Situation Update

- Severe drought conditions are worsening the food and nutrition crisis currently facing half of the Somali population. In rural areas, consecutive seasons of poor rainfall and low river water levels have resulted in near total crop failures and reduced rural employment opportunities.

- Throughout the country, there is widespread shortage of water and pasture, resulting in increases in livestock deaths, and rapidly diminishing access to food among poor households. Prices of local food staples have risen sharply while livestock prices have decreased significantly. In the southern regions of Bay and Bakool and Gedo, these conditions are prompting migration to urban centres in Gedo region, Mogadishu and into Ethiopia.

- In February, WFP monitors in Dusamareeb and Hobyo districts in Galgaduud and Mudug regions in central Somalia, reported increased admissions of malnourished women and children into WFP supported nutrition treatment programs.

- On 28 February 2017, the Somali President declared the drought a national disaster and appealed to the international community to provide urgent assistance.

WFP Response

To address the current food and nutrition insecurity, WFP is:

- providing in-kind food assistance alongside cash-based transfers in areas where markets are operating.

- Providing nutritional assistance to children under the age of five and to pregnant women and nursing mothers.

- expanding its outreach by establishing extended catchment points (distribution points and services in the deep field) closer to populations at risk of migrating into urban centers in order to stabilize and prevent larger scale migration.

Regions with high numbers of internally displaced people (IDPs) and those facing critical levels of food and nutrition insecurity in Somalia are being targeted, as well as areas with

In Numbers

**2.9 million** people in IPC Phases 3 and 4 (Feb through June 2017)*

**3.3 million** people in IPC Phase 2 (Feb through June 2017) *

**2.76 million** people expected to be assisted by WFP in 2017

*FSNAU post-Deyr assessment released in February 2017

Highlights

- WFP scaled up its emergency drought response in February, reaching nearly 1 million people in the country

- WFP requires USD 290 million in order to provide immediate relief assistance and lifesaving nutrition services to the most vulnerable people in drought affected areas for the next six months.

WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (Mar 2017 – Aug 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRRO 200844</th>
<th>USD 290 million</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SO 200294 (UNHAS)</td>
<td>USD 3 million</td>
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People assisted

February 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Marker</th>
<th>PRRO 200844</th>
<th>56%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>44%</td>
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</table>

Photo: A young child from a pastoralist family that has travelled over 350kms from Dinsoor in Bay region, looking for assistance, eats a high energy biscuit distributed by WFP in Dolow. ©WFP/K. Dhanji
a high percentage of people in crisis and emergency (IPC Phases 3 and 4).

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- In February, WFP scaled up its drought response, reaching 967,192 people in Somalia with in-kind food and cash based transfers under relief, nutrition and school meals programs. This is more than double the number of people reached in January 2017.
- In Bay and Bakool regions of south central Somalia, where the effects of the drought are particularly severe, WFP reached 95,676 people in Elberde, Hudur, Wajid, Rabdhure, Baidoa and Dinsor districts. In the north-eastern drought hotspots of Bari, Sool, Sanaag and Nugal, WFP reached 316,360 women, men and children struggling to cope with the effects of the drought.

Implementation

- Since the start of 2017, WFP has been scaling up relief interventions to improve coverage and help stem deterioration of the food security situation in the drought-affected areas. In areas with functional markets, WFP is providing unconditional food vouchers equivalent to 80 percent of the food component of the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) of households in targeted locations. The transfers enable beneficiaries to buy from retailers who have agreements with WFP.
- Since January 2017, WFP has expanded its retailer network by 26 percent to 613 retailers countrywide. In Bay and Bakool in the south, WFP has contracted 73 retailers in eight new locations namely Dinsor, Elberde, Hudur, Burhakab, Bardale, Wajid, Aato and Yeed.

Supply Chain

- In February, WFP airlifted 350 metric tons of food commodities (including high energy biscuits) to areas in south central Somalia that are not accessible by road such as Wajid, Hudur, Elbarde, Garbaharey and Dinsor. To keep up with increased needs, WFP also rented a new time charter vessel from 5 March 2017, that will operate on a regular schedule to all Somali ports.
- WFP has contracted three cargo planes for air deliveries in south central Somalia and is in the process of establishing a more permanent storage facility within the Mogadishu International Airport for inter-agency operations.

Clusters and Common Services

Logistics Cluster

The logistics cluster continues to increase its coordination efforts amidst efforts by humanitarian partners to scale up assistance in Somalia. The cluster facilitated the delivery by air of 20 metric tons of nutrition supplementary food (PlumpySup) on a cost recovery bases to Luuq and Dinsor for Trocaire and UNICEF. The cluster is also supporting emergency efforts by Save the Children by providing the international NGO with mobile storage units in Hargeisa and facilitating short term storage in Mogadishu.

UN Humanitarian Air Service

UNHAS has contracted an additional aircraft to facilitate regular passenger flights to towns that are not accessible by road in south central such as Dinsor, Hudur, Wajid, and Elberde.

Donors

- **PRRO 200844**: USA, Canada, Germany, Japan, United Kingdom, Finland, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Republic of Korea, CHF, CERF, Italy, ECHO, China, UN Peacebuilding Fund, Russia, Slovenia and Denmark
- **SO 200924**: Canada, UK, USA, CERF and CHF

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- **Logistics Cluster**: Vladimir Jovcev, vladimir.jovcev@wfp.org, +254 735 704 848;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WFP Operation</th>
<th>Total Requirements in 2017 (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received in 2017 (in USD)</th>
<th>6 Months Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>People Assisted (February)</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRRO 200844</td>
<td>607 million</td>
<td>112 million</td>
<td>290 million</td>
<td>967,192</td>
<td>541,681</td>
<td>425,509</td>
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<td>(Jan 2016– Dec 2018)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SO 200924</td>
<td>30 million</td>
<td>2.1 million</td>
<td>3 million</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<td>(Jan 2016– Dec 2017)</td>
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