



WFP STARTS TARGETED SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING IN SNNPR

WFP has started targeted supplementary feeding under the joint UNICEF/MOST/WFP "Extended Outreach Strategy - Child Survival Interventions (EOS-CSI)". The targeted distributions have started in two zones of the Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region in southern Ethiopia. Some 60,000 malnourished children and 60,000 malnourished women will be reached in the first distributions, which will cover 14 districts. A further 40 districts in the region are scheduled to be reached in July. Supplementary rations are provided to particularly vulnerable groups to address their heightened nutritional needs. Under the EOS-CSI, WFP will provide supplementary food to vulnerable people screened by UNICEF: vulnerable children between 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women. WFP will transport food to storage locations that are accessible to screened populations. The screening will improve targeting of WFP supplementary rations and allow a synergy between health and nutrition interventions. For further information contact WFP: paul.turnbull@wfp.org

AFRICAN UNION PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED

African Union's (AU) Peace and Security Council was officially launched on 25 May. Presidents and representatives attended the inaugural conference in Addis Ababa. According to the statement from the AU the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union marks an historic watershed in Africa's progress towards resolving its conflicts and the building of a durable peace and security order. For further information contact AU: 51 77 00.

A WORKSHOP AND POLICY FORUM ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT COMPLETED

A Workshop and Policy Forum on the Guiding Principles on internal displacement, organized by DPPC (Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission) together with UN OCHA, PCI (Pastoralist Communication Initiative), IOM and NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council) took place from 24-27 May. The workshop was divided into two separate programs. The two-day workshop on 24 and 25 May focused on the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and relevance to the Ethiopia situation and issues. On 27 May the Policy Level Forum for senior Officials discussed key issues, conclusions and recommendations from the Workshop, in the context of the Guiding Principles. The details and findings of the workshop will be compiled on our next edition of Focus on Ethiopia. For further information contact UN OCHA-Ethiopia: ocha-eth@un.org

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION ON GROUNDWATER IN ETHIOPIA

The International Conference and Exhibition on Groundwater was held from 25-27 May at the UNECA Conference Centre. Organised by the Ministry of Water Resources, UNECA, UN-Water/Africa and UNICEF, the conference brought together researchers, practitioners, beneficiaries and financiers on groundwater management to propose low cost and sustainable groundwater development strategies for Ethiopia and other developing countries. About 85 per cent of the existing water supply in the country is from groundwater. In drought prone lowland areas, groundwater is often the only source of water. Studies conducted by UNICEF during the 2003 drought emergency indicate that while springs and rivers dry up during times of drought, shallow and deep wells continued serving the needs of the people throughout the emergency, although at reduced levels. With 24 million people living in drought prone and water insecure areas, groundwater development is a vital element in strategies to ensure sustainable water supply coverage. For further information contact UNICEF: awalker@unicef.org

FAO DISTRIBUTES EMERGENCY SEED IN TIGRAY REGION

As a response to emergency seed needs FAO has distributed 2,500 tonnes of a variety of seeds in 11 woredas in three zones of Tigray Region. The distribution covered a total of 10,000 households and is going to be utilized for the coming 2004 Meher cropping season. 5,000 hectares of land is expected to be cultivated as a result of this seed supply. For further information contact FAO: fao-eth@field.fao.org

CSIS DELEGATES VISITING ETHIOPIA

A group of CSIS (Centre for Strategic and International Studies) delegates, including the UNAIDS Deputy Executive Director, is visiting Ethiopia from 24-29 May 2004. The delegates will be meeting with relevant officials and visiting sites both in and outside of Addis Ababa. The visit aims to intensify the delegation's understanding of the status and characteristics of the pandemic in Ethiopia, to highlight the importance of leadership at both political and non-governmental levels (including the religious community and civil society), to assess and identify gaps in the range of initiatives that address the acute vulnerabilities of women and girls to HIV infection, and to examine the role of the UN and other multilateral organizations etc. For further information contact UNAIDS: ayehualem.tamru@undp.org

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