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Office of the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Kenya

HIGHLIGHTS

- **New 40-member power-sharing Cabinet sworn in**
- **Death toll of 14 following Mungiki protests in 10 towns**
- **\$189 million Revised Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan launched**
- **Kenyan pastoralists consult on African Union policy framework**

The information contained in this report has been compiled by OCHA from information received from the field, from national and international humanitarian partners and from other official sources. It does not represent a position from the United Nations.

I General Overview

A coalition Cabinet was announced on 13 April, with 40 ministers and 52 assistant ministers. With the exception of the local government ministry, the key posts remain with President Mwai Kibaki's Party of National Unity. The Cabinet is being sworn in on 17 April. Despite criticism over its size, there is relief that a compromise has finally been reached.

Chaos erupted in parts of Nairobi, Central and Rift Valley provinces on 14 April as the outlawed Mungiki sect protested over the killing of the wife of the sect's leader. She was abducted on 8 April and the police announced they had identified her body on 11 April. Youths blocked roads and burned vehicles while the police tried to restore order. The death toll rose to 14 on 15 April as Mungiki attacks continued. UN staff are not allowed to travel to Naivasha, Nakuru or Eldoret by road due to the upsurge in violence.

II. Humanitarian Situation

On 14 April, a \$189-million revised Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan for Kenya was presented to donors and the media. The appeal aims to support people affected by post-election violence and by impending drought in Kenya's arid and semi-arid areas up to the end of 2008. An initial appeal was made in January, which received \$31.2 million, 74% of the amount required. The revised appeal contains 94 projects ranging from the welfare and protection of internally displaced people, including host families, to resettlement and restoration of livelihoods. It is designed to support and complement planned and ongoing response by the government and the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS). Food aid makes up a major part of the appeal, costing \$84 million addressing the needs of displaced populations as well as populations in the urban settlements and up to 740,000 persons affected by drought. Almost 180 people attended.

On 17 April, pastoralists from across Kenya are meeting in Nairobi to consult on the African Union's (AU) formulation of a pastoralist policy framework for Africa. The one-day workshop is being hosted by OCHA and UNICEF, involving pastoralist organizations, UN agencies, the AU, donors, government and non-government organizations. The AU's Pastoralist Initiative Programme aims to promote sustainable development in pastoralist communities in partnership with them, taking into account their unique needs. The Nairobi workshop is expected to stimulate other workshops within Kenya on the policy initiative, which will be followed by regional discussions in September.

Security

In Rift Valley, the towns of Molo and Muchorwe, which is on the border of Molo and Kuresoi constituencies, are tense. District authorities in Nakuru North reported that four IDPs trying to return to their farms in Molo were killed during the last week. Two people were arrested in Kipkelion District after setting ablaze 15 abandoned houses on 1 April. In Kitale town, 29 people were arrested on 7 April for allegedly breaking the curfew imposed three weeks ago. IDPs in Eldoret Showground expressed fears about returning home after hate leaflets were circulated in parts of Uasin Gishu District. Residents of the town were also worried about reprisals by militiamen who are suspected to have fled to the town.

The curfew imposed in Trans Nzoia and Mount Elgon districts is still in effect as military operations to flush out militia continue. On 2 April, three suspected militiamen from Mount Elgon killed a taxi driver at Langas, on the Eldoret-Kapsabet highway. It is believed to be a revenge attack as nothing was stolen.

While Turkana District was generally calm, there were skirmishes on the West Pokot border between Pokot bandits and security personnel. In Kainuk Division, Pokot cattle rustlers staged a raid on Kabelkok homestead but were ambushed by security personnel and fled.

In North Eastern Province, two animal theft incidents were reported along the borders of Mandera East and Mandera Central districts involving Murule and Garre clans. Police and the local administration moved quickly to prevent armed confrontation between the two groups. Security was uncertain along the Kenya-Somalia border with armed bandits being sighted. The Kenyan army is patrolling the border.

Population Movements, Displacement Trends

KRCS reports that the number of IDPs in camps fell from 168,094 to 157,585 between 4 and 14 April. The number of camps increased from 181 to 182 over this period. Some IDPs have returned home but numbers in the camps continue to fluctuate as people move into the camps to fill in registration forms and then return to the community.

Resettlement of IDPs remains a challenge due to a lack of clarity over how the government intends to carry this out and what support it would like from humanitarian agencies. In Trans Nzoia, Kwanza and Lugari districts, the Ministry of Agriculture has

been supporting IDPs returning home with ploughing services, seeds and fertilizer but there are no details of the beneficiaries.

There was tension in several parts of the country as a result of delays in announcing a power-sharing Cabinet. In Kisumu, there were new arrivals in the camps because of this.

Humanitarian Response

Camp Co-ordination/ Camp Management

Agencies are concerned that IDPs hosted in the communities are not receiving aid because of the lack of adequate information about their needs. As a result, there is a flow of IDPs towards the camps to receive food and non-food items. Registration in Nakuru's Afraha and Showground camps is complete and night censuses have been carried out in Naivasha's Kedong and Showground camps.

Management structures are in place for all major camps around Eldoret and will soon be in place in satellite sites. Kitale and Noigam camps have been reorganized. Standards in camps in the north Rift Valley Province are improving steadily and are approaching Sphere standards with increased provision of latrines, bathrooms and water. However, there is still congestion and the risk of an outbreak of waterborne diseases in Eldoret Showground, Endebess in Trans Nzoia District and smaller settlements like Matharu in Uasin Gishu District.

A new plot of land in Yamumbi in Eldoret has been allocated to decongest Eldoret Showground and as an emergency site for IDPs in case of a disease outbreak. KRCS, International Organization for Migration, International Committee of the Red Cross and the UNHCR have assessed the location and preparations for site-planning are taking place. The agencies are working together to secure 2,500 tents for the new site. A multi-agency team has assessed Matharu and five smaller sites with a view to their consolidation. A plan of action is being agreed.

Early Recovery

On 15 April, members of the cluster met with representatives from the Ministry of Special Programmes, including the Permanent Secretary and the Director of Mitigation and Resettlement, to share views on the way forward. They agreed on regular collaboration to ensure early recovery efforts relating to return, resettlement and reintegration would be carried out in partnership and that government and humanitarian programmes would support and complement each other. Agreed priorities are peace and reconciliation as preconditions for return and support for restoration of livelihoods. One of the challenges is to put in place mechanisms for supporting these initiatives at the community level. The cluster is considering ways in which it could enhance the capacity of the new special district officers trained in reconciliation to carry out their work. Peace and development committees, which are being rolled out in affected areas, will also need support. The cluster lead is stepping up implementation in the hubs of Eldoret, Nakuru and Kisumu to improve co-ordination with field staff and speed up activation of early recovery plans.

The Ministry of Agriculture has directed the National Cereals and Produce Board to sell fertilizers at less than half of the current market rate to help farmers struggling with price rises.

Education

The Ministry of Education will receive \$22 million for emergency education from UNICEF; Britain's Department for International Development; the Canadian International Development Agency and the International Development Association, the soft-loan arm of the World Bank. Funding was secured through the Sector-Wide Approach which brings together the ministry, education stakeholders and donors.

One of the major expenses is improving primary school infrastructure for schools that were damaged or have expanded to cope with the influx of displaced students. This will involve providing adequate water, hygiene and sanitation facilities for both sexes. The education cluster stresses the importance of investing in the improvement of the quality of education to ensure that children do not drop out of school. The ministry is being given support to ensure the money is spent appropriately and detailed work plans will be finalized by next week. Sector-wide data has been gathered and will be analysed in the next two weeks.

Other priorities for the emergency funds include training of volunteer teachers, many of whom are uncertified and lack basic pedagogical skills. Yet, they are having to cope with the challenges of managing overcrowded classes. Besides pedagogical skills training, these teachers need instruction on peace education and the provision of psychosocial support to children, many of whom are showing signs of stress as a result of their recent experiences. Funding will also go to early childhood development, special needs education, secondary education and vocational education. The funding is to be used by the end of June. It will go some way to meeting the needs outlined in the revised Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan.

A training-of-trainers from the ministry and the Kenya Institute of Education on the integration of peace education into the national curriculum has been completed. The training will be piloted in a number of schools in the coming weeks. Once the module has been finalized, the training will be adopted nationally.

Emergency Telecommunications

Radio rooms have been installed in Nakuru, Eldoret and Naivasha. The centres are operational in Eldoret and Kisumu during the daytime but not in Nakuru which does not require an operational radio room as it is security phase I. A radio instructor is coming to Kenya to train all humanitarian staff up until the end of April. The cluster will continue to provide technical support via the United Nations Office in Nairobi. WFP will manage the Eldoret radio room and UNICEF will manage those of Nakuru and Naivasha.

Food aid

In the past week, 11,471 IDPs preparing to return home in Bondo and Rarieda districts were given 195 metric tonnes of one-off one-month resettlement rations. A total of 77,419 returnees in nine districts in Western and Nyanza provinces will benefit from the planned ration distribution.

In response to a request from UNICEF, 42 metric tonnes of Corn Soya Blend, a fortified food for children under five years, has also been distributed to hospitals in south Rift Valley Province.

Food security

Concerns about food shortages grow given the global crisis with rising food prices. Fungus have reportedly wiped out 5,600 hectares of rice in Mwea Irrigation Scheme in Central Province, which produces the bulk of Kenya's rice. This is about 10-20% of Kenya's annual production. Kenya is a net importer of rice, even during good years, and the fungus problem will increase the amount of rice that it has to import. In the last two months, global rice prices have soared by 75% while the cost of wheat has climbed by 120% over the past year, the World Bank reported last week. This worsens Kenya's food insecurity as it will make the import of additional supplies even more expensive.

Nutrition

District and UNICEF nutritionists together with a protection consultant carried out a rapid Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening in Lorora IDP camp in Laikipia West, which is home to people who have been displaced from Samburu District in the Rift Valley. This conflict pre and post-dates the election-related violence and people in the camp are not receiving food aid because theirs is believed to be a short-term displacement. Severe malnutrition (MUAC < 11cm) was found to be about 0.9%. In response, WFP is giving Corn Soya Blend, through the ministry of health, to all children under five years in the camp.

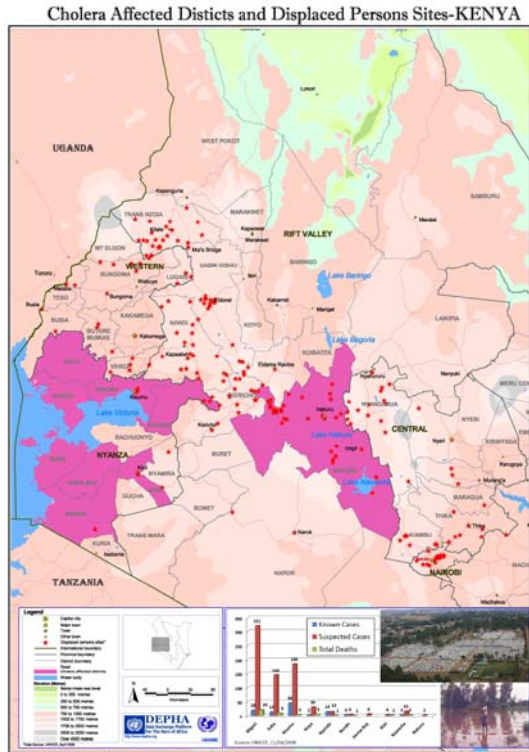
In south Rift Valley, the number of children enrolled in the targeted supplementary feeding programme increased from 2,659 to 3,063 children under five years over the last week as a result of the latest screenings. In addition, 154 children are receiving outpatient therapeutic care and 25 have been admitted for inpatient therapeutic care.

District nutritionists' efforts to carry out field monitoring are challenged by lack of transport. They are heavily dependent on NGO support, although partners are not present in all districts. Cluster members are working to improve co-ordination with KRCS to make planning and resource allocation more effective.

On 18 April, cluster members will decide on the strategy for supplementary feeding activities and preventive measures in arid and semi-arid areas.

Health

A Ministry of Health and WHO team are in Nyanza Province to support the district and provincial response to the cholera outbreak. There have been 60 deaths so far and a further 1,300 cases have been reported. The team is visiting hospitals in the area to assess the response mechanisms that are in place. They will design a joint approach for partners and the province to fill gaps that they detect. They have also supplied chlorine to the province for the treatment of water supplies. Cholera is caused by contaminated water and poor sanitation. Partners in Nairobi will be briefed about the outcome of the mission next week.



Cholera is also present in Naivasha District but it is under control. The disease was first detected in two children who were displaced from Naivasha to Kisumu and later returned to the Kasarani area of Naivasha. One of the children died on 27 March and other on 1 April. Seven other people have since contracted the disease. The district medical officer and the district disease surveillance co-ordinator have responded rapidly to the outbreak, treating those who are suspected to have come into contact with the infected and issuing aquatabs to people in the affected area. A public meeting was also organised to inform the public about the prevention of cholera and was attended by 300 people. The district has requested Ksh 1.8 million (\$27,500) from the government to control cholera over the next three months.

Protection

The KRCS secretary general and the UNHCR's country representative visited Nakuru and Molo districts where they met with members of the provincial administration. Discussions focused on the importance of co-ordination between the three parties and the challenges of return. The issue of security remains a priority for potential returnees, as expressed to field monitors visiting Kikuyu and Kisii IDPs in Dundori, which is between Naivasha and Nakuru.

In Eldoret, the protection cluster has decided to install complaint boxes in all camps to facilitate reporting and action. Cluster members will hold weekly clinics in the camps to follow up on these complaints.

A joint mission including KRCS and the Children's Department visited Migori District to follow up on allegations of child trafficking and to assess the IDP situation. There are no camps in the district where all IDPs living in the communities. The mission agreed to find all unaccompanied minors and place them in registered children's homes while their families were being traced.

The HIV/AIDS working group presented a three-month work plan to the Kisumu protection cluster. Its main objectives are assisting with economy recovery and provision of trauma counseling and home-based care to people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Gender-Based Violence (GBV) sub cluster has finalized a reporting form to record all GBV incidents in camps and affected areas. It is finalizing standard operating procedures for addressing GBV which will be rolled out in a series of trainings, starting on 21 April with members of the cluster. The sub cluster is finalizing a draft interagency protocol and interview form for dealing with sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) among

humanitarian agencies which will be distributed via trainings in May. Frequently Asked Question sheets on GBV and SEA are also available for distribution.

Shelter and Non Food Items

German Agro Action (GAA) visited south Rift Valley Province on 10 April to distribute blankets, sanitary towel and aquatabs, as requested by local leaders, to IDPs hosted in the community and in camps in Naivasha and Nakuru. In Ndunduri Wakiongo location, near Gil Gil in Nyandarua North District, some 6,500 IDPs have been hosted by members of the local community who are coming under increasing strain in supporting them. GAA found that around 100 IDP households of six to seven people each have formed a camp in the site of a Catholic church that is under construction. Some have tents and are sleeping outside. Those without tents are sleeping in the church which has a roof but no windows or doors. The IDPs requested blankets and tents as it is very cold. KRCS has asked the regional office in Nyeri to assist. GAA also visited Shamata location in the Nyahururu area where they distributed sanitary pads and aquatabs to 1,122 IDPs hosted in the community. The IDPs requested blankets because they do not have enough.

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