



## UN SOMALI REGION MISSION REPORT

The consolidated UN mission team report on the findings of the UN humanitarian Assessment mission to Somali Region was officially released on Thursday, 20 September 2007. The inter-agency assessment findings indicate that the humanitarian situation in areas affected by the current military operations have substantially deteriorated since the onset of the conflict. Commercial and livestock trade restrictions have largely contributed to worsening humanitarian conditions in relation to health, nutrition, food security and livelihoods. Concerns regarding human rights and the protection of the civilian population were also raised. Among the recommendations are the need for urgent food aid distribution to approximately 600,000 people, immediate relaxation of trade and commercial restrictions, and an independent investigation into the allegation of human rights abuses. In response, the Government of Ethiopia made commitments to ensure the improvement of the humanitarian situation in collaboration with UN and humanitarian partners, in an official press released issued on 20 September 2007. The Government also committed itself to identify additional trade corridors to the existing routes and support increased livestock trade. For more information contact: [ocha-eth@un.org](mailto:ocha-eth@un.org)

## FLOOD UPDATE

New floods have been reported from parts of Somali, Gambella and SNNPR regions. Since the first week of September, floods from the overflowing Wabishebele River has affected an estimated 37,000 people in 24 kebeles of Mustahil and Kelafo woredas of Gode Zone. The floods have reportedly displaced 6,000 people in affected areas in Mustahil woreda. Many of the villages in the affected kebeles are either inundated or surrounded by water. This is likely to have a severe impact on households that are dependent on riverine livelihoods. Reports from the affected woredas indicate that approximately 5,630 hectares (ha) of crops have been destroyed - 4750 ha in Mustahil and 880 ha in Kelafo. In addition, the floods inundated grazing lands affecting pasture availability for livestock. The risk of additional flooding and displacement is high in flood prone areas as the water level of the river is rising daily. In Gambella Region, parts of Gambella town and the capital of Lare woreda have recently been flooded for the second time in the current rainy season. In SNNPR, floods have been reported from five additional woredas - Shashego, Aleta Wondo, Decha, Gaze Gofa and Kindo Dadiye- the most severe impact are witnessed in the flood-prone Shashego woreda. Nationwide, approximately 226,000 people have so far been affected of whom 70,860 are displaced in six regions of the country - Amhara, Afar, Gambella, SNNPR, Somali, Tigray and Oromiya. To date, DPPA has allocated 1,799 Mt of food to 83,532 people that are most in need. In addition, DPPA plans to pre-position approximately 700 tonnes of grains to Gode zone.

Torrential rain and hailstorm in August has also caused landslides, crop damage and water logging particularly in pockets areas of Western Ethiopia. These adverse weather hazards have had a significant impact on household and community assets damaging crops, farm and grazing lands, houses, roads, and soil conservation structures. For more information contact: [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org)

## AWD UPDATE

AWD continues to be reported in six regions - Amhara, SNNP, Oromiya, Tigray, Afar and Somali. Three new woredas were affected in SNNPR - Shashego, East Badewacho, and West Badewacho. In Oromiya Region, where a total of 42 woredas in five zones are reporting active cases, additional five woredas are affected in Arsi zone. In addition, Bahir Dar city, the capital of Amhara Region, was re-infected during the week with reports of approximately 58 new cases. Seven WHO consultants are currently providing technical assistance in the affected regions. In SNNPR, Oxfam assisted Kembata Tembaro zonal health bureau to establish standard CTCs. It also provided water purification materials such as chlorine and water guard. Approximately 200 graduating nurses are soon to be deployed to Hadiya woreda in Kembata Tembaro zone, and Alaba special Woreda. Currently 14 CTCs are functioning in SNNPR. Furthermore, UNICEF facilitated a Training of Trainers for the AWD communication strategy from 20-22 September in Axum for Amhara and Tigray regions. For more information contact: [who-wro@et.afro.int](mailto:who-wro@et.afro.int)

## FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT TRAINING

In preparation to the up coming Meher assessment, DPPA and WFP are facilitating a joint food security assessment training workshop for WFP field monitors and other partners. This year, Household Economy approach will be used for the upcoming meher assessment in regions where baseline data collection has been completed including Tigray, most areas in Amhara, Afar and Somali. SC-UK will continue to provide support to the use of the approach in Afar and Somali regions. In SNNP, Tigray and Amhara regions, Livelihood Integration Unit (LIU) will provide technical support, including training of woreda officials. For more information contact: [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org)