



## **RELIEF FOOD STATUS**

Following the mid-year ('belg' and 'gu' seasons) assessment, the targeted population for relief food assistance is 7.8 million for both August and September and will be 5.3 million in October, 3.7 million in November and 2.9 million in December. Food requirements for August stand at around 148,000 tonnes and dispatches for this month's distributions continue. Food has been pre-positioned in the areas that have become inaccessible during the current main rainfall season (mid-June to late-September). The gross relief food requirements for August-December 2004 are around 523,000 tonnes. Taking into account confirmed contributions to WFP, NGOs and bilaterals to the Government, the current shortfall for August-December is 81,000 tonnes (cereals 56,000 tonnes, pulses 25,000 tonnes). Unless further contributions are confirmed, there may be shortfalls in cereals from November. For further information contact WFP: [paul.turnbull@wfp.org](mailto:paul.turnbull@wfp.org)

## **ETHIOPIA FOOD SECURITY RESERVE UPDATE**

Ethiopia Food Security Reserve (EFSR) reports stocks on hand as of 27 August, 259,647.47 tonnes, stock under withdrawal 54,392 tonnes and outstanding loans equal 90,965.36 tonnes.

## **WORKSHOP ON CONTINGENCY PLANNING CONDUCTED**

Two day workshop aimed to develop the technical capacity and knowledge of the regional Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) and line governmental staff in order to carry out the contingency planning process was conducted involving 30 participants from all regional DPPBs from August 9-10, 2004. The training was planned to enhance emergency preparedness response capacity to implement effective contingency planning at regional level. Summary of multi-sectoral action plan for 2005 contingency planning was discussed by the participants. The participants also actively participated in the respective regional scenario development of the contingency planning which will be used for the 2005 humanitarian appeal. Similar contingency planning in which 33 participants drawn from Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water Recourses, Ministry of Rural Development, Emergency Food Security Reserve and participants from 5 regions was given at federal level for emergency taskforce members from August 2-4, 2004. The workshop was organized by Emergency Preparedness and Strengthening Programme (EPSP) of the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission in collaboration with WFP and USAID Funded Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWS NET). For further information contact DPPC: [info@dppc.gov.et](mailto:info@dppc.gov.et)

## **FAO CONDUCTS FINAL WORKSHOP ON CACTUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

FAO has conducted a final workshop on 26 and 27 August, 2004 to finalize a cactus development project in Tigray. The project is intended to help the government to strengthen and develop its capabilities for cactus pear domestication, improvement and full utilization as a means to increase food security. Provision of selected technologies, technical advice, and training were provided for the implementation of the project. Mekelle University was designated as counter part for the project execution. For further information contact FAO: [fao-ethiopia@fao.org](mailto:fao-ethiopia@fao.org)

## **UNICEF ETHIOPIA GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR OVCS KENENISA BEKELE WINS GOLD IN 10,000 METERS**

The Ethiopia Country Office congratulates Olympic gold medal winner and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCS) Kenenisa Bekele for his victory in the 10,000 meters in Athens. "Ethiopia has a long and proud tradition in the field of athletics," said UNICEF Representative Bjorn Ljungqvist. "However, Friday's victory is more than just another gold medal for this wonderful country. As UNICEF's newest Goodwill Ambassador, Kenenisa is using his talent and fame to help us highlight the serious situation affecting orphans and vulnerable children in Ethiopia while helping us end stigma and discrimination for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS." Kenenisa Bekele is one of the country's rising stars in the field of athletics. UNICEF Ethiopia was very moved and privileged to sign the young runner as Goodwill Ambassador for OVCS earlier this month before he traveled to Greece to compete for his country. Globally, the number of orphans is increasing due to HIV/AIDS. According to international estimates there are approximately 3.8 million orphans in Ethiopia in 2001. That figure is expected to rise to 4.4 million by 2005. UNICEF plans to launch a major media and advocacy campaign with Kenenisa upon his return to Addis Ababa to sensitize the Ethiopian population about the difficulties facing OVCS in the country and the necessity of providing them with the essential care and support they need. For further information contact UNICEF: [awalker@unicef.org](mailto:awalker@unicef.org)