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

## Somalia – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2006

June 2, 2006

Note: The last situation report was dated April 3, 2006.

### BACKGROUND

Widespread violence since the collapse of Muhammad Siad Barre’s government in 1991, combined with endemic poverty, has led to a complex emergency in Somalia, including the migration of approximately 350,000 Somali refugees to Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and Yemen. Ongoing civil strife, inter-clan conflicts, and the lack of a functioning central government are further complicating the humanitarian situation and limiting access to affected areas. Multi-agency assessments indicate that approximately 2.1 million Somalis, including 1.4 million pastoralists in the south and 400,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), face a critical situation following failed October to December 2005 *deyr* rains and the cumulative effects of drought conditions across the Horn of Africa.<sup>1</sup> In March, the U.N. launched a Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) for Somalia followed by a regional Horn of Africa CAP in April. The Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia based in Baidoa and humanitarian agencies are coordinating efforts to improve humanitarian access, but insecurity continues to hinder emergency assistance to affected populations.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
<b>Total Affected Population</b>	2.1 million	Horn of Africa CAP – April 7, 2006
<b>IDPs</b>	400,000	Revised Somalia CAP – March 21, 2006
<b>Somali Refugees</b>	350,000	Revised Somalia CAP – March 21, 2006

**Total FY 2006 USAID/OFDA Assistance to Somalia .....\$2,759,600**  
**Total FY 2006 U.S. Government (USG) Humanitarian Assistance to Somalia .....\$85,229,600**

### CURRENT SITUATION

**Progress of the ongoing rainy season.** The start of the long rains in early April brought some relief to drought-affected populations in southern and northwestern Somalia. According to the USG-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), April rainfall across most of Somalia was above average, including many areas that received 125 percent more rain than usual. Large areas of Gedo Region, however, received significantly below-average rainfall in April. In May, much of southern Somalia received below-average rainfall with large areas of northeastern Somalia experiencing no rain at all, according to FEWS NET.

**Continuing insecurity in Somalia.** Since March, ongoing fighting in Mogadishu between members of Mogadishu’s Union of Islamic Courts and the Alliance for the Restoration of Peace and Counter-Terrorism has resulted in the deaths of as many as 300 people and the displacement of hundreds of others, according to international media reports.

Persistent insecurity across the country is limiting humanitarian access to affected populations. On April 10, gunmen ambushed a U.N. World Food Program (WFP) food convoy in Somalia, killing two people hired to escort the convoy and injuring nine others.

According to FEWS NET, the inability to access food and income, together with increased insecurity, has forced more than 1,500 Somalis to migrate from Somalia into northeastern Kenya since late March. In mid-April, a USG assessment team visited Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya’s Wajir District, North Eastern Province, and received reports that the recent arrivals included women and children fleeing the fighting in southern and central Somalia and young men avoiding recruitment into armed groups. The humanitarian community anticipates that ongoing food insecurity and conflict may force additional families across the border in the coming months.

Conflicting media reports surfaced in April about whether the U.S. Navy had agreed to patrol the territorial waters of Somalia to deter piracy. According to the U.S. Navy Fifth Fleet spokesman, the U.S. Navy has not entered into an agreement with the TFG to patrol territorial waters. The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports that a Kismayo-bound vessel was hijacked by unknown pirates on April 27 and subsequently released.

**Rains ease resource conflicts.** According to non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, since the start of the rains, some pastoralist families have returned to traditional grazing areas from riverine locations, easing

<sup>1</sup>Further information on the situation in the region and the USG response can be found in USAID/OFDA Horn of Africa Situation Reports, located at [www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/humanitarian\\_assistance/disaster\\_assistance](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance)

tensions between pastoralist and agricultural communities. OCHA reports that pastoralist families who lost most or all of their livestock remain in urban areas in search of livelihood opportunities or humanitarian assistance.

***Rising malnutrition and admissions to feeding programs.*** Three nutrition assessments were conducted by the Food Security and Analysis Unit (FSAU) of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in April and May after the start of the rains. Preliminary results from the assessments indicate a deteriorating nutrition situation in drought-affected areas of southern Somalia. While the assessed areas exhibit chronically high levels of malnutrition, the results from the assessments exceeded both average long-term levels of malnutrition and FSAU's earlier nutrition forecast in March 2006. The assessments revealed average global acute malnutrition (GAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) rates as follows, respectively: 21.9 percent and 6.6 percent in Buale and Sakow districts in Middle Juba Region, 19 percent and 3.9 percent in Bardera District in Gedo Region, and 22 percent and 4.2 percent in Afmadow and Hagar districts in Lower Juba Region.

USG implementing partners report that admissions to feeding programs have risen in recent months. In response, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), in partnership with international NGOs, is opening additional supplementary feeding programs (SFPs) in Bay, Bakol, and Middle Juba regions. Action Contre la Faim, Médecins Sans Frontières/Belgium, and International Medical Corps (IMC) are overseeing five new therapeutic feeding centers (TFCs) in Bakol Region. OCHA reported that 28 SFPs and 7 TFCs were operational in southern Somalia in May.

***Increased susceptibility to opportunistic illnesses.*** Health surveillance data from the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) indicates increasing cases of malaria, respiratory infections, and diarrhea in recent months. Since July 2005, WHO has confirmed 202 wild polio cases. Initial cases appeared in Mogadishu, and subsequently spread to drought-affected Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Bay, and Lower Juba regions. In response, UNICEF, WHO, and partner NGOs launched a nationwide polio immunization campaign in March and a follow-up round of immunizations from May 2 to 4. On June 11, UNICEF is planning to hold synchronized national polio immunizations across Somalia and in Ethiopia's Somali Region, Kenya's North East Province, and Djibouti.

WHO reported an increase in measles cases treated at health facilities in recent months. In March, UNICEF and NGO partners embarked on a large-scale measles vaccination campaign, targeting 2.5 million children in central and southern Somalia. Preliminary reports indicate that 70 percent of children between 9 months and 15 years of age received vaccinations as a result of the campaign. A second phase of the campaign is ongoing in

Banadir, Galgadud, Lower Shabelle, Hiran, and parts of Mudug and Middle Shabelle regions. Earlier in 2006, UNICEF and implementing partners carried out similar campaigns in Somaliland and Puntland. The USG is closely following disease outbreaks and assisting implementing partners with vaccination campaigns in affected areas.

***Flooding poses humanitarian challenges.*** According to WFP, flooding along the Shabelle River in early May inundated crops and washed away farmland in Gedo Region. Localized flooding along the Juba River also displaced 57 households in three villages, restricted road access to the villages, destroyed crops, and increased susceptibility to malaria and health risks from contaminated water. FEWS NET and the U.S. Geological Survey continue to monitor riverine floods.

***Livelihoods will take time to recover despite recent rains.*** Good rains in April and May across Somalia eased drought conditions in southern and northwest regions. Nevertheless, the recovery process will take several successive rainy seasons, as a result of the severe erosion of livelihood assets. USG implementing partners estimated that livestock deaths in parts of Gedo and Lower Juba regions were significantly higher than normal for cattle, sheep, and goats. Since the mortality rates for animals have increased, livestock prices have dropped and cereal prices have increased. According to FEWS NET, at least two consecutive, good rainy seasons will be needed for significant livestock reproduction.

***Severe water shortages.*** From April 15 to 20, USG-partner Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) conducted a needs assessment in Dinsor District, Bay Region. According to ADRA, only three to four liters of water are available per person per day. According to international humanitarian standards, the average water use for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene in any household is at least 15 liters per person per day. Most villages surveyed are 8 to 20 kilometers away from drinking water sources. U.N. agencies report similar conditions throughout drought-affected districts of Somalia. With assistance from the USG, UNICEF is carrying out emergency water interventions in drought-affected communities in southern Somalia.

***Healthy food pipeline.*** As of May 23, WFP has resourced more than 92 percent of food aid requested for Somalia's protracted relief and recovery operation through October 2006. On May 17, WFP reported that ongoing violence in Mogadishu may impact humanitarian commodity movements. According to USG reports, the violence in Mogadishu has not directly affected food shipments to date.

## **USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

On October 27, 2005, U.S. Ambassador to Kenya William M. Bellamy redeclared a disaster due to the ongoing humanitarian emergency in Somalia. In response, the USG is providing more than \$85.2 million

to improve the humanitarian situation of the most vulnerable populations. The USG's primary humanitarian focus in Somalia is on water and sanitation, health, nutrition, and food activities, where security conditions allow. Members of a USG assessment team have been in the Horn of Africa since March 29. The team is working with the USG humanitarian regional advisors to monitor the situation in Somalia and make recommendations for funding.

To date in FY 2006, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) has provided more than \$2.7 million for humanitarian programs in Somalia. This total includes nearly \$200,000 to IMC for nutrition and food security and agriculture activities targeting nearly 10,000 people in Bakol Region. Specific activities include seed fairs, beekeeping, community therapeutic care programs, and nutrition training. USAID/OFDA also committed nearly \$1.2 million to UNICEF for countrywide water and sanitation activities and \$700,000 through FAO to FSAU for nutritional surveillance in southern Somalia. In addition, USAID/OFDA is

providing \$250,000 to World Vision for water and sanitation activities for 27,200 people in Middle Juba Region and nearly \$450,000 to ADRA for water and sanitation programs in Bakol Region targeting 34,000 beneficiaries. USAID/OFDA is in the process of reviewing proposals for additional programs in southern Somalia.

To date in FY 2006, USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) has provided more than 120,000 metric tons (MT) of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance, valued at \$81.4 million, through WFP and CARE. USAID/FFP assistance is provided to beneficiaries in Bay, Bakol, Gedo, Lower and Middle Shabelle, Lower and Middle Juba, Hiraan, Benadir, Bari, Nugal, Mudug, Awdal, Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag, and Sool regions.

To date in FY 2006, the Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration has provided more than \$1 million to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for programs to assist refugees.

#### U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE<sup>1</sup></b>			
ADRA	Water and Sanitation	Bakol Regions	\$449,267
IMC	Nutrition, Food Security and Agriculture	Bakol Region	\$199,833
FAO	Nutritional Surveillance	Countrywide	\$700,000
UNICEF	Water and Sanitation	Countrywide	\$1,150,000
World Vision	Water and Sanitation	Middle Juba Region	\$250,000
	Administrative and Support Costs	Countrywide	\$10,500
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA</b>			<b>\$2,759,600</b>
<b>USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			
CARE	73,410 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Southern and Central	\$48,113,000
WFP	48,350 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$33,287,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP</b>			<b>\$81,400,000</b>
<b>STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,070,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM</b>			<b>\$1,070,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2006</b>			<b>\$84,159,600</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA IN FY 2006</b>			<b>\$85,229,600</b>

<sup>1</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of June 2, 2006.



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