

## Key Overall Developments

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) says the general performance of the ongoing Deyr (October – December) rains throughout the country have so far been good. Field reports indicate that there were heavy rains in Belet Weyne, Hiraan and Ceel Waaq and Belet Hawa in Gedo. Some populations have been forced to move to higher ground as water has inundated their houses and some sanitation facilities which could cause health hazards. In Ceel Waaq, an estimated 350 households were displaced.

The Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit, the Somali Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM), both technical units of the Food and Agriculture Organisation and FEWSNET have formed a Flood Information Group. This Group will review, triangulate and consolidate all incoming reports on floods and provide the best possible consensus on the real time flooding situation and its impact. The group will issue daily updates, as required, on the status of flooding. Anyone with information on floods should submit it to the Flood Information Group on [floodinfo@fsnau.org](mailto:floodinfo@fsnau.org). SWALIM has developed a Flood Information website - <http://www.faoswalim.org/subsites/frmis/index.php>, which will have the updates from the Flood Information Group, river levels and weather reports, and baseline and historic data on flood risk areas. Of primary concern is the limited access that agencies have to areas at risk of flooding. The UN Country Team has suggested sending a draft letter to authorities controlling these areas requesting access.

On 28 October, at least four people were killed and more than 10 others were wounded in Hodan and Howl Wadaag districts in Mogadishu during fighting between insurgents and the Transitional Federal Government (TFG)/African Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). On 27 and 29 October, police and local merchants clashed in Gaalkacyo, Puntland when council employees attempted to demolish illegal structures at the market. At least 11 people were killed and four others were injured.

The UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator this week allocated US\$12 million to five humanitarian agencies in Somalia from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). The projects of UNICEF, FAO, UNHCR, WFP and WHO will respond to emergency water, sanitation and hygiene, livelihood support, food aid to vulnerable children and women, response to measles outbreaks and enabling humanitarian relief operations. The 2009 humanitarian appeal for Somalia is currently 58 percent funded.

On 29 October, the United Nations in Somalia commemorated the first anniversary of the Hargeysa bombings. One of the five bomb attacks in Hargeysa and Bossaso targeted the UN compound killing two staff members and injuring six others. The UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Somalia, Mark Bowden, in a statement said, "One year after these outrageous attacks, I am full of admiration for my colleagues who have demonstrated an unfaltering commitment to help Somalis recover from 18 years of conflict, despite the high risks they encounter daily and the impediment this places on their work." He added that it is in times such as these that the UN renews its commitment to work with and for Somalis to achieve lasting sustained development.

## Response

WFP and partners distributed 307 metric tons of assorted food commodities to 22,590 beneficiaries under the supplementary feeding programme in Bay and Bakool regions. In Puntland, another 55,944 people benefited from a 605 metric ton distribution of food commodities.

About 1,500 children aged between 6-36 months are benefiting from the distribution of plumpy'doz, a ready-to-use food rich in micronutrients, to 24 IDP settlements in Burco, Somaliland. The same distribution will start in South/Central in November targeting 108,000 children. So far, 132,000 children have been reached.

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