

# BULLETIN

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## Donors Pledged Over 1.6 Million MT of Food Aid

Donors have pledged to deliver 1,680,320 MT against the total requirement of 1,802,185 (that is 93.2%) for the year 2003 emergency assistance food requirement appeal of which 1,269,861 MT has been delivered.

The largest pledge was that of US government's 921,022 MT followed by 371,600 MT and 114,941 MT from EU and UK respectively. The Government of Canada and Japan also pledged 40,130 MT and 39,759 MT respectively in response to the emergency appeal. Additional important donations came from the Government of Sweden, OPEC FUND, MFM, Germany, Ethio-Japan Counterpart, ICRC, Netherlands, India and others.

Confirmed cereal pledges (1,512,124) covers 95.6% of requirements (158,198) and confirmed supplementary food (168,198) covers 76.3% of the requirements (220,342).

With regard to the status of the food aid pledges by consignee, of the total pledge NGOs, WFP and DPPC have a share of 608,890, MT 579,852 MT and 379,460 MT of food aid respectively. Details of pledges and deliveries by donor and consignee is shown on pages five to seven.

## Assessment Teams Conducted Debriefing on their Findings on Mid-Meher Crop Performance

Mid-Meher crops performance assessment teams deployed to assess Meher crops and look into food security prospect in the year 2004 gave debriefing on their findings to DPPC staff and stakeholders on October 17, 2003 at the DPPC meeting hall.

According to assessments done on status of Meher in Tigray, Amhara, Oromia, Somali (Shinile and Jijiga zones), SNNP, Afar and Harari regions as well as Dire Dawa Administrative Council, many parts of the country experienced normal or even above normal Meher rains until early October 2003, according to the report of the Teams.

The nine Teams drawn from the DPPC, donors, UN agencies, NGOs, relevant federal and regional offices reported that the prospects for food production and livestock are favorable in Amhara, Oromiya (except for lowland Guji and Bale zones where the expected rains didn't start yet), and much of SNNP regions provided the rains end in the expected duration and there won't be major outbreaks of pests or diseases.

They added that in east Oromiya, northern Somali (Shinile and Jijiga zones) and southern Tigray the Meher season is generally good even though there are some areas where onset of the rains delayed or the amount, distribution and duration were insufficient. Many zones in the SNNP experienced better conditions this year

## News in Brief ...

July - September 2003

### **21,660 MT of Food Aid Agreement Signed**

Food aid amounting to 21,660 MT agreement was signed on August 22, 2003 between the United States Government and the Government of Ethiopia at the DPPC auditorium.

The agreement of the food aid worth USD3.4 million and transportation cost of USD2.6 million was signed between the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission by H.E Simon Mechale, the Commissioner on behalf of the GOE and the United States embassy by H.E Thomas N.Hull, Charge D'Affaires of the embassy on behalf of the USG.

The food aid was planned to be distributed through the DPPC to drought affected beneficiaries of the most vulnerable population in 46 Woredas in Afar, Amhara, Oromia and Somali regions during September/October 2003.

### **Regional Disaster Management Mechanism to be Established in Eastern Africa and Surroundings**

Countries in and around East Africa, including Ethiopia have signed an agreement aimed at jointly tackling natural and man made disasters.

The concerned countries signed the agreement upon concluding ministerial symposium, which discussed natural and man made disaster issues occurring in the region as well as security matters during July 28-30, 2003 deliberations at Sheraton Addis.

The symposium entitled "Golden Spear Symposium 2003", which was the seventh in the series of meetings initiated and organized by USG-Central-Command and hosted by Ethiopia, after in-depth discussions between the delegations of nine participating countries out of eleven members approved an action plan on the need for establishment of disaster

than last year but some still require considerable assistance in 2004 mainly because recovery from severe crisis takes time, according report of the Teams.

Regarding condition of the livestock, despite endemic diseases reported in some areas which were generally insignificant or brought under control, they are recovering in most of the areas due to better availability of water and pasture, it was indicated.

With respect to human health, except malaria outbreaks in most of the areas visited particularly serious cases in western Oromiya (East Wollega and west Shoa) it was found to be good. As to areas that have had high malnutrition rates, the situation is improving because of interventions in supplementary food and therapeutic feeding at the centers set up for this purpose.

Market conditions are improving for pastoral communities; many are reporting improving or improved trade already. Considering crop prices too, staple crop prices have stabilized for the last couple of months though they still are higher than average and than last year because of prior year crop failure, the report revealed.

The assessment Teams also reported that while the ongoing food aid distribution together with improving conditions is alleviating the food problems, there are additional food needs from October to December 2003 due to late onset of rains, long dry spells and other adverse conditions.

Contingency planning scenarios were developed for the visited areas for the year 2004 based on the assessment findings. Best, mid and worst case scenarios were established for each region. The best case scenario would be if rains are sufficient in amount and duration to produce good harvest and continue pasture regeneration, mid case scenario if rains end somewhat prematurely or somewhat below normal in amount or distribution, and worst case scenario if rains stop prematurely or in some cases fail entirely.

The Teams indicated that the food prospect for 2004 is generally anticipated to be much better than 2003 and even the worst case scenario can not by any measure be similar to that of assisted population in 2003.

In the mean time about 20 assessment Teams were dispatched on October 31, 2003 to verify the findings of the previous assessment Teams and to oversee the assistance requirement of year 2004 while another assessment is scheduled to pastoral areas sometime in November 2003.

### **Additional 237,000 MT of Food Aid and Non-food of USD 40 Million Need Disclosed**

Additional need of 237,458 MT of food aid USD 40.3 million of non-food aid to assist our compatriots facing food shortages is required during August-December 2003. This emergency aid requirement was disclosed in the joint DPPC- UN appeal which was officially made on September 5, 2003 at the DPPC meeting hall.

During the occasion H.E Commissioner Simon Mechale made remarks in which he said although 1.8 million persons out of the 12.6 million drought affected compatriots were expected to become self-

supportive by July 2003, it has been indicated by preliminary crop assessment that they need further food aid. Besides, the Commissioner added that out of those under close monitoring



600,000 need emergency assistance up to December 2003, according to the assessment.

### **Capacity Building Training Programs Conducted**

The Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit of the DPPC conducted training on technical capacity building of the Federal, Regional, Zones and Woreda Disaster Prevention and Preparedness capabilities during the last 6 months involving 73 persons from four regions.

One of the training was on computer operation, analysis and presentation of information organized on nutrition study. This training was provided to workers of DPPCs and DPPBs from Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya and Somali regions.

At the end of each training, Woredas vulnerable to drought from the four regions which require emergency nutrition study were identified; action plans prepared, and the trainees shall be participating in the study as they return to their respective areas.

### **NDPPF Provided Over Birr 70 Million Loan for Food Aid and Seed Purchase**

The National Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Fund (NDPPF) Administration provided Birr 70,763,760 loan for food aid and seeds purchase since its establishment in June 2000, the General Manager of the Administration disclosed.

Out of the total loan Birr 34,392,000 was provided very recently to the Ministry of Agriculture for seed purchase, Ato Tamiru Ayana, the General Manager told Public Relations experts of the DPPC.

Seed had also been purchased with Birr 3,462,560 loan through the DPPC with guarantee of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for farmers who lost their crop plants because of the drought and the loan

was paid back by the guarantor, Ato Tamiru said. Besides, the DPPC had borrowed Birr 32,900,000 previously in order to buy food aid locally with guarantee of European Union and the loan was repaid by the Union already, he added.

The loan, which is normally provided interest free has been paid according to schedule without any obstructions except that the payment schedule might have been extended according to request, it was learnt.

Initially the Fund secured support from the Government and the Republic of Ireland towards building its financial capacity. Besides, in accordance with agreement made with concerned bodies the Fund received 25% sales of vehicles of NGOs sold with a total income of about Birr 6 million obtained so far. The sales of vehicles that belonged to NGOs takes place when the NGOs no longer use them or the NGOs cease to function and part of the income thus generated is agreed up on to build financial capacity of the Fund.

On the other hand, in an effort made to avoid keeping the money idle about Birr 100,000 has been debited from purchase of document of treasury from the Government. In general, the capacity of the NDPPF has currently reached Birr 78,681,024, Ato Tamiru indicated.

### **Over 1.4 Million MT Food Aid Distributed**

The Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission in collaboration with NGOs distributed a total of 1,439,657.55 MT in the drought hit areas of the country from January to October 31, 2003. Of this amount 714,287.7 MT was availed by DPPC and the remaining 725,369.8 MT was channeled through NGOs.

The distribution was done based on the severity of food shortages in the regions. Accordingly, 258,262.2 MT was distributed in Tigray, 109,532 MT in Afar, 39,518.9 MT in Amhara, 424,902.9 MT in Oromia, 124,140 MT in Somali, 2,133 MT in Benishangul, 174,272.3 MT in SNNP, 5,571 MT in Gambela, 2,036.5 MT in Harari and 117,247 MT in Dire Dawa.

On the other hand the monthly emergency ration per person provided to compatriots affected by drought and other disasters has been raised from 12.5 kg to 15 kg per person as of July 2003. It has been arrived at the decision to raise the ration to 15 kg, which is more or less of international standard owing to the amount of pledges by donors and the actual delivery meeting the requirement. The will and contribution of donors on humanitarian ground has also

increased recently. It is to be recalled that the 12.5 kg ration although below the needed had been distributed monthly per person just to save lives given resource limitations.

The DPPC and its partners have made substantial efforts to ward off the danger of starvation that has been hanging over many people during the year. Summary of the food aid distribution by regions is shown on pages eight to ten.

### **The National Fund Raising Committee Secured Over Birr 97.5 Million**

The National Fund Raising Committee, which was established on Dec. 3, 2002 secured Birr 97,596,376 in aid during June 2002 up to September 2003. Besides, the committee acquired non-food items worth Birr 4.7 million during the same period. Of this cash donation, Birr 90,432,210 was contributed by employees of various governmental and non-governmental organizations, business establishments, religious groups, individuals, Ethiopians residing abroad and all others while Birr 7,164,166 was

mobilized from 7 regions in support of the drought affected people.

The cash mobilized was utilized for the provision of supplementary food, seeds, medications and for transportation of relief items to the affected areas which helped in alleviating the suffering of the drought affected people who were in dire need of assistance.

The National Fund Raising Committee is chaired by the DPPC Commissioner and has representation from religious entities, Ministry of Information, Christian Relief and Development Agency (CRDA), and Associations. Since its establishment, the Committee has been exerting its efforts to alert the Ethiopian people and donors on the drought situation.

The DPPC has been engaged in devising the best ways and means of mobilizing resources from within the country and abroad one of which has been the local fund raising campaign besides the regular resource mobilization drive.



*Ato Amare Almayehu CETU president and member of the Natinal Fund Raising Committee recieveing donation. (October 24, 2003 )*

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# MAJOR DISASTERS AND RESPONSE

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October 13 - 27, 2003

## Malaria Outbreaks and Medication Reported from Different Areas

Malaria outbreaks and medication against the disease has been reported from different parts of the country. Accordingly, in 22 Kebeles of 4 Woredas in East Gojam of Amhara Region treatment and prevention activities against the disease have been under way. In Oromiya Region, the disease has been reported from Gulele Woreda of North Shoa zone, Adami Tulu Jido Kombolcha woreda of East Shoa zone, Tiro, Daro Labu Ancharo Kuni, Mieso and East Boke Wosredas of West Hararghe zone, Seka Chekorsa, Omonada, Tiro Afeta, Sokoru and Kersa in Jima zone and in many of the areas medication has been underway as reported towards mid-October 2003. In a locality in Yaya Gullele 29 persons, in 4 localities of Dera Woreda 238 persons and in 3 localities of Hidebu Abote Woreda 78 persons were treated

against malaria. Similarly, in 7 localities of Kuto woreda 800 people who were sick with the disease were vaccinated, as reported on October 22, 2003. In the SNNPR, too, outbreak of the disease in the low-lying areas was reported by the Early Warning Department of the DPPC.

### Treatment Against Animal Disease Under way

Treatment against various animal diseases have been reported from localities in different regions. Cases of pasterolosis and black leg was reported from Jama Woreda of South Wallo zone and treatment has been provided against the disease. The same disease was reported from Gola Oda Woreda of East Hararghe zone in Oromiya region. In a similar development, cases of pasterolosis and anthrax was reported from Arsi Negclle woreda of East Shoa zone in response to which animals have been vaccinated. In Shashigo and Duna Woredas of Hadiya zone, too, cases of lump skin disease was reported and constraint indicated hampering the treatment effort was lack of ice box in taking the medicine from place to place.

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## STOCK STATUS OF EFSR AND LOAN REPAYMENT SCHEDULE (MT)

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October 31, 2003

1.	Stock Status	MT
	Stock at hand	254,988.11
	Outstanding loans	150,016.72
	Shortages from WFP donation	179.77
	Shortages from WFP donation	1,815.40
	<b>Total</b>	<b>407,000.00</b>

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