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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Sudan – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #7, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

April 3, 2009

Note: The last situation report was dated March 10, 2009.

BACKGROUND

In 2009, Sudan continues to cope with the effects of conflict, displacement, and insecurity countrywide. Since 2003, a complex emergency in Sudan’s western region of Darfur has affected more than 4.7 million people, including nearly 2.7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs). In Darfur, fighting among armed opposition factions, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), militias, and ethnic groups continues. According to the U.N., clashes have displaced approximately 317,000 individuals within Darfur and to eastern Chad since January 2008. At the same time, humanitarian agencies have experienced reduced access to affected populations since 2006 due to increased insecurity, attacks on aid workers, and bureaucratic impediments to program implementation.

The former Government of Sudan and the southern-based Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) continue to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) through the joint Government of National Unity (GNU). The formation of the GNU in 2005, the year the parties signed the CPA, officially ended more than two decades of north–south conflict. During the conflict, famine, fighting, and disease killed more than 2 million people, forced an estimated 600,000 Sudanese to seek refuge in neighboring countries, and displaced 4 million others within Sudan. The U.N. estimates that more than 2.2 million people displaced during the conflict have returned to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas of Southern Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei since 2005, taxing scarce resources and weak infrastructure. In eastern Sudan, the GNU and the Eastern Front opposition coalition signed the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement in 2006. However, the area remains underdeveloped and slow to recover from decades of conflict.

Since March 2009, humanitarian agencies have experienced reduced access to affected populations in Darfur and the Three Areas following the expulsion of 13 humanitarian relief organizations by the Sudanese Government. The expulsions have resulted in a significant reduction in humanitarian capacity and threaten key peace dividends in the north–south border region.

The U.S. Government (USG) is the largest bilateral donor to Sudan and has contributed more than \$4 billion for humanitarian programs in Sudan and eastern Chad since FY 2004. The USG continues to support the implementation of the CPA and joins the international community in seeking a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Darfur. On October 16, 2008, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Alberto M. Fernandez renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Sudan for FY 2009.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
IDPs in Sudan	From Southern Sudan: 2.7 million In Darfur: 2.7 million In Eastern Sudan: 168,000	UNHCR ¹ – October 2008 OCHA ² – December 2008 U.N. – September 2007
Sudanese Refugees	From Darfur: 250,000 From Southern Sudan: 138,270 Returnees to Southern Sudan: 313,190	UNHCR – June 2008 UNHCR – February 2009 UNHCR – April 2009
Refugees in Sudan	From Eritrea, Chad, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and other nations: 257,980	UNHCR – December 2008

FY 2009 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad.....	\$22,938,486
USAID/FFP³ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad	\$372,515,300
State/PRM⁴ Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad	\$36,474,750
Total USAID and State Humanitarian Assistance to Sudan and Eastern Chad.....	\$431,928,536

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

² U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

³ USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁴ U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

CURRENT SITUATION IN DARFUR

From March 11 to 16, a joint GNU–U.N. assessment team traveled to the three Darfur states to assess gaps in humanitarian assistance resulting from the March 4 and 5 expulsions of 13 international humanitarian organizations. The U.N. reported that the assessment team was unable to reach many areas due to security concerns and logistical difficulties, and the assessment did not include protection and return issues. However, assessment findings indicate that the expulsions resulted in significant short- and anticipated long-term gaps in food, shelter, health care, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance to approximately 4.7 million people, according to a March 24 U.N. statement. The assessment also identified gaps in managerial and technical capacity, program design and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Security and Humanitarian Access

Bureaucratic impediments including non-issuance of travel permits and technical agreements continue to impede humanitarian access in Darfur. According to the U.N., the GNU Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) had approved only seven percent of technical agreements—the document required for non-governmental organization (NGOs) to obtain work and travel permits—as of March 26. USAID, U.N. agencies, and NGOs continue to work with the Sudanese government to rapidly facilitate NGO staff travel permits and technical agreements for NGOs remaining in Sudan.

During March, NGO staff noted limited access to several major Darfur IDP camps, particularly Kalma camp in South Darfur. As of late March, Kalma camp IDPs continued to refuse humanitarian access to the camp. On March 23, African Union–U.N. Hybrid Operations (UNAMID) staff reported increased tensions in Kalma camp, noting the potential for a rapid deterioration in the security situation.

Population Movements

As of March 23, approximately 40,000 individuals had arrived in Zam Zam IDP camp in North Darfur since mid-January, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Initial arrivals fled conflict in Muhajeria and Shearia towns, South Darfur, while relief agencies report that recent arrivals are likely coming from other locations experiencing relief disruptions. As of mid-March, relief agencies reported that between 200 and 500 individuals arrived at the camp each day, a decrease from the height of 1,000 individuals per day in early February. Although designed to accommodate 65,000 people, Zam Zam camp currently hosts between 90,000 and 95,000 individuals, according to U.N. estimates. On March 16, USAID and U.S. Embassy staff visited Zam Zam camp to assess the situation. On March 19, the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum issued an official statement expressing deep concern regarding the growing humanitarian crisis and urging the Sudanese

government, in close cooperation with the U.N. and NGOs, to move quickly to address water, land, and other urgent issues in Zam Zam IDP camp.

To date, humanitarian organizations have not reported population movements as a direct result of the NGO expulsions; however, relief organizations are planning responses in the event that deteriorating humanitarian services prompt population movement out of Darfur. Based on an NGO and U.N. interagency group assessment, relief agencies determined that the humanitarian community would be able to provide immediate, basic assistance to an influx of up to 50,000 refugees into eastern Chad for one to two months using current food stocks and existing staff resources. Although humanitarian agencies consider massive population movements unlikely, an inflow of more than 50,000 simultaneous refugee arrivals could strain existing humanitarian resources and vulnerable host community resources in eastern Chad.

Food Security and Nutrition

According to the March 23 joint assessment report, the March expulsions included four NGOs contracted by the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) to plan and implement food aid and provide general food rations in Darfur. As a result of the expulsions, WFP estimated that 1.1 million beneficiaries in approximately 130 locations in Darfur would likely not receive planned food rations. As an emergency measure, WFP organized a one-time, two-month ration distribution for March and April food needs with the temporary assistance of departing NGOs' technical and operational staff.

Relief agencies caution that an estimated 1.1 million individuals will remain without food assistance unless NGOs with the capacity to distribute, supervise, and monitor food rations are identified by May 1. Humanitarian organizations further note that WFP typically targets an additional one million beneficiaries during the annual May to September hunger gap season, and distribution capacity could also affect food provision for these seasonal caseloads.

According to the joint assessment, re-establishing Darfur's supplementary feeding centers and therapeutic feeding centers (TFCs) before the planting and hunger gap season commences in May is critical. During the hunger gap season, admissions to TFCs typically quadruple, with a particular increase in severely malnourished children. Currently, a total of 32 health facilities and 28 TFCs are not fully operational, as a result of the March expulsions, affecting approximately 700 severely malnourished children, according to the joint assessment report.

Health

Expelled NGOs provided health care to more than 840,000 people. Currently up to 650,000 people in Darfur lack access to adequate health care, according

to the March 23 joint assessment report. Although the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) and the GNU Ministry of Health are working to address health gaps, the assessment team noted that government health staff are currently unable to access all affected areas. The assessment team reported that the expulsions significantly reduced the number of health workers, particularly doctors, in Darfur, including a decline from 444 to 192 medical staff in West Darfur. In addition, medical supplies, staff retention, and salary payment mechanisms are only in place until the end of April. Despite Sudanese government pledges to provide three months of funding for health and nutrition facilities, the assessment mission reported that state-level authorities are concerned about states' capacity to fund health and nutrition facilities in the future.

In response to continuing meningitis concerns, WHO, UNICEF, and the South Darfur and West Darfur ministries of health conducted vaccination campaigns targeting more than 49,000 people in the two states. WHO and health partners are working to ensure sufficient response capacity for the meningitis outbreak in Kalma camp, according to a March 16 WHO report. Humanitarian agencies have access to enough supplies to vaccinate 88,000 people in the camp. As of March 30, Kalma camp community leaders continued to refuse GNU health staff and NGOs access to the camp, and health partners were unable to commence the camp's planned meningitis vaccination campaign.

Emergency Relief Supplies and Emergency Shelter

The NGO expulsions resulted in suspended emergency relief supply and shelter distributions for more than 115,000 households—or 692,000 people—in Darfur, according to the March 23 joint assessment report. The U.N. noted that humanitarian organizations must complete needs assessments by late April in order for organizations to conduct distributions of relief supplies and shelter materials in May, prior to the onset of rainy season. In addition, OCHA reported that the NGO expulsions have significantly hindered transport, logistics, and distribution systems.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Humanitarian agencies report concerns regarding a lack of expertise to maintain the water distribution system previously established by expelled NGOs in the overcrowded Zam Zam IDP camp, North Darfur. In mid-March, agencies noted that increased demands for water contributed to the lowering of the local water table and could potentially deplete water sources in nearby El Fasher IDP camps and El Fasher town, North Darfur.

CURRENT SITUATION IN SUDAN, EXCLUDING DARFUR

The March 4 and 5 expulsions resulted in the departure of the five largest international aid agencies operating in the Three Areas, including four USAID implementing partners. USAID estimates the loss of planned and ongoing humanitarian and development assistance for the north-south region is approximately \$100 million. On April 2, a joint SPLM-GNU impact assessment of NGO expulsions in the Three Areas commenced, following an initial desk review.

Security and Humanitarian Access

Suspected Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) attacks continue to displace populations along the Sudan-Democratic Republic of Congo border, particularly in Central and Western Equatoria states. As of March 22, UNHCR had verified approximately 18,000 refugees located in Central and Western Equatoria states as a result of continued LRA activity. In addition, an OCHA-led inter-agency assessment in February confirmed more than 36,000 IDPs located throughout Central and Western Equatoria states. During the week of March 9, UNHCR recorded three major refugee and IDP influx areas in Lasu, Central Equatoria State, and in Ezo and Yambio counties, Western Equatoria State. Humanitarian agencies anticipate increased humanitarian needs and constrained access in areas of displacement with the onset of the rainy season in April.

Late March inter-ethnic clashes near Pibor, Jonglei State, had displaced more than 5,000 individuals in the state, according to OCHA. In FY 2008, USAID provided nearly \$4 million to IOM to support the procurement and distribution of emergency relief items—including plastic sheeting, cooking sets, soap, and mosquito nets—to conflict-affected and returnee populations in Southern Sudan and the Three Areas.

Food Security and Agriculture

A March USAID-funded Famine and Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) report forecast above-to near-normal rains for most of Southern Sudan suggesting favorable performance of the April through July cropping season and potential for improved pasture conditions in the arid-pastoral zone. Despite significant improvements in pasture conditions, cattle-related raids and tensions in Southern Sudan could potentially extend into the cultivation season, diverting significant labor from crop cultivation to animal protection or recovery activities. Currently, FEWS NET has recorded an estimated 250,000 people in Northern and Western Bahr El Ghazal State as moderately food-insecure, with peak food shortages typically occurring between April and August.

Health

According to a March 24, Southern Sudan health official statement, the recent record of 40 polio cases in the region constitutes a health emergency, more than four years after WHO declared Sudan polio-free. Following the statement, WHO sent a team of experts to control the spread of the highly contagious polio virus. USAID is facilitating efforts to combat polio through support to 210 health facilities in 7 states through 11 international and 12 Sudanese NGOs.

Returns

Between January and March, 2009, the U.N. reported more than 20,000 organized IDP and refugee returns and approximately 35,000 spontaneous IDP and refugee returns to Southern Sudan and the Three Areas, increasing the total number of returns to 2.2 million since 2005.

USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN AND EASTERN CHAD IN FY 2009			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2009 DARFUR, SUDAN			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
CARE	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Darfur-wide	\$529,638
Samaritan's Purse	Shelter and Settlements	South Darfur	\$382,926
Terre Des Hommes	Protection, Shelter and Settlements	West Darfur	\$1,000,000
U.N. Humanitarian Air Service	Humanitarian Air Service	Darfur-wide	\$7,000,000
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Darfur-wide	\$1,725,583
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Darfur-wide	\$700,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$11,338,147
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	200,711 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Darfur-wide	\$223,739,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$223,739,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
UNHCR	Protection and Assistance for IDPs	Darfur-wide	\$4,600,000
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Protection and Assistance for IDPs	Darfur-wide	\$8,850,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$13,450,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR in FY 2009			\$235,077,147
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DARFUR in FY 2009			\$248,527,147
FY 2009 EASTERN CHAD			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
Action Contre la Faim	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Eastern Chad	\$500,000
U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization	Agriculture and Food Security	Eastern Chad	\$325,000
USAID	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Eastern Chad	\$5,409
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Eastern Chad	\$116,125
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$946,534
FY 2009 USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
WFP	45,340 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$64,105,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$64,105,000
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
ICRC	Protection and Assistance to Conflict Victims	Eastern Chad	\$2,750,000
UNHCR	IDP Protection	Eastern Chad	\$1,375,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Eastern Chad	\$8,850,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$12,975,000

TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2009			\$65,051,534
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO EASTERN CHAD in FY 2009			\$78,026,534
FY 2009 SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR			
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
Concern Worldwide	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics and Relief Commodities	Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Southern Kordofan	\$1,200,000
German Agro Action	Agriculture and Food Security, Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Southern Kordofan	\$1,249,876
GOAL	Health	Warab, Southern Blue Nile, Abyei	\$3,300,000
International Rescue Committee	Health	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	\$800,000
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA)	Agriculture and Food Security	Jonglei	\$1,494,996
Tearfund	Health	Northern Bahr el Ghazal	\$535,500
USAID	Administrative Support and Travel	Sudan-wide	\$273,433
Vétérinaires Sans Frontières	Agriculture and Food Security	Upper Nile, Warab, Eastern Equatoria, Central Equatoria, Unity, Jonglei	\$800,000
WFP	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Sudan-wide	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$10,653,805
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
Catholic Relief Services	5,050 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan	\$8,555,400
NPA	2,860 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan	\$6,234,100
WFP	62,689 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern Sudan, Three Areas, Eastern Sudan	\$69,881,800
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$84,671,300
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
International Relief and Development	Livelihoods	Upper Nile	499,750
Save the Children	Gender Based Violence Prevention and Awareness	Upper Nile, Jonglei	\$400,000
UNHCR	Refugee Protection and Assistance	Sudan-wide	\$1,700,000
UNHCR	Refugee Repatriation and Reintegration	Southern Sudan	\$7,450,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$10,049,750
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR in FY 2009			\$95,325,105
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SUDAN EXCLUDING DARFUR in FY 2009			\$105,374,855

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of April 3, 2009.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

³ State/PRM funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of April 3, 2009.