICEF continues to advocate for an integrated approach.
- The discussion on RUFs brought out that there are many different ways these products can be utilized. ECHO stated that these new approaches are expensive and it is difficult to monitor them due to access and a general difficulty to assess the success of these projects.

g. Islamic Relief

- Islamic Relief's distributions were scheduled for yesterday. The trucks are moving.

h. WFP

- WFP's agreement with naval escorts expired and their vessels have no escorts anymore. In June WFP advocated for more escorts. Due to the lack of escorts the food delayed.

- Due to the insecurity in Wajid (fighting int Hudur) all staff was evacuated this weekend. All other international agencies withdrew their staff too. DSS went in for an assessment. Accordingly no food was distributed in Hudur.
 - Yesterday two international aid workers were kidnapped.
 - Insecurity issues are also preventing people from going into Dinsor area.
 - WFP noted that according to FSAU it is important to target the urban sector. So far they only distributed 543 out of the 900MT that were planned in the urban areas.
 - WFP planned to target 1200000 people in June using 20,000MT of food.
 - WFP targeted 484,000 IDPs with 8000 MT.
 - GFDs were planned for South Central with 8,300MT for 500,000 people.
 - FFA/FFT were planned for 64,000 people with 1,900MT.
 - SS was targeted with 28,00MT for 110,000 people.
 - FFE was planned for Puntland with 30MT for 1,857 people.
- The food was delayed as the FSAU figures came out delayed. As of today only 14,000MT of food were distributed.
 - No food was distributed to Boosaaso due to the insecurity.

3. CSB end user survey result (Afgoi) - presentation

- The printed power point was given to all the participants.
- Major conclusions from the survey included the finding that CSB is a shared commodity by all family members and not necessarily saved for children's consumption.
- (something was said about the rather high consumption of sugar by IDPs- a peculiar finding considering that sugar is an expensive commodity)
- The discussion focused on the lack of micronutrients in GFD.
- Also, UNICEF stressed that CSB has to be accompanied by education and awareness in order to be successful.
- Discussion also focused on the best way to target children in the current situation through alternative plumpy nut as well as the possibility of parallel distributions to families with children in a GFD context.
- It was suggested that a similar survey should be conducted among non-IDP beneficiaries in the near future for comparative purposes.

The discussion on plumpy doz brought out that there are many different ways this product can be utilized. It was stressed that plumpy doz has to always be combined with a GFD and hygiene in order to make a real difference. Furthermore many products lack micronutrients which are crucial.

UNICEF wants to advocate for an integrated approach. ECHO stated that these new approaches are expensive and it is difficult to monitor them due to access and a general difficulty to assess the success of these projects.

4. A.O.B.

- USAID stated that the US president signed the allocation bill dealing with 1.2 billion USD. This means large contributions to WFP and CARE.
- ECHO advised that after the donor meeting there is still a need to keep everyone informed on the changed figures.
- NGOs operating in North East & West Somalia met with OCHA on Friday. Needs in the Sool and Sanaag plateaus and other gaps were identified. NCA indicated they will meet with ICRC on 2.7.08 and will then approach WFP for food aid partnership possibilities in areas that are not sufficiently covered.

- WFP elaborated on the new reporting format that was distributed to all participants. It was agreed that the organizations will insert their figures into that format before the next meeting and will send it to WFP. Organisations were invited to give feedback regarding the new format.
- CARE asked what people would think about sharing the co-chair of the food meeting. Other organisations preferred to keep CARE as co-chair.

The next meeting will be held on 5th August at CARE at 1100hrs.

Participants List

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