

**Minutes of the 14'Th Technical Information Management Exchange Forum (TIME) Meeting  
May 22'nd 10:00 hrs. DPPC conference room**

**Chairperson Ato Getachew**

**Agenda**

- ? Health Task Force
- ? Agriculture Task Force
- ? Water Task Force
- ? Food Task Force
- ? Stock Status
- ? AOB

**Health Task Force**-Ato Zegeye Haile, Tel. 15 99 78

The report by the task force indicated that 9 DART ( Disaster Assistance Response Team of USAID) health professionals were sent to SNNPR after being briefed by the task force. The purpose of the visit is to obtain first- hand information about the health and nutrition situation there linked with the drought. Reports of the visit will be presented in future.

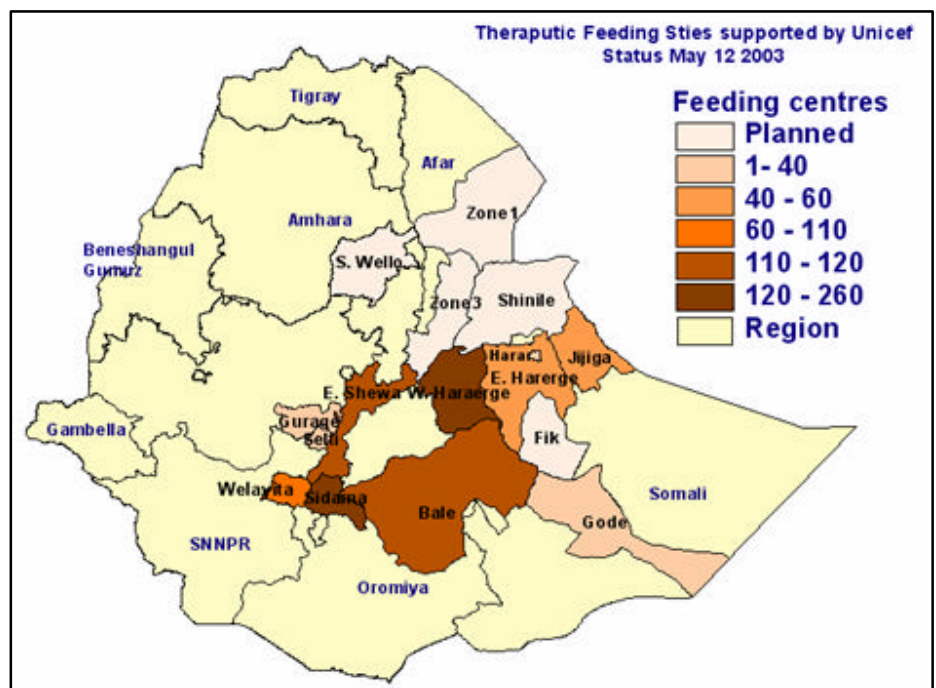
The task force reports of a meeting held in Awassa where mechanisms and ways of tackling the disaster were worked out between the FMOH and Regional bureaus.

**Therapeutic Feeding-SNNPR Region**

Zone	Centre	# of children	Implementing Agency
<b>Wolaiyta</b>	Sodo hospital	50	World Vision and RHB
<b>Sidamo</b>	Boditi H. Centre	150	MSF-Switzerland
	Bushlo H. Centre	72	Catholic Church
	Yirba H. Centre	167	SC-US
<b>Gurage</b>	Butajira Hospital	9	UNICEF
	Yetbeu Feeding Centre	5	Project Mercy
<b>Total</b>		<b>453</b>	

Due to inadequate funding approximately 100 children could not be admitted into feeding centres. According to the Regional Health Bureau, measures are being taken to correct the situation by strengthening and enlarging the functional feeding centres and assigning more health personnel by shifting medical staff from other health institutions.

In addition to this Save the Children UK has established a feeding centre in Oromiya Region located in Gola Ada in East Haraerge Zone. MSF-Swiss has opened feeding centres in SNNPR and Amhara regions at **Wolaiyta** and Waghimra Zones.



Questions were raised as to the appropriateness of providing food to caregivers, lack of resources was also pointed out but it was said that efforts were being made to obtain additional resources.

### **UNICEF- Therapeutic Feeding**

Many Therapeutic Feeding Centers (TFCs) are in need of therapeutic food and supplementary items. NGOs are requesting supplies, but UNICEF-purchased items are in DPPC warehouses. Therefore, UNICEF would like DPPC to facilitate the quick release of items. DPPC suggested that UNICEF and DPPC meet directly after the meeting to solve the problem. (Note: This meeting was held and DPPC determined that all that was necessary to release the supplies is for UNICEF to submit and sign the MOU immediately.)

### **Agriculture Task Force-**

Concerning the seeds used by farmers, whether seeds will be given to farmers who have lost them as a result of flooding, the following was said. The demand for seeds is huge but resources are limited. For example, there is shortage of improved seeds. Local seeds are available everywhere. NGOs as well as the Government are trying to help farmers and the regions which ask for large amounts of seeds. The Ethiopian Seed Enterprise and others are involved in the supply of improved seed varieties. These agencies are responsible for teaching farmers how to use these seeds. USAID is helping to narrow the gap in resource requirement.

### **CARE-Seeds**

CARE's assessments in East and West Hararghe revealed that the problem was a lack of resources not a lack of seed availability. They are currently distributing seed vouchers to 86,000 families for the Meher season in nine woredas of East and West Haraghe. For the Belg season, 40% of seeds provided to 40,000 families in East and West Hararghe were not planted as farmers thought there was not enough rain. CARE is now in the field undertaking Belg assessments and in ten days will have additional information.

### **Water Task Force-read out by Ato Getachew Tesfaye**

Water Tankering activities were said to be expensive. Some of the reasons are distance, water being used up in a very short time and water saved for later use is being wasted and seeping into the ground (presumably kept in holes in the ground). Suggestions were given to find ways of improving the situation. The Water Task Force is to be notified regarding the matter. It was said the holes with plastic covers which cause the problem are meant for temporary use only. Tankers are used for water used over a long period of time. The Water Task Force is undertaking a rapid assessment of the situation.

### **Tankering Update**

<b>Region</b>	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Status</b>
Afar		Reduction of trucks from 18 to 10
Somali	Jijiga	Discontinued due to sufficient rains
	Shinile	SC-USA in process of securing additional funds from USAID/OFDA to extend Tankering
	Ogaden	Unicef ready to support 2 months Tankering, currently under negotiation with Ogaden Welfare Development Association
	Fik	SC-USA submitted proposal to Unicef for Tankering Temporary Feeding Centers
	Kale Heywet Church	Truck taken by flood, truck was recovered but not functional
Oromiya	W. Hararghe	3 trucks are operational, pump and generator installation going on in Meisso Woreda, after completion Tankering will be discontinued
SNNPR	Welaita	Oxfam UK undertaking tankering with 8 light trucks loaded with jerricans in Boloso Soro

## Water Schemes

Region	Zone	Status
Tigray	Eastern & Southern	Inspection of 23 hand and motorized pumps, maintenance is ongoing on remaining wells
	Southern	Drilling of 3 wells completed
Amhara	N.Shewa & Oromiya	Maintenance and rehabilitation of 59 wells is completed in 5 woredas
		Drilling could not commence due to concurrent drilling activities by AWWCE in the resettlement camps
SNNPR	Hadiya, Amaro, Gama Gofa, South Omo, Welaita, Alaba and Silti	Maintenance and rehabilitation of 90 wells is completed
		Oxfam UK has secured funds from USAID/OFDA for rehabilitation of 15 water schemes
Afar		Drilling crews have been on leave from the Easter Holiday
Federal		Agreement signed between WHO and MoWR to support maintenance of water schemes in SNNPR, Amhara, Oromiya, Harari, Dira Dawa and Somali regions. Total support 4.8 M Birr, MoWR is transferring budget for the regions

**Food Task Force-** Ato Mesfin Shiferaw, DPPC Aid Programs Coordination and Implementation Department

## Food Allocation

May Distribution

Allocation for May 140 000MT, Dispatch has already commenced, mainly to the south. 69 553 MT of grain and supplementary food has been allocated of which to date 20 476 MT has been delivered, this accounts for 29% of the allocation for May.

No information has so far been received concerning the shipment of food by NGOs May distribution. However, only 19% of the April allocation had been transported. Including the amount for the additional beneficiaries, the June requirement is about 154,258.2 MT.

It was reported that there has been delays in distribution by NGO's mainly due to transport problems. DPPC has offered NGO's support from the logistics section.

The allocation of food ration at the rate 15 kg to a total beneficiary number of 385,000 in SNNPR now takes into consideration additional beneficiaries.

Food and non-food items have been sent by DPPC to flood victims in Gode numbering about 100,000 people.

Description	Unit	Quantity
Biscuit	Qt.	712
P.Sheet (4x50)	Roll	100
Tarpaulin (4x5)	Pcs	4,400
Plates	"	10,000
Cups	"	10,000
Jericans	"	2,180
Blankets	"	4,400
Cooking pots	"	4,400
Bucket	"	2,250

An additional 725 MT of food grain has been allocated for drought victims in the Gode area along with food grain and supplementary food for 35,000 people by ICRC.

## **Pledges and deliveries-Deborah Hicks- WFP**

Pledges are looking better, but until pledges are confirmed, WFP is still pushing for the remaining full requirements of 360,000 mt. There are substantial pledges in the pipeline that cannot yet be announced. WFP is optimistic for the 10 million Euro from the EC and there is potential of more contributions from DFID. Additionally, 50,000 mt of wheat flour was diverted from Iraq to Ethiopia. Once additional pledges are committed, the rations size will again be reviewed.

Recent arrivals in port are 171,000 mt for May and for June the total confirmed is 231,000 tons which may even reach as high as 276,500 mt. USAID is giving added support to NGOs in Djibouti Port.

A reminder was given that the media coverage is heavy now for the humanitarian crisis and that a concert is being given this weekend to raise funds for the emergency. ABC News (American Network) is in SNNPR, BBC is covering the concert and Bob Geldof is in town.

## **Shipping**

June is expected to be very busy, USAID is at the port to assist. Efforts are being made to get things earlier to avoid bottlenecks at the port. There has been a diversion of food from Iraq to Ethiopia in addition to the 73 000 MT United States new contribution. Additionally expecting 30 000 MT in May/June from EU pledge. 20 000MT CSB from US.

## **Food Reserve Status**

Stock	62 423 MT
Withdrawal	66 447 MT
Outstanding	176 134 MT
Being Delivered	82 422 MT

## **Early Warning**

### **SNNPR**

According to the regional assessment reports (end March-mid-April) the late onset of the belg rains in most parts of the region and poor performance of weather conditions have seriously affected the overall agricultural activities and performance of the Belg crops.

The crops were found to be at different growing stages. Crops planted during the December rains were at flowing stage while those plated later were ate their growth stage.. Due to moisture stress early plated crops have started wilting while there was hope that late plated crops will survive, providing that the weather conditions improve. In general the overall situation of Belg crops is rated as poor.

### **Amhara**

As per telephone reports form the region Belg crops are in good condition. Good harvest is expected from early planted crops (December rains) while crops planted during the normal planting season (February-March) are conditional based on the performance of the Meher rains. It is highly likely that the Meher rains will be heavy (June-July) which can potentially damage crops and produce yield losses. However if Meher rains are late it will be beneficial to the crops but at the expense of Meher crops. Overall the expected Belg production is expected to be better then the previous year.

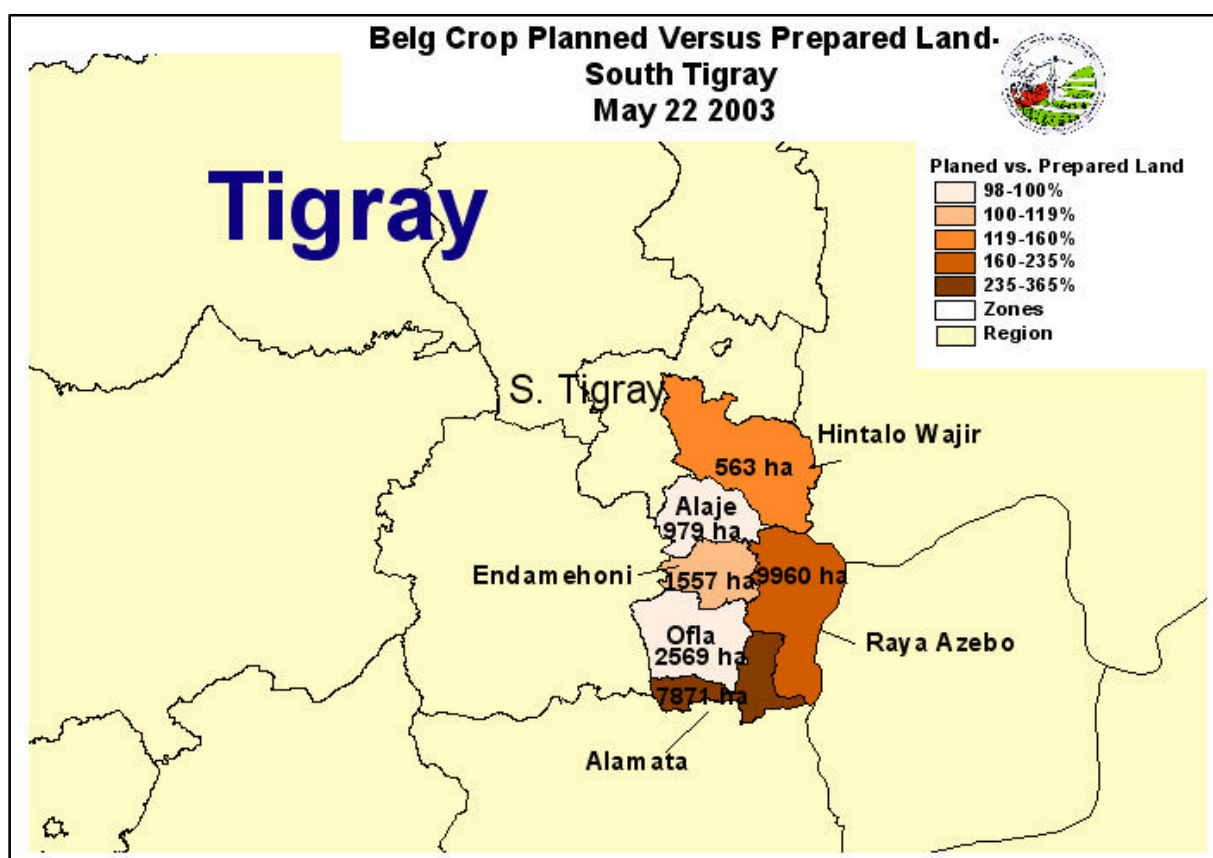
### **Tigray**

The Belg crop so far in highland areas of Ofla and Endamehoni were found to be good and there is no concern in regards to shortage of rain. Lowland crops (Alamata of rayaazebo) are at three different growth stages.

- ? January-February plantings could survive the dry spell. They are at seed setting stage in a few PAS
- ? Early February plantings are at the firowing stage

- ? End of February plantings (Teff) are at growth stage. Crops at the later two stages require the continuation of rains, currently there are no rains in those areas. Unless rains resume shortly these crops will be under threat of wilting and drying up. As a result of this assessment it is estimated that there will be a 31% yield.

Woreda	Planned	Prepared	Planted	Turned	Planned_vs_planted	Turned_vs_Planted
Endamehoni	1300	1551	1557	0	119	0
Ofla	2672	2672	2569	200	100	8
Raya Azebo	6000	14106	9960	3215	235	32
Alamata	3072	11211	7871	3893	365	49
Alaje	999	979	979	0	98	0
Hintalo Wajirat	445	714	563	450	160	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>14488</b>	<b>31233</b>	<b>23499</b>	<b>7758</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>33</b>



### REST- Belg Performance in Tigray

REST reported a concerning situation in Tigray region. Belg production is 10% of the over all production but assessments currently undertaken indicate poor belg performance. Rainfall is sporadic. Eastern Tigray received no rain at all. Assessments in March reported that several fields were dried up and were being fed for livestock. REST recommended a close follow up in the region. As a response to the health emergency, REST has recently received a grant for strengthening health institutions. The program includes training and materials for TFCs and targeted supplementary feeding. As part of the emergency health response REST is also constructing 38 boreholes in various severely drought affected woredas.

### AOB

#### EUE- Constructive Criticism

As the TIME meeting is supposed to be the most important coordination meeting, we need taskforce participation at every meeting--- someone who can answer questions on each sector. Additionally, it is recommended that there is follow-up on discussions where it is agreed that action needs to be taken. Additionally, TIME minutes need to be distributed faster.