WEEKLY HUMANITARIAN HIGHLIGHTS IN ETHIOPIA

18 June 2004

WFP PREPOSITIONING SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD IN RESETTLEMENT SITES

WFP is providing supplementary food rations to vulnerable populations to resettlement areas. WFP is in close consultation with concerned donors, the government's Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) and other United Nations agencies, especially UNICEF and OCHA, for assistance in resettlement areas. In Oromiya region, the resettled population is over 250,000 people. WFP has earmarked sufficient food to allow prepositioning of stocks of fortified blended food, pulses and oil for the main rainy season (mid-June to September). The regional authorities have procured cereals, which are the bulk part of the monthly ration for resettlers. Transport of WFP food for prepositioning is proceeding, and is subject to adequate storage space in the resettlement sites. WFP has provided food storage equipment (mobile warehouses and tarpaulins) to expand the temporary storage facilities in the resettlement areas. WFP has expanded its monitoring capacity to cover resettlement sites. DPPC is undertaking an assessment of humanitarian requirements in resettlement sites in Southern Nations Nationalities and People's region, where around 20,000 people have been resettled. For further information contact WFP: paul.turnbull@wfp.org

EVALUATION OF THE 2003 EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

The evaluation team has completed initial data collection, including field trips to Amhara, SNNPR, Somali, Oromiya, and Afar regions. The study is examining the appropriateness of the government and international community response, reviews the effectiveness of coordination, preparedness and response mechanisms, and will draw lessons learned from the humanitarian crisis in 2003. Stakeholder workshops to discuss the initial findings of the mission on various sectors and issues will be held on 22-23 June. For further information contact OCHA: linzbichler@un.org

UNICEF UNVEILS CHILD-TO-CHILD SURVEY TO GET ALL CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

In honour of the Day of the African Child, UNICEF 16 June officially launched a child-powered, global project to account for children not in school in order to accelerate the enrolment of all girls as well as all boys. For the project, called the Child-to-Child Survey, teams of school children interview out-of-school children to find out the particular reasons why they are not enrolled. "We want this project to start a chain reaction, whereby the children and their teachers will not only identify those out of school but will also commit to getting them enrolled and helping them succeed," said UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy, who was on two-day visit to Addis Ababa. The Day of the African Child this year focuses on the theme of 'The Family.' Achieving educational parity for girls will have far-reaching, positive effects, including ensuring that families will be healthier and stronger, not only for today, but also for future generations. Ms. Bellamy said the world must remember the importance of educating for every child. Ethiopia is one of 25 countries participating in UNICEF's girls' education campaign: '25 by 2005', which aims at making sure girls and boys have an equal opportunity to obtain a primary and secondary education in 25 countries by the year 2005. For further information contact UNICEF: awalker@unicef.org.

EMERGENCY SEED SUPPLY INTERVENTION BY FAO IN OROMIYA REGION

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) will provide 900 tonnes of good quality seeds composed of cereals and pulses to address the seed shortfalls in 10 drought-affected woredas of Oromiya region. The project will benefit 24,700 households to resume crop production on a total of about 11,300 hectares of land. FAO will implement the project in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture (MoARD), the Oromiya Regional Bureau of Agriculture and agriculture offices of targeted woredas. For further information contact FAO: fao-ethiopia@fao.org

GERMAN GOVERNMENT FINANCES AROUND US\$ 700,000 DEVELOPMENTAL RELIEF PROGRAM

Based on a new allocation by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation, German Agro Action (GAA) and partner NGO, OSHO (Oromo Self Help Organization) are implementing a 10-month developmental relief project for 7,700 households in Ziway-Dugda woreda, Oromiya Region. The funds will be mainly used in Cash-forwork activities in infrastructure development and rehabilitation such as roads, schools, health centres, natural resource protection, and water supply. The targeting is carried out by a public community-based identification of beneficiaries. According to OSHO/GAA joint observations, the official appeal figure for Ziway-Dugda in 2004 is substantially underestimated regarding the southern part the woreda. The funding is out of US\$ 2.2 grant of the German government to GAA for developmental relief in Oromiya, Amhara and Afar. For further information contact GAA: gaa.eth@telecom.net.et