



FAO/WFP CROP AND FOOD SUPPLY ASSESSMENT MISSION REPORTS GOOD PRODUCTION

Preliminary findings from the 2005 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission indicate good production in the country, with the exception of some pocket areas. This increased production is attributed to good rains and increased use of fertilisers. The mission also reported good livestock condition and steady prices in most areas assessed. The mission covered 62 zones and special woredas assessing the performance of the current *Meher* season to prepare an estimate of production and food needs for the year 2006. The mission debriefed government, UN agencies, donors and NGOs on 8 and 9 December providing an overview of the mission's findings, which will be published after being compiled. For more information contact: wfp.addisababa@wfp.org & fao-ethiopia@fao.org

FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS PERSIST FOR SOMALI REGION

The Federal Disaster Preparedness and Response Agency (DPPA) has allocated food aid for 221,500 beneficiaries in the Somali Region. For the past two months DPPA has allocated food only to identified areas of concern as the region has not submitted a complete report on the use of previously allocated food. The food security situation in most of the seven *deyr*-rain-receiving zones of Somali Region is worrying, with poor pasture and livestock conditions emerging due to poor rainfall. The *deyr* rainy season, which usually starts in early October and extends to at least the end of November, has so far been below normal in most of the rain-receiving areas. The situation is worse in the woredas that had poor rains during the last *gu* season, including Fik, Gode, Afder, Liben and parts of Korahe zone. Access to pasture and water is currently insufficient to sustain both human and herds needs until the main rainy season starts in March-April 2006. Unusual livestock migration has also been observed within the Southern zones of Ethiopia and across the border to and from Kenya and Somalia. For more information contact: wfp.addisababa@wfp.org

FIRST MOVEMENT OF IDPS FROM FAFAN CAMP, SOMALI REGION

A caseload of 313 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) from Fafan camp moved to Degehabur zone on 6 December 2005. The United Nations Country Team Recovery Programme aims at reintegrating 6,000 IDPs from Hartisheik and Fafan to their place of origin. Since October, the programme has moved a total of 1,337 IDPs in two rounds from Haritshek camp. WFP and the FDPPA have allocated three months food rations for the returnees, while UNICEF has allocated non-food items for the whole case load of 6,000 people to be provided when each round of return movements are initiated. The next caseload is planned to be moved on 12 December 2005. FAO has completed its assessment on livelihoods for the IDPs which it presented at the UN IDPs reintegration technical working group meeting on 9 December. For more information contact: takele.teshome@undp.org

FIFTH ROUND OF POLIO CAMPAIGN TARGETS 15.5 MILLION CHILDREN

The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF, carried out the fifth and final round of the house-to-house polio campaign from 25-28 November 2005. The campaign targeted 15.5 million children under-five; preliminary results indicate 96 percent coverage. For further information contact: mapped@unicef.org

DEBRIEFING OF THE MULTI-AGENCY MEHER AND PASTORAL AREAS ASSESSMENT MISSION

Teams from the multi-agency *Meher* and Pastoral Areas Assessment mission will debrief humanitarian partners on 13 December 2005. The mission (19 November – 10 December) has assessed emergency food aid requirements for the 2006 Humanitarian Appeal. The debriefing will be held at DPPA, 0900hrs. The early Warning Department at the DPPA is also planning to arrange a special briefing program on the result of the pilot exercise on the new methodology used for emergency needs assessments in SNNPR. For more information contact: ewd@dppc.gov.et

EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY RESERVE STATUS

The Emergency Food Security Reserve (EFSR) reports 293,274 MTs stocks on hand, 39,522 MTs stock under withdrawal, and 72,208 MTs outstanding loans. These figures are as of 9 December 2005.