

SITUATION REPORT

9 – 14 April 2007 - P

UNITED NATIONS
Office for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs in Burundi
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ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

Health: International NGO *Cordaid* is going to withdraw from the provincial hospital of Makamba but will continue to support it by supporting 1 surgeon and 2 anesthetists. The bulk of its support will be focused on the medical sector of Nyanza-lac by upgrading the local health center into a district hospital. *Cordaid* has just assigned a doctor to it (since April 1) and it will improve facilities by adding a block of lodging (40 beds) and an operating theatre suite. It will continue its support to other health centers of the medical sector. Nyanza-lac is one of the most populated communes of Burundi with almost 180'000 inhabitants, mainly refugees who have returned since 2002.

Over the reporting period, a *Government/WHO* joint mission visited Ruyigi Province where a contagious disease targeting feet (“diamide plantaire” in French) has already affected 5000 persons.

Update on Burundians expelled from Tanzania: During the reporting week, the Government project for the reintegration of war-affected persons (PARESI) registered a total of 200 persons (105 families) expelled from Tanzania: 152 at entry point of Kobero (Muyinga) and 48 at entry point of Mishiha (Cankuzo). Since January 2007, PARESI has recorded 1,702 expelled persons (924 families) who arrived from Tanzania through the entry points of Kobero in the province of Muyinga and Mishiha in the province of Cankuzo.

Upon request from the Government (Min. of National Solidarity), the NGO *Food for the Hungry International* provided a 3 months food aid package in favor of 46 landless families (136 persons) expelled from Tanzania living in the a temporary lodging site in Songore (Ngozi province) and 75 families (322 persons) lodging in the buildings of the Kigamba commune (Cankuzo Province). This package complements the initial 3 month kit provided by WFP as all families still rely on external aid before their final reinstallation.

Repatriation: During the reporting period, UNHCR registered 30 only returnees: 22 came from Rwanda whereas 8 others came from Tanzania and registered at Muyinga border. Since early January 2007, UNHCR has registered 2,832 Burundian returnees including 87 spontaneous returnees. Since the beginning of the facilitated repatriation operation in 2002, a total of 341,831 Burundians have returned to their home country.

Food Security: MINOLAC, a private company of manufacture of corn flour in Muramvya province, distributed an assistance of 49 tons of corn seeds to 4.187 households of farmers. During the harvest period, the recipients will reimburse the equivalent of what they received to allow assistance to other households. MINOLAC promised moreover to buy all the corn production from these farmers.

In Makamba province, the NGO *Intermon Oxfam* distributed cows and goats to their partners in Kayogoro and Nyanza-Lac communes.

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SAP-SSA: On April 12, 2007, the SAP-SSA (agriculture early warning system) committee organizes a meeting at *FAO* office. The main point concerned how to improve the monthly bulletin. *FAO* informed participants that local authorities in provinces will be fully involved in the early warning system at their level and will be encouraged to participate in the production of specific papers about food security monitoring and early warning in their provinces.

Coordination: *OCHA* participated in a contingency planning workshop on disaster management organized by *OXFAM Novib*.