

**MINUTES OF THE FOOD AID CLUSTER MEETING  
HELD AT WFP SOMALIA OFFICE  
3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRAURY 2009**

**Present**

- Justus Liku – CARE
- Louih Itoh – WFP
- Andrew Iraguha – WVS
- Kevin Mackey – WVS
- Andrea Heath – ICRC
- Louise Masese- FSAU
- Hala Suliman – WFP
- Marc Prost - WFP
- Achoka Luduba – OCHA
- Abdulkadir Ahmed – FSAU/ FAO
- Osman A. Warsame – FSAU/ FAO
- Ruth Amatalo – WFP
- Evans Binyason - WFP

**Agenda**

- Review of last meeting minutes
- Update by agencies – including security
- FSAU Post Deyr Analysis and plans
- AOB

The meeting was called to order at 11.15. It was chaired by WFP.

**1.0 Review of last meeting minutes and matters arising**

- ICRC made a correction to the tonnage of food that was distributed by ICRC in Galgadug and Mudug and the number of HHs targeted. Further ICRC reiterated that ICRC does not fill food distribution gaps but rather conduct food distributions when there are needs.
- Also ICRC confirmed that they did not request for funds which would be channeled to the most important interventions as reported in the minutes of the previous meeting.

**2.0 Update by agencies**

**World Vision**

- WV was implementing food for work (FFW), food for education (FFE) and supplementary feeding program (SFP).
- WV distributed 152 MT of assorted food items to 1637 beneficiaries under FFW in the month of January 2009. These beneficiaries were involved in construction of creek points along river Juba, water catchments and feeder road rehabilitation projects.
- Under SFP, 630MT of assorted food items were was distributed to 6555H/H with moderately malnourished children and orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC). WV runs two stabilization centers in Middle Juba.

- 301 MT of assorted food items were distributed to 24 schools with a population of 10,454 pupils under the FFE.
- No major security incidences were reported during the month of January. WV international staffs are moving back to Wajid, 4 already in Wajid. Project implementation is ongoing in Bakol. There was no international staff in Buale.
- WV planned to expand her project activities to Somaliland targeting areas in Hargeisa, Berbera and Awdal.
- WV will present a new proposal for FFW for Buale to WFP. SFP expansion will also be requested in two sites. The challenge has been that beneficiaries walk long distances to current sites.

#### CARE

- Suspension of activities remains.
- CARE is in the process of handing over 68,000MT of assorted food items to WFP. This food is currently in the CARE stores.

#### ICRC

ICRC has no plans to carry out food distributions in the near future.

#### WFP

- In January 2009, 2 WFP staffs were shot dead while on duty. An additional staff died of illness because he could not be evacuated on time. Consequently, WFP suspended activities in the South.
- The Country Director called for a press meeting with journalists during which he demanded commitment from the local authorities' of staff security. So far, commitments had been received from Bakol and Hiran.
- Kathy explained that the operational pause meant that 57,000MT which was partly in the South and partly committed would be distributed. During this time, renegotiation with the authorities for guarantees on staff security would continue. The commitment would have to be in writing and at the same time aired by the local media. The operational pause does not affect the northern part of Somalia.
- The purpose of the pause would be to ensure that beneficiaries get food but systematically to safeguard safety of staff and transporters. Currently, partners were carrying out food distributions with minimal supervision from WFP. The minimal supervision was being done via remote control monitoring by WFP.
- In the early part of January, WFP staffs were withdrawn from Bossasso due to the elections but had since returned to duty station.
- In regard to the WFP Merka Sub-office (SO) looting, it was noted that the Al Shabaab had apologized verbally for the incidence. Al Shabaab had returned some of the items. The SO was still not functional. All international staffs had been withdrawn from Merka.
- It was noted that there were still no CPs in the former IMC areas. WFP is therefore not able to distribute food in these areas.
- In January and February WFP planned to distribute 58,000MT and 25,000MT of assorted food items, but managed to distribute 35,000 and 20,000 MT, respectively.

- In response to the concern raised by a member on whether the CPs were exposed to threats as a result to the continuation of food distributions, the meeting was informed that distributions were going on well. However, incidences had been reported in Gedo area and in response, food diverted to other areas.

### **FSAU**

- Results of the post Gu Assessment were circulated to members presented at the meeting.
- The meeting was also informed that FSAU had conducted presentations on the post-Gu assessments to various stakeholders.
- The population in Humanitarian Emergency and AFLC was estimated at 3.2 million.
- The number of children who were acutely malnourished < -2 (Z scores) was estimated at 321,979.
- Surveys were conducted in 82% of the population which was an increase from 62% carried out in 2008.
- 33.3% of children affected by malnutrition were from the Shabelles and 16.7% from central.
- Areas worst affected by the failure of the Gu rains were Hiran, Galgadug, Shabelles-particularly Middle Shabelles and Bakol. Contributing factors included: limited food distributions in central region, increased displacements and ongoing conflicts.
- FAO had undertaken fishing promotion campaigns in the North Western part of Somalia. It was noted that after the Tsunami, the fishing industry had collapsed. In the North Western region, piracy remained a major problem particularly in Haldeere and Hobyoo areas. Anti-piracy campaigns were major contributors to displacements in the NW because people were moving away from this area for fear of being targeted.

### **3.0 AOB**

#### **WFP Alternative Monitoring (Remote Control Monitoring)**

- Checklists for the Alternative Monitoring were shared with all the members present.
- The members were informed that Alternative Monitoring entails monitoring from the SO via telephone and with counterparts on radio.
- The purpose is to confirm that food is reaching the targeted beneficiaries.
- Monitoring of process indicators is ongoing.
- The alternative monitoring (AM) is temporary until the operational pause is lifted.
- If the pause will go on for long, out sourcing of monitoring services will be considered.
- The information gathered through AM is triangulated using the different information sources for consistency.

#### **Request for Partners to implement nutrition program**

- Members were informed that WFP was looking for partners to implement SFP in Gedo, Mudug and Galgadug in the South and in Badan and Erigavo districts in the North.
- Horn Relief was floated as one of the organizations that could be approached for partnership in implementing these programs.

The next meeting would be held at WVI on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009 at 11.00 a.m.

There being no further business the meeting came to a close at 12.00.

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