



UN MILLENNIUM PROJECT'S TASK FORCE ON HUNGER TAKES PLACE IN ADDIS ABABA

A one day High Level Seminar of the United Nations (UN) Millennium Project's Task Force on Hunger took place in Addis Ababa on 5 July 2004. The seminar, which was held one day ahead of the annual UN-African Union (AU) summit, addressed innovative approaches to meeting the hunger Millennium Development Goal (MDG) in Africa. The importance of protecting vulnerable people from the devastating effects of natural shocks and conflict-induced emergencies were highlighted, as were the significance of enhancing nutritional interventions in response to food insecurity. The UN task force on hunger recommended the establishment of a food safety net to minimize the incidence of acute hunger "without disrupting local commodity markets". The meeting was attended by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, numerous heads of state, as well as representatives from the UN Agencies, including OCHA. The OCHA Head of Office and Deputy attended a follow-up meeting of the Task Force on the Hunger MDG and gave a presentation on the preliminary results of the evaluation of the 2003 Ethiopia Emergency Response, specifically emphasizing the necessary links of emergency actions related to hunger and longer-term food security, and lessons learned from the 2003 Ethiopia experience, which was the largest ever emergency food crisis in Africa. Government Ministers and high officials from Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Ghana attended, along with senior UN Officials of the Hunger Task Force.

PREPARATION FOR THE UPCOMING 2005 APPEAL BEGINS

Government, UN, NGO and Donor representatives met on 8 July 2004 to discuss the preparation of a contingency plan, assessments and Strategy for the upcoming 2005 Humanitarian Appeal.

OCHA OFFICER COMMENCES IN JIJIGA

UN OCHA-Ethiopia has sent a Field Officer to Jijiga to provide support in field coordination and information on humanitarian activities of Somali Region. For further information contact: ocha-eth@un.org

THE JOINT EOS FOR CHILD SURVIVAL INITIATIVE UNDERTAKES TRAINING

The implementation of the joint UNICEF/WFP/regional Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau's (DPPB) Enhanced Outreach Strategy-Child Survival Initiative (EOS-CSI) in Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region (SNNPR) is progressing with emphasis on training activities. Across the 54 Woredas WFP, Regional DPPB and Regional Health have jointly trained 100 local officials from the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau and Health Officials from participating Zones and Woredas. By the end of July 1,150 food distribution agents (women) will have been trained in commodity management, nutrition education and reporting and recording processes, 1,150 community officials will have been trained in the reporting and recording processes. The training component is an important additional part of this project for which WFP distributes supplementary food to vulnerable people screened by UNICEF. For further information contact UNICEF: awalker@unicef.org.

FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL MEETS PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF ETHIOPIA

The Director General of FAO Mr. Jacques Diouf was in Addis Ababa from Friday July 2 to 5 2004 to attend the Executive council meeting and high level presidential seminar on "Innovative Approaches to meeting the hunger Millennium Development Goal (MGD) in Africa". During his visit, the Director General also met President H.E. Girma Wolde-Giorgis and Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development H.E. Addisu Legesse about the food security programme and other agricultural issues in Ethiopia. For further information contact: fao-ethiopia@fao.org

GAA/ORDA LAUNCHES CASH-FOR-WORK PROJECT IN THREE WOREDAS OF AMHARA REGION

GAA (German Agro Action) and ORDA (Organization for Relief and Development in Amhara) launched a joint 10-month Cash-for-Work (C-f-W) project at the cost of US\$ 900,000. The program, which is financed by German Government, is expected to benefit up to 20,000 food insecure households and recover from long-term impacts of the 2002/3-drought in Ilnat, East and West Belessa woredas of Amhara Region. The work, which pays 7 Ethiopian birr per day, contributes to building of irrigation schemes, roads, water points and structures for soil- and water-conservation. Since 2001 GAA/ORDA have been progressively practicing C-f-W in the three woredas. For further information contact: gaa.bahr@telecom.net.et

Contributions are welcomed. Please submit to UN OCHA-Eth by COB Thursday, berhanem@un.org

For more News, Maps, Photos, Calendar of Events, Field and Special Reports visit our website: www.ocha-eth.org