



## FEARS OF MENINGITIS OUTBREAK IN SNNPR

The Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) reported 596 suspected cases of Meningitis with 10 deaths in Wolayta zone of SNNPR during the last ten days. Last week, three samples were sent to Addis and only one tested positive for meningococcal meningitis. The FMoH has sent Meningitis Rapid diagnostic kits to 11 regions. Earlier this year, a total of 621 cases with 32 deaths were reported from three regions. The suspected outbreak is competing for the limited allocated health and financial resources in these regions. In June 2006, the FMoH launched an appeal for USD 2.6 million for the control of meningococcal meningitis epidemic in Ethiopia. During a meeting earlier this week, the Ministry noted that there are only 625,000 doses of vaccine secured at the Federal level, and subsequently after, UNICEF has ordered one million doses of AD syringes and vaccines. For more information contact [mapped@unicef.org](mailto:mapped@unicef.org)

## AWD UPDATE

Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) continues to be reported across the country, with a total of 29,880 cases and 279 deaths reported to date. Meanwhile, in response to the AWD outbreak and its alarming spread in Amhara Region, Government bureaus, UN agencies and NGOs collaborated to support the training of approximately 60 health and water professionals from 12 woredas. The training covered all aspects of AWD response including case management, hygiene and sanitation and isolation procedures along with surveillance, coordination and logistics. The Regional Health Bureau (RHB), Regional Water Bureau (RWB), OXFAM-GB, UNICEF, MSF-G, MSF-H, PSI, WHO and representatives from West Arsi in Oromia region Health Bureaus took part in the process. UNICEF provided 7 truck loads of NFIs and medicines and a mobile health team. It also provides support for WES coordination. ERCS / IFRC have also provided one treatment kit and have been involved in water, hygiene and sanitation discussions for planning responses in the region. Meanwhile, a recent MSF-France AWD assessment in Afdera town in Afar region reported 84 cases with 11 deaths. MSF-France plans to provide AWD response in the area. For more information contact [mapped@unicef.org](mailto:mapped@unicef.org) and [msff-addis-abeba@paris.msf.org](mailto:msff-addis-abeba@paris.msf.org)

## POOR DEYR RAINS IN SOMALI REGION

The food security situation in some areas in Somali Region is feared to be further deteriorating following the poor performance of the current *deyr* rains so far. Severe water shortage is reported particularly in areas around Shekosh, Shilabo, Debewoin and Kebridehar woredas in Korahe zone; nevertheless, according to Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Kebridehar woreda in this zone received good rains in the last few days. Clan conflict mainly over natural resources in West-Imi woreda of Afder zone and Kelafo woreda of Gode zone is also reported to be aggravating the existing food insecurity. The clashes resulted in loss of lives, displacements, damage to properties and disruption of livelihoods. Similar ethnic conflict between the Somalis and the Oromos in Mieso woreda of Shinile zone has also disrupted crop cultivation. On the other hand, in the Northern part of Somali Region that have received good *Karma* rains, pasture and browse situation have improved significantly. For more information contact [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org) and [aicf@ethionet.et](mailto:aicf@ethionet.et)

## RELIEF DISPATCHES UPDATE

DPPA has made the eleventh round relief food allocation to 81,890 beneficiaries in Amhara; 446,580 in Oromiya; 38,300 in SNNP; and 10,000 flood-affected people in Dire Dawa town. For Somali Region, the DPPA plans to allocate 10,000 tons of grains for 666,670 beneficiaries for the seventh round of allocations which represents 41% of the beneficiaries identified through the mid-year needs' assessment in 2006. DPPA has asked both Somali and Oromiya regions to prioritize areas for food delivery for the next round of allocations due to anticipation of a pipeline break foreseen in November. The dispatches of the eleventh round of allocations are underway with 95 % dispatched to Oromiya, 82% to Amhara and 12% to SNNPR. For more information contact [wfp.addisababa@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.addisababa@wfp.org)

## ICRC WITH ERCS PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO THE DISPLACED IN ILUBABOR AND JIMMA

Following recent clashes in Ilubabor and Jimma, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) together with Ethiopian Red Cross Society (ERCS) conducted a humanitarian assessment in the area to identify the needs of the affected communities. ICRC provided non-food items including essential drugs, blankets, jerry cans, buckets, soaps, plastic mats and tarpaulins. In addition, ICRC also facilitated the constructions of latrines by ERCS for displaced persons. For more information [jeglin.add@icrc.org](mailto:jeglin.add@icrc.org)