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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 #1, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

October 8, 2008

Note: The last situation report was dated September 10, 2008.

BACKGROUND

Since 1991, widespread violence, endemic poverty, and recurrent droughts, and floods have generated a complex emergency in Somalia. Continued civil strife and inter-clan conflicts have complicated the humanitarian situation and limited access to affected areas. In addition, ongoing fighting since late December 2006 between the Somalia Transitional Federal Government (TFG), Ethiopian forces, and armed militias opposed to the TFG has led to a further deterioration in humanitarian conditions. As a result, approximately 476,000 Somali refugees have fled the country and more than 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are uprooted within Somalia, including long-term IDPs as well as individuals displaced by increased fighting since February 2007.

In August 2008, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Food Security Analysis Unit (FSAU) reported that 3.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, a 77 percent increase since January 2008. The combined effects of consecutive seasons of failed or poor rainfall, continuing conflict, rising inflation, massive displacement, and diarrheal disease outbreaks have severely exacerbated the food security situation and resulted in a significant increase in acute malnutrition rates, according to the 2008 U.N. Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) for Somalia. 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 3, 2007, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Michael E. Ranneberger redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing complex emergency in Somalia. In FY 2008, the U.S. Government (USG) has provided nearly \$269 million for emergency food assistance, health, nutrition, agriculture and food security, livelihoods support, humanitarian coordination, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene programs, as well as refugee assistance and air operations.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE	SOURCE	
Total Population in Need of Emergency Assistance	3.2 million	FSAU – August 2008
Urban Caseload	705,000	FSAU – August 2008
IDPs since February 2007	870,000	FSAU – August 2008
Long-Term IDPs	275,000	FSAU – August 2008
Rural Caseload	1,395,000	FSAU – August 2008
Somali Refugees in Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen	334,000	UNHCR ¹ Global Trends Report – June 2008

FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia.....	\$51,202,443
USAID/FFP² Assistance to Somalia	\$197,398,000
State/PRM³ Assistance to Somalia	\$21,850,000
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia.....	\$270,450,443

CURRENT SITUATION

The collective impact of rising food and fuel prices, drought conditions, and widespread insecurity continues to exacerbate food insecurity and malnutrition levels in Somalia. According to FSAU, 3.2 million people, or 43 percent of the total population of Somalia, are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance, representing a 77 percent increase since January 2008. The most affected populations include

rural populations in southern and central Somalia. However, the USAID-supported Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) also notes that new areas of Somalia are now confronting high levels of food insecurity, including Sool, Nugal, and Togdheer regions north Somalia.

In addition, targeted attacks against humanitarian workers and renewed fighting in Mogadishu are

¹ Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

negatively affecting response efforts and resulting in new displacement, including in Mogadishu and Bay and Bakool regions. Despite restrictions due to insecurity and violence, humanitarian agencies continue to provide critical humanitarian assistance to drought- and conflict-affected populations throughout Somalia.

On September 30, the Horn of Africa Response management Team (RMT) based in Washington and the Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) based in Nairobi, Kenya, stood down and reverted coverage of the regional food security crisis to the Regional Team and East and Central Africa Regional Office (ECARO). However, USAID/OFDA staff continue to monitor conditions and address evolving needs related to the regional drought and food security crisis, in addition to facilitating coordination and information sharing among international relief organizations.

Security and Population Movements

Insecurity, renewed fighting, and the continued targeting of humanitarian staff and operations are impeding the provision of humanitarian relief throughout Somalia and contributing to significant population displacement.

Since September 21, intense fighting between armed insurgents and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) forces has displaced an estimated 37,000 people and closed the main market in the capital, according to UNHCR. The majority of newly displaced persons have fled to other parts of the capital and are in need of shelter and food assistance, according to OCHA. Recent insecurity has contributed to the displacement of more than 68,000 IDPs in Mogadishu since July. According to FSAU, more than 1.1 million people are currently displaced in Somalia.

In addition, UNHCR reports that an average of 5,000 refugees from Somalia arrive at Dadaab refugee camp in the North Eastern Province of Kenya each month. Since January 2008, more than 43,000 Somalia refugees have registered at the camp. Intended to accommodate 90,000 refugees, the camp now hosts approximately 215,000 people. Negotiations are ongoing between UNHCR and Kenyan government to secure additional land for the construction of a new camp to meet the expanded refugee population needs.

In FY08, State/PRM provided a total of \$32.5 million for assistance programs targeting Somali refugees in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen, representing an increase of 170 percent from FY 2007.

To date in 2008, OCHA has reported more than 110 security incidents involving humanitarian staff or assets in Somalia, including the deaths of 24 aid workers. Recent incidents include the abduction of humanitarian staff and looting of food assistance

commodities. On September 25, unknown assailants ambushed a convoy of 35 trucks carrying 1,230 metric tons (MT) of U.N. World Food Program (WFP) emergency food aid to Hudur and Tieglow districts, Bakool Region, valued at approximately \$700,000.

Health and Nutrition

FEWS NET continues to highlight escalating nutrition concerns among vulnerable, drought-affected, and displaced populations. On September 10, FEWS NET reported that an estimated 180,000 children residing in southern and central Somalia and IDP camps throughout the country are acutely malnourished, including 26,000 children that are severely malnourished and in need of immediate assistance.

In response, USAID/OFDA implementing partner the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) is supporting two supplementary feeding centers, five out-patient therapeutic centers, and two stabilization centers in Mogadishu that treat an average of 1,400 moderately malnourished and 1,800 severely malnourished children monthly. In addition, UNICEF is providing supplementary food assistance to approximately 10,000 children under the age of five residing in IDP camps in northern Mogadishu each month.

In the context of high and increasing levels of acute malnutrition, humanitarian organizations note increased concern for a potential measles outbreak and its impact on vulnerable populations. As part of a child health campaign targeting an estimated 1.5 million children under the age of five, UNICEF vaccinated more than 140,000 children between the age of nine months and 15 years against measles in IDP settlements in Mogadishu, Banadir Region, and Afgooye, Lower Shabelle Region, during September, according to OCHA.

In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$9.4 million for nutrition activities in Somalia, including more than \$4.1 million to UNICEF to support nutrition programs in Mogadishu and Lower Shabelle Region.

Emergency Food Assistance

According to the U.N., inadequate funding, pipeline breaks, and restricted humanitarian access resulted in significant disruptions to WFP and CARE food assistance distributions in the month of August, including the cessation of CARE distributions and reduced WFP distributions. In August, WFP distributed rations to only 54 percent of 900,000 targeted beneficiaries. In addition, WFP reports a \$98 million shortfall for emergency food assistance to meet projected food needs from October 2008 through March 2009.

Despite challenges, WFP continues to provide daily cooked rations to an average of 80,000 people from 16 facilities in Mogadishu, representing predominantly

women and children. In addition, food aid organizations distributed monthly food rations to nearly 3 million beneficiaries in the month of September, according to WFP.

Incidences of piracy off the coast of Somalia continue to impede commercial transport and underscore the need for naval escorts to ensure the delivery of critical humanitarian food assistance. On September 25 and 18, pirates hijacked a Ukrainian and Greek vessel in Somali waters, respectively, bringing the total number of hijacked ships and/or attempted hijackings in 2008 to more than 60.

On September 23, the Government of Canada (GOC) confirmed an extension of GOC naval escorts for WFP shipments of emergency relief commodities to Somalia from September 27 until October 23. Since August 18, the GOC has escorted five WFP-contracted vessels to Mogadishu transporting a total of 36,360 MT of assorted food commodities, including 13,770 MT of maize delivered on September 27. However, WFP has not been able to secure a replacement for the GOC naval escort to ensure delivery of the approximately 90 percent of WFP food assistance transported to Somalia by sea. WFP reports that an additional 150,000 MT of food assistance is scheduled to be delivered to Somalia between October and December 2008. On September 15, the European Union agreed to establish a coordination unit in Brussels to support European surveillance activities off the Somali coast as part of an anti-piracy security operation scheduled to begin November. In addition, the USG continues to coordinate with international partners on potential

counter-piracy efforts and to secure long-term naval escorts for WFP humanitarian shipments to Somalia.

In FY 2008, USAID/OFDA committed more than \$20 million for the regional purchase of 26,107 MT of maize to support WFP food aid operations targeting an estimated 2 million beneficiaries.

USAID/FFP provided more than 211,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at more than \$197 million, in FY 2008. In total, USAID/FFP assistance benefits approximately 1.7 million Somalis countrywide.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Since August 2008, the U.N World Health Organization (WHO) has reported 329 cases of acute watery diarrhea (AWD) in Lower Shabelle Region, including 22 laboratory-confirmed cases of cholera and four deaths of children under five years of age. Since the establishment of WHO's Early Warning and Response System (EWARS) in May, WHO has reported a total of 5,725 AWD cases, including 25 deaths in the region. The highest concentration of reported cases occurred in Marka District, accounting for 54 percent of the total caseload and 68 percent of total related deaths.

Nearly \$9 million in FY 2008 USAID/OFDA funding supports water, sanitation, and hygiene interventions countrywide, including Mercy Corps programs in Lower Shabelle Region.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

USG ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Adventist Development and relief Agency (ADRA)	Agriculture and Food Security, Risk Reduction, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bay, and Bakool Regions	\$1,500,000
CARE	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Economy and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
FAO	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition	Countrywide	\$2,100,000
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Agriculture and Food Security, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bakool, Bay, and Hiran Regions	\$1,022,629
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Health, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Medair Swiss	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Shabelle Region	\$893,978

Mercy Corps	Protection, Shelter and Settlements, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Bari Region	\$599,309
Mercy Corps	Economy and Market Systems, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Lower Juba, Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle, Regions	\$1,499,998
Mercy USA	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Hiran, Galgadud, Middle Juba, and Middle Shabelle Regions	\$761,347
Merlin	Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Galgadud Region	\$576,274
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$300,000
UNHCR	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNICEF	U.N. Common Air Service	Countrywide	\$800,000
UNICEF	Health, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$7,500,346
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Health, Nutrition	Banadir and Lower Shabelle Regions	\$4,124,850
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$697,961
WFP	Regional Food Procurement and Distribution	Countrywide	\$20,100,000
World Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$699,991
World Vision	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Middle Juba Region	\$750,000
FEWS NET	Agriculture and Food Security	Countrywide	\$194,177
	Program support costs		\$81,583
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$51,202,443
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
CARE	81,030 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Hiran, Gedo, Middle Shabelle, Galgadud, Mudug Regions	\$70,604,900
WFP	130,290 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$126,793,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP³			\$197,398,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance, IDP Protection, Logistics, and Shelter	Countrywide	\$3,700,000
ICRC	Protection, Health, Relief Commodities, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Countrywide	\$18,150,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$21,850,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2008			\$270,450,443

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of October 8, 2008.

² Estimated value of food assistance.



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