



# WFP EMERGENCY REPORT

Report No. 25 of 1996 Date: 28 June 1996

**Issued weekly by the United Nations World Food Programme**

This report includes: A) Liberia and Sierra Leone B) Burundi, Rwanda, Zaire and Tanzania C) Somalia D) Angola E) Iraq

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## PART I - HIGHLIGHTS

(Details below in Part II)

### A. LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE

#### 1. Liberia

- a) Security improves further in Monrovia as ECOMOG reinforces checkpoints in town, but overall situation is still fluid as tension mounts among the different warring factions.
- b) Continued armed activity in the interior pushes new waves of internally displaced people closer to Monrovia.

#### 2. Sierra Leone

- a) Distribution of WFP food commodities undertaken by ICRC in the south-eastern region.

### B. REGIONAL OPERATION FOR BURUNDI, RWANDA, ZAIRE AND TANZANIA

#### 1. General

- a) WFP Regional Logistics meeting held in Bukavu to review existing logistics contingency plans for Rwanda and Burundi, and create a logistics contingency plan for Masisi, Zaire.

#### 2. Burundi

- a) Insecurity continues in various parts of the country, but WFP operation restart in Gitega and Karuzi provinces. Skirmishes in Bujumbura one km from centre of town.

b) Attacks on Action Contre la Faim lead to halt in their operations in the province of Ngozi.

3. Zaire - Goma

a) Harassment of private transport contractors working for WFP by soldiers at military road blocks between the border points and Katale camp.

4. Rwanda

a) Rwanda Round Table donor meeting in Geneva. Donors pledge USD 627 million towards total appeal for USD 832 million for 1996/98.

**C. SOMALIA**

1. Update

a) Cross-border WFP operations to Juba valley area from Kenya start 22 June, the first cross-border delivery since 1992.

b) Further fighting in southern Mogadishu.

**D. ANGOLA**

1. Update

a) In Malange, inter-agency meeting with provincial government sets course for next few months; in the meantime, security in the city and surrounding area continues tense.

b) Inter-agency mission planned to southern Kuando Kubango.

c) UNAVEM reports urgent food needs for soldiers and family members in pre-quartering areas.

**E. IRAQ**

1. Update

a) WFP responds to needs of people newly displaced by security problems along the border between Turkey and Iraq.

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**PART II - DETAILS**

**A. LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE**

**1. LIBERIA**

1.1 UNOMIL Observers have started to regularly patrol central Monrovia, ELWA junction, Camp Schiefflin and Po River in order to verify the implementation of the Accra Mechanism for revitalizing the peace process.

1.2 Fighting is reportedly continuing between NPFL and LPC in south-east of the country as well as in the western region.

1.3 A new warring faction called the Congo Defense Force (allegedly emanating from NPFL) emerged last week in Bomi county and was fighting along with ULIMO-K against the ULIMO-J, over-running Klay and Government Farm.

1.4 Since 9 June, an influx of 4,461 civilians (of whom 45 percent are described as malnourished children) fleeing the fighting in Government Farm and Sasstown have arrived in the Po River area. On 25 June, some 700 people arrived in Zwanna town from Tubmanburg. All new arrivals have been given a two-week emergency food ration.

1.5 Councilman Kromah is reported to have agreed to the provision of humanitarian assistance to the civilian population in Tubmanburg, not accessible since early 1996.

1.6 From 20-25 June, WFP delivered 361 mt of food to about 63,000 beneficiaries in displaced shelters, vulnerable groups and food-for-work for community-based projects. Since resumption of food relief operation on 14 April WFP has distributed a total of 12,000 mt assorted food commodities.

1.7 WFP expects to send a mission this week to Gbarnga and upper Lofa (Zorzor and Vonjama) to finalize proposed targeted feeding programmes and check food balances in warehouses.

1.8 As part of the cross-border operation from Cote d'Ivoire to Liberia, Lutheran World Federation reported that five convoys carrying seed rice (for a total 149 mt) were sent from Man to farmers in Nimba and Bong counties last week. Drugs were also dispatched to the Phebe hospital, close to Gbarnga, as well as 52 mt of WFP food to be used in the therapeutic centre run by the French NGO Action Contre la Faim in Gbarnga.

1.9 The heads of UN agencies in Monrovia held a retreat on 19 June on board the M/V Salvator, and recommended that support be maintained only in critical areas such as malnutrition and hunger, epidemics, emergency health services, basic education, refugee protection in shelters along with basic operational support.

## 2. SIERRA LEONE

2.1 The Sierra Leone News Agency has reported that 30,000 people have returned to Imperrri chiefdom in the Bonthe district, in southern Sierra Leone.

2.2 On 21 June food supplies were delivered for a caseload of 7,200 IDPs plus 1,562 under-fives at Grafton camp, and to 4,326 Liberian refugees plus 700 under-fives at Jui camp.

2.3 ICRC distributed WFP food commodities in the following locations:

a) Zimmi: food distribution took place from June 15 to 20.

The distribution was planned for a caseload of 13,000 making double distribution at WFP safety net ration.

b) Segbwema/Dary: the first food distribution will be completed by 14 July and the second round will take place on 30 July to a caseload of 120,000 displaced persons/returnees.

c) Pujehun: the first food distribution for a planning caseload of 10,000 will be effected first week in July.

2.4 About 10,000 returnees (former Sierra Leonean refugees in Liberia) who are in Zimmi and Segbwema plus Liberian refugees in the area are facing a food crisis. The situation is

desperate as the emergency ration they are presently receiving is not enough and medical facilities are poor. People have to walk six miles to get water. Rebel activities reported in nearby villages, and groups of marauding bands along the road.

2.5 Security check-points on the highways manned by soldiers have been reduced in the northern, southern and eastern regions. Vehicles are now moving freely up-country.

2.6 On 15 June 343 displaced foster families in Bo sponsored by Plan International received agricultural inputs including upland and swampland rice, ground nuts and maize. Some 2,200 farmers in the Lomossama chiefdom, Portloko district have received USD 64,000 for support programmes.

## **B. REGIONAL OPERATION FOR BURUNDI, RWANDA, ZAIRE AND TANZANIA**

### **1. GENERAL**

1.1 A WFP Regional Logistics meeting was held in Bukavu last week, with the participation of WFP Logistics Officers from WFP offices in Rwanda, Burundi, Goma, Bukavu, Nairobi, Kampala and Tanzania, as well as representatives from Rome HQ and the Transport Coordination Unit, Kampala. The focus of the meeting was to review the existing Rwanda and Burundi logistics contingency plans and to create a logistics contingency plan for Masisi, Zaire.

### **2. BURUNDI**

2.1 The second round of Mwanza peace talks, called by mediator Julius Nyerere, took place from 17-18 June. Results of this negotiation, which included the participation of representatives from all Burundian political parties, are reported as being more positive than previous talks. Next talks are scheduled for 2 July in Mwanza.

2.2 The Bujumbura offices of MSF-Holland and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies were both attacked by armed intruders on the evening of 20 June. On 24 June, the Italian Cooperation residence/ office in Bujumbura was broken into by five armed bandits, who injured the watchman and stole equipment.

2.3 Insecurity continued in many parts of the country. Bujumbura witnessed skirmishes between the military and rebels only one kilometre from the centre of town. In Ruyigi, fighting between rebels and the military left two soldiers and two Chefs of Zone dead. On 23 June, a grenade attack in the centre of Bururi killed one person and wounded 12 others. The following day, a further mine exploded in a Bururi school; no injuries were reported. Seven persons were killed in Gitega on 23 June (Makebuko commune).

2.4 Action Contre la Faim halted operations in the province of Ngozi on 21 June, having been the victim of two attacks during the month, including the recent armed looting of their Ngozi office. Action Contre la Faim is still active in other parts of the country.

2.5 In general, the situation in Ngozi and Kirundo remains stable, while in Muyinga security is tense, especially in the southern communes. South-western Kayanza province also remains tense. Some 150 houses in Butaganzwa commune and 35 houses in Matongo commune in Kayanza province were burned between 20 and 25 June. While many are displaced, constantly fleeing outbreaks of fighting, there are no signs of food aid being needed at this time, as the harvest is on-going.

2.6 WFP restarted Gitega/Karuzi operations last week (staff present from 19-21 June), with several security and needs assessments. Meetings took place with the Governor of Karuzi,

who has been actively regrouping displaced persons into camps for both protection and facility of aid. The WFP distribution team and entire Gitega staff were again deployed on 24 June to begin distributions in Karuzi sites. Distribution will be carried out once clearance is given by the provincial authorities. Overall security situation in the area remains unpredictable.

### **3. ZAIRE - GOMA**

3.1 Northern Masisi: 580 people formerly displaced have returned on their own to the area, where the situation is presently calm. Commercial traffic to the area has recommenced. A local NGO has registered some 2,850 displaced who require assistance to return to their homes.

3.2 Some 300 Tutsis were evacuated by private transporters from Osso to Goma where they cross into Rwanda as refugees.

3.3 In Southern Masisi, newly displaced villagers from around Minova, Kirotshu and Bweremana have still not returned to their villages following last week's confrontation between Hutu and Hunde forces.

3.4 The UNHCR has announced that they are considering moving all camps to cell level distributions.

3.5 From 17 to 23 June 1996, 91 trucks with relief supplies crossed via the Bunagana border. WFP-Goma received 1,654 mt of maize grain, 163 mt of ICRC oil, and 500 mt of pulses for a total of 2,317 mt.

3.6 Private transporters engaged by WFP are experiencing difficulties at military road blocks on the Zairian side of the route, notably from the border points to Rutshuru. Truck drivers are forced to pay over cash or diesel at the check points; some have also reportedly been beaten. At present, the WFP's leased fleets, which bear WFP markings, are excluded from this harassment. WFP has and continues to meet with military commanders to negotiate safe passage through the road blocks. The formation of convoys including private trucks and WFP leased vehicles (leading and ending the convoy) has so far met with only limited success. WFP is also issuing private trucks carrying WFP food aid with temporary WFP markings/logos once they cross the border point.

3.7 WFP operations on the Bunagana route were suspended from 21 June afternoon until 24 June because of a security warning from the military authorities in that region. WFP trucks were held at Kisoro and Kabala in Uganda once again causing a slow down in deliveries and turn around time.

### **4. ZAIRE - BUKAVU**

4.1 The registration operation, which had been disrupted by refugees, continued in certain camps this week and was again marked by violence towards the international aid community. During the delayed second phase of the registration in Kabira camp, the population again resorted to violence, throwing rocks at a UNHCR car and injuring several humanitarian workers.

4.2 About 39 percent of the total population received their rations during from 17-24 June. Two more camps were registered and deliveries were made with distributions to follow. Distributions in the four camps for which caseload figures have not yet been finalised are scheduled to be carried out next week.

### **5. ZAIRE - UVIRA**

5.1 Registration of refugees in Uvira camps began by UNHCR on 20 June, with 6 out of 11 camps completed by 25 June. The census will be complete by the end June.

5.2 Some 450 refugees arrived at Kamanyola camp over the weekend from Cibitoke province of Burundi. New arrivals come from the Rugombo commune of the province.

5.3 A mine exploded under a commercial truck on the escarpment road on 25 June in Uvira near Kamanyola village. One person was killed and another injured in the incident. This is the fifth incident in 6 months on the road, which is used to shuttle both staff and food from Uvira-Bukavu.

5.4 Despite a previous agreement from all concerned parties, Burundian barges loaded for Uvira have been faced with administrative problems upon arrival in Zaire. This problem is presently being addressed by WFP Bukavu with the relevant authorities.

## **6. RWANDA**

6.1 Rwanda Round Table was held in Geneva on 20-21 June 1996, with participation of the Government of Rwanda, UNDP (co-chairs), over thirty donor country representatives and a number of UN Agencies and NGOs. The Government presented its eight main objectives for the period 1996-1998 - strengthening of internal security, revitalisation of the judicial system, regulation of property disputes, respect of fundamental liberties, return of refugees, consolidation of the democratic process, capacity building and national reconciliation - and appealed for USD 832 million aid for their implementation. The donor community welcomed the proclaimed objectives and pledged USD 627 million. Main donors include the EU, the Netherlands, World Bank and USA. The next Rwanda Round Table is planned for January 1998, in Kigali.

## **C. SOMALIA**

### **1. UPDATE**

1.1 Following reports of malnutrition in the Juba valley in southern Somalia resulting from insecurity and food shortages, WFP began cross-border operations from Kenya on 22 June with 80 mt of maize and 4 mt of oil. This was the first cross-border delivery since before arrival of UNOSOM in late 1992. On 23 June, 10 mt of maize and 2 mt of oil were distributed in Liboi to 1,366 internally displaced people (IDPs); a further 10 mt of maize and 2 mt of oil to 4,100 IDPs in Doble and 60 mt of maize in Bu'alle and Sakowein to 1,200 families.

1.2 Insecurity in southern Mogadishu increased this week as fighting between the forces of Osman Otto and the forces of Mohamed Farah Aideed escalated.

## **D. ANGOLA**

### **1. Update**

1.1 Further to a meeting last week in Luanda, NGOs and UN agencies working in Malange met with the Governor and two Vice-Governors of Malange on 25 June to discuss a common strategy to improve food security levels. It was agreed that the strategy should be based on resettlement of displaced populations and support to the communities of resettlement, that all possible support should be given to agricultural production in these communities, that security needs to be improved in order to prevent the recurrence of this year's vandalism, that a limited amount of food assistance needs to be maintained to ensure sufficient food production and that vulnerable groups within the city need to continue to be supported. An operational plan is being drawn up as a follow-up to the meeting.

1.2 UNDP Resident Representative in Namibia visited Luanda from 19 to 21 June to brief humanitarian agencies and the donor community on the precarious security situation along the border with Angola, which Namibian authorities attribute to a large degree on the lack of food and other basic items which force the populations in southern Kuando Kubango to cross into northern Namibia. As a result of this visit and previous reports of increasing problems in southern Kuando Kubango due to the tightening of border controls along the Namibian border, WFP is leading a three-day inter-agency mission to the area. The mission will visit Likua, Mucusso and Jamba.

1.3 A donation of USD 1 million in non-food items to support WFP programmes in Angola has been confirmed. The donation is in response the 1996 UN Consolidated Appeal and will be used to purchase non-food items to support the demobilization and reintegration programme in the provinces of Bie, Huambo, Kwanza Norte, Kwanza Sul and Uige. WFP Luanda is preparing with FAO joint programmes to support the reintegration of demobilised soldiers in these provinces with the backstopping of these non-food items.

1.4 Demobilisation update: UNAVEM has reported that UNITA troops and their families assembled in pre-quarterming areas in eastern Moxico and southern Kuando Kubango are in need of food assistance. UNAVEM has requested WFP to purchase food on their behalf, which UNAVEM will distribute to these soldiers until they receive humanitarian assistance in the Quarterming areas (QAs). Meanwhile, WFP is assessing possibility of assisting the families of these soldiers assembled in Lumbala N'Guimbo and Cazombo (eastern Moxico). Joint FAA/UNITA representatives are currently in the four QAs recently declared closed (Vila Nova, Londuimbali, N'Gove and Negage) selecting those soldiers to be integrated into the FAA. The total number of quartered UNITA troops as of 26 June 1996 is 45,900.

## E. IRAQ

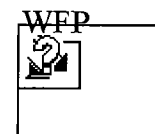
### 1. Update

1.1 Security along the border between Turkey and northern Iraq continues to be an issue. In northern Iraq WFP has been coordinating with the UN/NGO community to ensure food supplies and humanitarian assistance to 2,175 newly displaced over the last two weeks. In the same area WFP provided food aid during the month of May to 15,000 Kurdish refugees from Turkey and to 87,000 internally displaced and destitute people, within the framework of WFP emergency operation in Iraq. The target beneficiary figure for the area is 666,000.

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(End WFP Emergency Report No. 25 of 1996 - June 27, 1996)

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