

TIME

Minutes of the 47th Technical Information Management Exchange (TIME) Meeting April 27,2006, 10:00 am

DPPA Conference Hall

Chairperson: Ato Getachew Tesfaye

Agenda

- Water and Envir. Sanitation Task Force(TF), Tamene, UNICEF
- Health and Nutrition TF, Dr. Abduselam, MoH
- Food Aid TF, Ato Tesgaye, DPPA
- Agriculture TF,Dr. Abubeker,FAO
- Food aid pipeline, Lisetta, WFP
- EFSRA Stock Status

Water Task Force

Tamene

Tamene reported that water tankering is continuing in Afder, Gode, Kebridehar and Warder zones and emergency hygiene and sanitation training jointly organized by UNICEF and the RHB is due to begin soon. Two UNICEF staff members have left for Gode this morning.

In Oromia awareness creation workshop jointly organized by RHB and UNICEF on the safe disposal of carcasses and use of purification tablets for contaminated water sources / ponds was completed last week.

Tamene said with better rains reported in many areas, continuation of water tankering activities was questioned in the last WES task force meeting and consensus was reached to continue in areas where rains have failed.

UNICEF has recently prepared and submitted a proposal for grant to ADB for emergency WES interventions in Afder, Gode and Liben zones of Somali NRS as well as for Arsi, Bale, Borena, East Hararghe, East Shoa, and Guji zones of Oromia NRS. The response is expected to be positive.

Health Task Force

Dr. Abduselam, MoH

Essential medical supplies: PSI distributed 300 ITN to Amhara, Oromia and SNNP regions, 100,000 ITN to Somali and redirected 19,000 ITN to Borena Zone.

Communication gaps: MoH noted that there are NGOs undertaking feeding programmes in Somali and Borena zone but not reporting on their activities. He said IMC are working in Dire woreda of Borena and SC-UK has feeding programme in Fike but no details in both cases are reported to MoH. On the other hand, although SC-US had plans to start feeding programme in Somali region as reported three weeks ago, no progress is so far reported. SC-US and UK have promised to report on their activities.

It was noted in the ENCU meeting of 26 April 2006 that there have been a number of multi-agency rapid nutrition assessments in SNNPR in early April in 7 hot spot woredas. The Regional DPPB is currently finalizing the report. Following the results and the final report will be discussed, or even challenged in a wider forum and at the federal level. It was proposed the ENCU coordinator, Ms. Dominique Brunet, be invited to take part in the TIME meeting in order to give the necessary first hand information. Ato Getachew promised to check and ensure ENCU's participation in the future.

Food Aid

Tesgaye,

1. March 2006

Requirement was 47,836 MT. Allocation by DPPA 43,467 MT and by NGOs 3,518.82MT. Dispatch Status for the hot spot areas: Afar 661.5 out of 875.3= 76%; Somali 898 out of 26,642.8=3.4%; Oromia (Borena) 2,145.6 out of 2,500.9=86%;

2. April 2006

Requirement 49,112 MT and allocation by DPPA is 17,925 MT (of which 2,722.1MT is for Borena) and that of NGOs is 1,392.2 MT;

Regarding other regions it was noted that only Amhara, SNNP and Oromia Regions have sent requisitions for April.

A question was asked if the April allocations consider a revised number of beneficiaries for Somali and Borana and the answer by the presenter was negative.

Regarding the revised figure, Ato Yishak of EW Department noted that result of the recent assessment in Somali Region and Borana Zone is submitted to higher officials and said could not figure the reason for the delay. The chair noted that there is additional requirement particularly for Somali Region and Borena zone and that the assessment team will finalize and the figure will hopefully be announced next. Meeting participants expressed the importance of communicating the new figures as earlier as possible, before donors go on leave.

Food delivery

In some areas DPPA used military trucks and military escort to deliver food to some locations in Somali region. The relief delivery has helped in the improvement of situations, except in areas where roads impassable due to the rains.

Ato Yishak in his part reported that in Gode and the surroundings areas the January allocation was received two weeks ago. He also noted that efforts made were insignificant. In response Ato Tsegayе noted that it takes 36 days to deliver food from Dire Dawa to Gode and truckers do not want to go to Gode due to poor security and road conditions. The chair explained that, irrespective of some operational difficulties, a great progress has been witnessed than it was in the beginning. Lisetta also acknowledged the improved food aid transportation to Somali region despite all the difficulties.

Utilization report

Meeting participants noted that they only receive information on allocation and dispatch and not on actual delivery and distribution. Tsegayе noted that there are 548 distribution sites in Somali Region alone and therefore it is not easy to collect information from the entire sites. However he promised to communicate with DPPB to establish such reporting mechanism. SC-US said utilization report was raised as an issue last year and needs to be re-raised and efforts should be made to fill the reporting gaps by providing training at site levels. It was agreed to start working on utilization reports with whatever information can be gathered and put more efforts towards full reporting.

Agriculture Task Force

Dr. Abubeker,FAO

Dr. Abubeker reported that FAO distributed 100 tons of seed for 8,000 households in Borena zone and 73 tons for 5,200 households in Somali region. He also reported that FAO provided vet services for 20% of livestock in Somali region.

He also commented on the Task Force reporting format saying “level of performance” can be subjective and should be changed to “planned and performed”

Food Aid Pipeline

Lisetta WFP

Lisetta reported that food pipeline is covered till June. She said the current requirements are based on the estimated number of beneficiaries from the appeal, which will be updated in June/July and is most likely to increase. Cereal pipeline will run out in June and with new beneficiary figures expected following the recent assessment, there will be shortfalls of blended food and cereals.

Lisetta asked if the need of Somali region for the second half of the year will be covered by safety net or through emergency relief. She said whichever the case, it needs to be communicated as soon as possible in order to start coordinated work. In response Ato Getachew said it will probably be through emergency and advised to make all the necessary preparations accordingly unless communicated otherwise.

WFP's Targeted Supplementary Feeding program has now taken over blanket distribution of blended food in many areas including Somali region.

EFSR

Getachew

Stock at hand	229,427 MT
Outstanding loan	75,787 MT
Under withdrawal	99,789 MT

AOB

It was noted that the EWWG meeting did not take place for at least one month. Ato Getachew promised to take the issue up with EWD of the DPPA in order that the meeting takes place next week.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

Next TIME meeting will take place on May 25, 2006 at 10:00 am.