



MR. AHITISAARI TO VISIT ETHIOPIA

Mr Martti Ahtisaari, the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for the Humanitarian Crisis in the Horn of Africa is returning to the region from the 13 – 18 October 2004. After first visiting Eritrea, Mr Ahtisaari will spend three days in Ethiopia from the 16th. This is the fourth time Mr Ahtisaari has traveled to Addis Ababa since his designation in June 2003. During his visit he will launch the multi-stakeholder report into the 'Evaluation of the Response to the 2002-3 Emergency in Ethiopia'.
ocha-eth@un.org

REGIONAL COORDINATION MEETING WAS HELD IN SOMALI REGION

A Somali Region Coordination Meeting was held in Jijiga on 5 October to review the current humanitarian situation in the region. The meeting agreed the situation is critical in many areas and could reach crisis proportions if rains do not come in the coming weeks. UNDP/IOM informed the meeting that the planned repatriation and reintegration of some 6,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Fafen and Hartishiek is temporarily suspended due to the current situation. ocha-eth@un.org

WATER TANKERING CONTINUES IN DENAN, SOMALI REGION

The UNICEF-supported Denan emergency water tankering program is continuing in the Somali Region. The project, which started on 25 September, involves two trucks managed by a local NGO. This emergency action was planned to ease the acute water shortage for a period of one month. As the water crisis appears to be continuing, UNICEF will extend the trucking for another month, after which the rain and water availability condition will be re-evaluated. For the sustainable water supply scheme construction, the regional Water Bureau is preparing a proposal for a new water pipeline and distribution network construction for Denan IDP's and host communities. awalker@unicef.org

CARE SUPPORTS WATER PROGRAMS IN BORENA

In the period of late August to the first week of September CARE provided water through tankering in Borena Zone in Oromiya Region in response to the acute situation. CARE has transported 143,000 liters of water for 2,946 households in Dillo, Arbale, Magado, Dhokole, Gololcha and Gobso kebeles of the zone. Currently the operation is on standby due to rains recently received in some pocket areas.
care.eth@telecom.net.et

RESETTLEMENT ASSESSMENT

Plans are underway to reconvene the joint UN/donor working group that conducted an assessment of resettlement sites in March of this year. OCHA is coordinating the reassessment with other UN Agencies, donors and the Government of Ethiopia. Many resettlement sites have been inaccessible during the rainy season and the Joint Working Group is being reconvened to determine what new assessment work may be necessary as the rains end and the sites become accessible again.
ocha-eth@un.org

FAO'S TRUST FUND FOR FOOD SECURITY RECEIVES FUNDING

The Italian Government has contributed US\$ 3,000,000 to the Trust Fund for Food Security and Food Safety established by FAO with the objective of promotion of economic growth in rural areas through strengthening commercialization of small farms. The project hopes to see an increased crop yield, more diversified farm production systems, enhanced quality of agricultural products with higher value and marketability and a more capable and skilled agricultural staff at woreda level. The project will be implemented over four years in collaboration with the Arsi Bale Rural Development Project based in Asella with support from the FAO. fao-ethiopia@fao.org