



RESPONSE TO THE POLIO APPEAL

UNICEF and WHO report they have received almost US \$400,000 in response to this month's Special Alert calling for US \$4.9 million to stop the spread of polio in Ethiopia. JICA and USAID have provided US \$94,000 and US \$300,000 respectively and Rotary International is in discussions. So far, WHO and UNICEF have vaccinated more than 3.6 million children under five in 194 woredas during the first round immunisation campaign in March. The second and third nationwide rounds are scheduled from the first week of April to May targeting 14.7 million children. For more information: oyewolef@et.afro.who.int

CONFIRMED EMERGENCY FOOD CONTRIBUTION ONLY 38% OF 2005 REQUIREMENTS

Confirmed contributions of emergency food aid stand at only 38 percent of the requirements set out in the 2005 Humanitarian Appeal. The overall emergency food requirement for March totals 3 million beneficiaries requiring 55,000 tonnes of food. Confirmed resources cover only part of the March requirements so WFP has had to resort to its special loan facility which allows borrowings to be made against forecast contributions, rather than actual contributions. March is now fully covered as well as part of April, in which 3.1 million people will need 57,700 tonnes of emergency food. The pipeline for cereals in terms of confirmed requirements has effectively already broken. The loan gives some additional time for donors to respond and WFP urgently requests donors to confirm contributions currently under negotiation and make additional resources for the emergency. As in previous years, WFP is covering part of the overall emergency food requirements, with the remainder anticipated to be met from bilateral donations to the DPPC or to NGOs. For more information contact: wfp.addisababa@wfp.org

NON-FOOD CONTRIBUTION UPDATE

The non-food contribution towards the 2005 Humanitarian Appeal stands at US \$9.6 million covering 8.6 percent of the US \$112 million requested. Recent confirmed contributions have been made from DFID (US \$1.8 million) and the Netherlands (US \$3.9 million). The funding will go towards water and sanitation, health and nutrition as well as coordination sectors to be implemented by UNICEF and OCHA. For more information contact: ocha-eth.org

EOS IN TIGRAY - PRELIMINARY SCREENING RESULTS

The first round of the Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS) was completed in February by the Regional Health Bureau with UNICEF's support in 18 woredas of Tigray region. The preliminary results show about 351,000 children under five years (97% of target) were screened and received Vitamin A supplementation. About 320,380 (99.8% of target) received de-worming tablets and about 28,100 (114% of target) received Measles vaccinations. Out of the total number of children screened, about 22,700 (6.5%) were found moderately acutely malnourished and about 6,100 (1.7%) had severe acute malnutrition, therefore eligible for nutritional supplementation within the criteria set by the national nutrition protocol. 44,500 pregnant and lactating women were also screened during the exercise and about 14,570 (32.7%) were eligible for nutritional supplementation. Both children and women eligible for nutritional supplementation have received the card which will allow WFP/DPPB to target them with supplementary food over the next six months, when another round of EOS will be conducted in the same plus additional 17 woredas. For more information contact: igetachew@unicef.org

ACF CONDUCTS AN EMERGENCY ANIMAL TREATMENT INTERVENTION IN AFAR

Action Contre la Faim (ACF) is conducting an emergency animal treatment intervention in zones 1 and 4 of Afar region for next three months. The project which started in early March possibly targeting seven woredas, aims to support 10,000 households in maximising herd recovery and minimising loss of animals following significant death of livestock in the past few months. The project initially provided refresher training to ACF network of 100 paravets as well as awareness sessions to the communities and local administration. In mid March, treatment started in Awra woreda of zone 4 and Mile woreda of zone 1 and will extend according to the movements and concentrations of livestock. 400,000 animals are targeted for treatment against endo and ecto-parasites, and common infectious diseases. The treatment operation is conducted by the paravets with supervision and monitoring from regional professionals and senior ACF staff. The project is funded by ECHO. For more information contact: aicf@ethionet.et

BORICHA NUTRITIONAL MISSION

In response to the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Boricha woreda, SNNPR, the Ethiopian Nutritional Coordination Unit (ENCU) is coordinating a nutritional survey from 28 March. Goal Ethiopia, UNICEF, DPPC and regional representatives are expected to participate in the mission. Allocated emergency food for March has been distributed to the woreda but most of the population falls under Safety Nets, and no transfers of cash or food have started yet. For more information contact: seyoum.girma@wfp.org

MIESSO IDPS

CARE reports that the zonal administration of Miesso woreda in West Hararghe is conducting an independent reintegration survey of the 2,500 IDPs that have been living there in temporary accommodation since late 2004. The information will be used to provide CARE with a proposal for assistance. CARE says that it will continue to provide food and non-food assistance until 1 May 2005. For more information contact: care.eth@telecom.net.et

'TODOB' RAINS, SOMALI REGION

Save the Children-UK reports that there have been some heavy rains in Jijiga zone with the exception of the whole of Harshin and parts of Awbere and Babile districts in Somali Region in the last fortnight. According to the reports, even though the onset is "promising" the rains have stopped unexpectedly and are localised. The rains have helped alleviate the long existing water shortage in the area. These rains are considered 'todob' rains, rains that are conditional and precede the main rain, 'gu' which begin from March and go through to early June. For more information contact: aaismail30@yahoo.com