

Report no. 2

**Ms. Catherine Bertini,  
UN Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on the drought in the Horn  
of Africa:**

Findings and recommendations of the mission to Kenya and Ethiopia  
between 17-23 September 2000



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Rome, 29 September 2000

“We are always going to have drought and we have to treat it as an African winter. Drought-prone countries can prepare for such events, as countries in the northern hemisphere can prepare for winter.”

Dr. Richard Leakey, Secretary to the Cabinet, Kenya

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## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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As part of the UN Secretary-General's initiative to address the drought crisis and promote longer-term food security in the Horn of Africa region, the Secretary-General appointed in March 2000 Ms. Catherine Bertini, Executive Director of the World Food Programme, as the UN Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the drought in the Horn of Africa. The Special Envoy undertook her first mission to the region between 11-19 April. A second, follow-up mission took place between 17-23 September. The main findings and recommendations of the second mission are presented in this report and can be summarised as follows:

### The famine has been averted.

- There has been significant progress in addressing the effects of drought in the Horn of Africa region since April.
- A massive relief effort is underway, particularly in food assistance. Almost one million metric tons of food has been delivered to the drought affected people in the Horn of Africa region between January and August 2000.
- Water, health and livestock interventions are also reaching the drought affected areas.
- A stable security situation and major logistics investments have enabled the delivery of record amounts of relief food and other emergency services.
- Governments of the Horn of Africa region have contributed in important ways to the drought relief effort.
- The UN Secretary-General's timely initiative to appoint a Special Envoy for the drought in the Horn of Africa has been instrumental to the success of the UN relief intervention and has been widely acclaimed in the region.
- The establishment of the Office of the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator in Addis Ababa, the secondments of staff to this office from FAO and WHO and the hiring of security professionals has facilitated effective drought relief coordination.

### The crisis is not over. Millions of people are still at risk and the next few months are critical for sustaining the recovery process.

- Drought-affected people in the Horn of Africa region are still in a precarious state; they have lost much of their livestock assets and have little or no food. Especially women are struggling with the effects of the drought.
- Rains in October are critical for recovery in the region but they also pose new health risks. Water and health interventions are essential to prevent deterioration of the health and nutrition situation during the forthcoming rainy season.
- In order to enable affected communities to continue recovery from the drought, the food and non-food shortfalls in the June 2000 UN regional drought appeal should be resourced as a matter of priority. Urgent donor contributions are required particularly for interventions in the water, health, livestock, agriculture and seed sectors.
- New assessments of relief needs should be undertaken in the region in November, followed by a UN regional appeal.
- UN regional humanitarian coordination for drought relief in the Horn of Africa region has been effective. This arrangement should be extended until end of June 2001.



## II. FINDINGS

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### 1. Famine in the Horn of Africa has been averted

#### A. **There has been progress in addressing the effects of drought in the Horn of Africa region since April: food and non-food assistance provided through the UN, NGOs and Governments has prevented a famine and set the foundations for recovery.**

- Almost 1 million metric tons of food aid has been delivered to drought affected people in the Horn of Africa countries (Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia and Djibouti) between January and August 2000. Relief food assistance is reaching the drought-affected people in the most affected areas through free food distributions and school meals.
- Drought affected communities are being provided some access to water through provision of new boreholes and wells and rehabilitation of existing water sources. Training in the maintenance, rehabilitation and installation of water supply systems is also under way.
- The health situation in many drought-affected communities is improving. For example, in Gode Zone, in the Somali Region of Ethiopia, registered combined deaths from ARI (acute respiratory infection), diarrhea, measles and malnutrition have dropped from 355 in March to 100 in July (Annex IV). As the situation improves, supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes are gradually being phased out.
- Measles immunization has been carried out throughout the Somali Region of Ethiopia. Among the drought-affected populations of Kenya, measles immunisation and vitamin A distribution has reached 37%. In order to prevent spread of malaria and diarrheal diseases during the forthcoming rainy season, preventive campaigns are being undertaken in Kenya. Immunisation and sensitisation campaigns to prevent cholera are under way in Djibouti.
- Livestock development programmes, although still too few, are noteworthy considering the predominantly pastoral nature of the communities affected by drought. Some innovative programmes, such as provision of camels for Masai women, are being undertaken but considerably more resources are required in order for these initiatives to have sufficient impact in the region.
- The UN has established a full-time presence in the areas most affected by the drought in southeastern Ethiopia.



**B. A stable security situation has facilitated delivery of drought relief assistance**

- Delivery of drought relief assistance to the region has been facilitated by the establishment of UN security infrastructures, including deployment of UN security officers, regular security assessments, better communications and security training for UN staff.

**C. Contributions from the Governments of the Horn of Africa region have played a key role in the drought relief effort**

- Although the magnitude of the drought in the Horn of Africa far exceeds their capacities, the Governments in the region have provided valuable contributions to the relief efforts. Governments have facilitated importation of relief items, assisted in establishment of telecommunications systems for aid agencies and supporting UN logistics initiatives.
- Governments have also contributed substantial quantities of food from their own resources. For example, the Government of Ethiopia has contributed 100,000 metric tons of wheat purchased locally in Ethiopia. The Government of Kenya has contributed 40,000 metric tons of maize to the drought relief effort. The Government of Tanzania has released 20,000 metric tons of maize from its reserve stocks to be sold to drought affected people at a subsidised price.

**D. NGOs have a significant role in drought relief**

- Local and international NGOs are doing exemplary work in mitigating the effects of drought. During her mission, the Special Envoy observed many examples of successful and innovative NGO drought relief interventions.

**E. Major logistics investments in the Horn of Africa region have enabled the delivery of record amounts of relief food.**

- Some 1,200 long-haul trucks are under contract by WFP to transport food from Djibouti port to delivery points in Ethiopia. In spite of the rehabilitation works being undertaken by WFP at Djibouti port, the port and the transport system have been able to handle the massive quantities of food without major bottlenecks. Between January and August 2000, on average 122,000 metric tons of food per month has been transported from Djibouti port to Ethiopia (including food for development, IDP and refugee projects and repayments to the Emergency Food Security Reserve). The monthly trucking capacity from the port to Ethiopia has now reached 150,000 metric tons.
- WFP has imported 140 short-haul trucks to ensure adequate capacity of food deliveries to beneficiaries in Ethiopia.



- WFP has launched six logistics Special Operations in the Horn of Africa region which aim to upgrade the ports of Djibouti and Berbera, improve the roads from Djibouti and Berbera to Ethiopia, rehabilitate roads in Kenya, establish efficient logistics coordination and enhance air transport in Ethiopia for humanitarian personnel to undertake assessments, monitoring and security missions. However, these Special Operations are still not fully funded.

**F. The UN Secretary-General's timely initiative to appoint a Special Envoy for the drought in the Horn of Africa has been instrumental to the success of the UN relief intervention**

- Heads of state, senior Government officials, donors, drought victims, UN Country Teams and NGOs were unanimous in expressing their praise and appreciation for the timely and effective initiative of the Secretary-General in addressing the drought to include the appointment of a Special Envoy and the establishment of a special coordinating mechanism.

**G. The establishment of the Office of the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator and secondments of staff to this office from FAO and WHO has facilitated effective drought relief coordination.**

- The Office of the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator (ORHC) in Addis Ababa has played a key role in effective coordination of the regional drought relief effort. The ORHC, based on inputs from Country Teams, compiled the regional UN drought appeal, launched in June, established a system to monitor contributions to the appeal, facilitated access by NGOs to Government decision makers, helped resolve practical problems such as duty free importation of NGO vehicles, and was instrumental in creating a security system in Ethiopia for regions outside Addis Ababa.
- WHO and FAO have seconded two staff members each to the ORHC. These staff have provided the office with capacity and expertise in the fields of public health, nutrition, agriculture and livestock.

**H. It is difficult to separate the relief needs of drought affected people and people displaced by war**

- Both drought and conflict have caused large-scale displacements of people in the Horn of Africa region. The humanitarian aid requirements of people displaced by war and those displaced by drought are similar. Assistance is and should continue to be provided to both groups regardless of the cause of displacement and food insecurity.



## **2. The crisis is not over, millions of people are still at risk**

### **A. Resourcing the remaining food and non-food shortfalls is critical to enable affected communities to continue the recovery process**

- The percentage of relief requirements resourced by sector under the UN regional drought appeal as of 28 September 2000 was as follows (Annexes II and III):

Food	81%
Shelter	23%
Water & sanitation	40%
Health & nutrition	32%
Livestock	35%
Seeds & agriculture	0.2%
Logistics	32%
Coordination/common services	10%
Other support services	4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69%</b>

- Poor resourcing of the non-food requirements of the regional UN appeal is a cause for serious concern. Relatively low-cost inputs in the water, health and livestock sectors have a profound impact on the affected people as it allows them to continue in the coming months the recovery process that has already begun.
- For example, a water purification plant provided by Oxfam in Gode, in the Somali Region of Ethiopia, supplies clean water to some 90,000 people and had cost approximately US\$ 150,000 to establish, less than US\$ 2 per person.
- In Kajiado District, in drought-stricken southern Kenya, SARDEP (Semi Arid Rural Development Programme), a Dutch NGO, supplies camels to Masai women who traditionally do not own livestock. The camels provide the women and their families milk, transport and an unprecedented degree of independence.
- Wells developed in pastoral areas through UNICEF assistance have provided separate watering points for people and for their animals. This means a source of clean water for human consumption with considerable benefits to people's health and reduction in the burden of women who are in charge of fetching water for their families.
- Such relatively inexpensive investments can bring about great changes for large numbers of people. These type of interventions need to be brought to the attention of donors.



- It must be noted, though, that NGOs have been funded for all but the logistics and coordination sectors, with heavy emphasis on non-food interventions.

**B. Drought-affected people in the Horn of Africa region are still in a precarious state; they have lost much of their livestock assets and have little or no food. Even with rains later this year, relief will still be needed next year.**

- The people most severely affected by the drought are pastoralists or semi-pastoralists whose main asset is livestock. There are no reliable statistics on numbers of livestock that have died due to the drought. Estimates of livestock losses by authorities in the Somali region are as high as 74%. In the northern and northeastern parts of Kenya livestock losses between 20-85% have been reported.
- Pastoral families who have lost much of their livestock assets have lost their main source of income and food. They continue to depend on food aid for survival. Restocking of livestock will take well into 2001. Meanwhile, ensuring distribution of a food basket with adequate protein is crucial.
- A new threat to the recovery of the livestock-based economies in the Horn of Africa region is the ban imposed in September by Saudi-Arabia and Yemen on livestock imports from the region. This follows an outbreak of Rift Valley Fever in these two countries. The disease primarily affects animals but may cause deaths in humans as well. Export of livestock to Saudi-Arabia and Yemen is an important source of income in the pastoral areas of the Horn of Africa.

**C. Especially women are struggling with the effects of the drought**

- A common response to the drought by the pastoral communities is for men to move with the livestock in search of pasture and water. Women and children have stayed behind with little or no food. Women and children therefore constitute the main target group of the drought relief effort in the pastoral areas. Their needs must be at the forefront of planning relief interventions.
- Women have been marginalised in the drought response effort of Governments and local authorities. This point was made by the Special Envoy throughout her mission and met with general agreement. However, actions to change this are not yet forthcoming.



### **3. The next few months are critical**

#### **A. Rains in October are critical for the recovery of drought affected people in the region**

- In many parts of the pastoral and semi-pastoral areas of the Horn of Africa, rains are expected in October-November. The condition of animals will depend on these rains, as they are important to revive pasture and to replenish water sources.
- However, the Horn of Africa region has experienced three consecutive years of poor rainfall. Therefore, even normal rainfall conditions may be insufficient to restore the water situation in areas with severe accumulated rainfall deficits. Significant amount of grazing and fodder can only become available in 2 to 3 months' time provided that the rains are on schedule.

#### **B. Water and health interventions are essential to prevent deterioration of the health and nutrition situation during the forthcoming rainy season**

- The rains also bring with them increased risks of malaria and diarrheal diseases. Campaigns to prevent communicable disease, including education, need to be strengthened in order to avoid deterioration of the health situation.
- Governments, UN agencies and NGOs should develop a strategy to educate people on prevention of diseases that come with the rains.

#### **C. Logistics and infrastructure capacity remain crucial as peak time for food arrivals to Ethiopia is still ahead**

- The logistics infrastructure in Djibouti and Ethiopia has coped well with the large quantities of relief food delivered through the Djibouti corridor. However, the peak time for food deliveries lies still ahead: between September and December 2000, a total of 632,000 metric tons of food (158,000 metric tons per month) is expected to be delivered to Ethiopia through Djibouti port. Although the capacity of the Djibouti corridor is expected to be sufficient to handle the scheduled cargo, close attention needs to be paid to the logistics infrastructure in the coming months.
- Next year, the logistics capacity may be more problematic, as major construction is planned at Djibouti port which may decrease the ability to off load relief food by up to 40% of the current volume.



#### 4. Findings by country<sup>1</sup>

##### **Ethiopia:**

- As of June 2000, emergency response steadily improved in all parts of Ethiopia. Special emphasis has been on the Somali Region where two new UN sub-offices were opened. NGOs have also strengthened their presence with over thirty NGOs now operating in the region.
- The estimate of total drought-affected population in Ethiopia increased from 7.7 million to 10.2 million after the Belg and pastoral areas needs assessment in June revealed below normal rainfall in most areas. Consequently, food requirements for Ethiopia were revised to 1.3 million metric tons, adding over 400,000 metric tons to the initial food needs of 900,000 metric tons.
- Of the 1.3 million metric tons, some 1 million metric tons have been pledged.
- Good progress has been achieved in improving water supply of the drought affected people in the Somali region of Ethiopia through water tankering, drilling schemes, provision of motorized pumps, provision of water tanks and water bladders. However, needs are far greater and lack of resources limited the response capacity.
- UN and NGO response to identified health needs included support to immediate requirements for therapeutic and supplementary feeding, training for health professionals in the management and special care of malnourished children in feeding centers, nutrition surveillance, and management of nutrition facilities. A task force for nutrition was also established to improve response by further strengthening information sharing and providing technical expertise. There remain continuing concerns for the very poor state of child and maternal health in many of the pastoral areas of Ethiopia with continuing high levels of morbidity and unacceptable levels of mortality.
- Security and communication systems have been improved, especially in the Somali Region of Ethiopia.
- Livestock and seeds remain sectors of great concern as no funds have been provided so far through the UN.
- The rains expected in October will be crucial for continued recovery in the Somali Region.
- The nutritional situation of drought-affected people has remained stable in the Ethiopian highlands where the majority of the 10.5 million drought affected

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<sup>1</sup> Information for Tanzania was not available to the Special Envoy during her mission.



people live. The needs assessment that is scheduled for November will provide an update of the situation in the highlands.

- Donor response to the Ethiopia food requirements of the June 2000 UN regional drought appeal has been positive. The UN has received pledges totaling some US\$ 121 million for food out of a total requirement of US\$ 152.6 million. The response to the non-food portion of the appeal, however, is less encouraging, with pledges amounting to just US\$ 10.4 million out of a total requirement of US\$ 37.4 million. This non-food response includes a US\$ 4 million OCHA/Cerf loan provided for UNICEF multi-sectoral activities in drought-affected areas. In addition to contributions through the UN, there are significant non-food contributions channeled through the NGO community.
- WFP faced a delay of some 40 days in clearing the 140 short-haul trucks from Djibouti port. Subsequently, there have been delays in issuing license plates for the trucks. The issue of how long these trucks will be allowed to operate in Ethiopia needs to be resolved with the Government.
- In the Tigray region, WFP has faced constraints in implementing a new commodity tracking system and its staff have not had full access to warehouses where WFP commodities are stored. Unauthorised distributions of drought relief food to war-affected people have been observed in Tigray.
- As a contingency in case the capacity of Djibouti port is reduced next year, WFP is undertaking rehabilitation of Berbera port and reviewing the use of Port Sudan for food deliveries to Ethiopia.
- Although there are still concerns for Somali Region, the overall donor response for both food and non-food requirements has helped prevent what was a crisis from becoming a famine.

#### **Eritrea:**

- Approximately 335,000 people are estimated to require drought relief assistance in Eritrea. However, the situations of the drought-affected and war-affected people are closely interlinked.
- Some 1.1 million people were displaced when hostilities resumed between Eritrea and Ethiopia in May 2000. Of these, about 90,000 people fled to Sudan as refugees. Some 400,000 internally displaced people have since returned to their places of origin, over 200,000 people remain in camps for the displaced and the rest continue to reside among host communities or are scattered along the river beds or in the mountains. 47,000 refugees from Sudan have returned either spontaneously or through assistance by UNHCR and the Eritrean Government.



- Movement of internally displaced people to drought-stricken areas has placed an additional strain on the already diminished resources in these areas. The resumption of hostilities in May 2000 resulted in diversion of resources from drought-affected to war-affected people. No food surpluses are available from the war-affected areas (which normally produce 75% of Eritrea's agricultural output) to the victims of drought. Furthermore, drought-affected people cannot rely on income as seasonal agriculture workers in the war-affected areas.
- Both the war-affected and drought-affected people are likely to require emergency assistance well into 2001, possibly until the end of the year, as most of them were unable to plant for the next agricultural season and have lost their assets. Moreover, rains have remained inadequate and uneven, resulting in poor harvest prospects for the main harvest in November 2000.
- Malnutrition rates among vulnerable groups remain high but stable.
- UNICEF has supported drilling of boreholes, provided water purification and water storage equipment and equipment to produce locally supplementary food.
- FAO has established an emergency coordination unit in Asmara and provided cereal seeds to drought-affected farmers.
- WHO has provided training to health care staff and is procuring emergency health kits.
- Pledges for Eritrea against the UN regional drought appeal amount to 40% of requirements. Although the food requirements have been well resourced, with pledges for food amounting to 83% of needs, there is concern about the poor response to non-food requirements of the appeal with only 18% on non-food needs having been met.
- Poor rate of delivery of humanitarian relief to war affected and drought affected people by ERREC (Government of Eritrea's relief Commission) has been a major concern in Eritrea. In August, the delivery rate reached 13,500 metric tons per month out of a target of 18,000 metric tons per month. During the previous months, the rate had been about 5,000 metric tons per month.
- WFP has also expressed concerns over 1) lack of sufficient access to warehouses where WFP commodities are stored; 2) the fact that WFP staff are not regularly allowed to participate in beneficiary targeting and 3) that food distribution plans are frequently not adhered to by Government staff.

#### **Somalia:**

- The impact of the establishment of new Government in Somalia on humanitarian aid is still uncertain. The level of acceptability of the



Government by various political stake-holders will have direct consequences on political stability and may impact on the availability of ports, delivery corridors, distribution of aid and security of humanitarian staff.

- As a result of a good harvest, the drought situation has improved. It is estimated that the number of drought-affected people has been reduced from 750,000 to 500,000.
- Free food distributions were phased out in June in favour of food-for-work. Most communities have adjusted well to this emphasis on rehabilitation. WFP and CARE have also made progress in improving targeting of food aid.
- Good progress has been made in Somalia in implementing joint UN programming for humanitarian assistance.
- Difficulties still remain in providing people in Somalia access to health services and clean water.
- Overall, vulnerability of the drought-affected people has been reduced although malnutrition rates among vulnerable groups remain stable at approximately 20%.
- More emphasis in the future should be placed on developing pastoral strategies at the regional level. Under the initiative of the Somalia Country Team, a regional workshop on this topic is planned to be held in November 2000.
- As a result of the new political situation in Somalia, the Country Team is planning to launch a transitional inter-agency strategy under the 2001 CAP.
- The response to the UN regional drought appeal has been extremely poor in the case of Somalia, with only 10% of total needs having been met.

#### **Kenya:**

- Pastoral groups in the arid districts of the country have been especially severely affected by the drought. For the past three seasons, these areas have experienced partial or total crop failure and shortage of pasture and water for livestock.
- UNICEF has estimated that 25-30% of children in the areas most severely affected by drought are suffering from malnutrition.
- Some 3.5 million people in 19 districts of Kenya are estimated to be severely affected by drought and are targeted for food aid under WFP's emergency operation.



- This includes over 1 million children who receive food assistance under an expanded emergency school-feeding programme.
- UN and Government may have underestimated the relief needs in Kenya, basing assessments on the assumption of rains that did not come. This, coupled with a slow donor response, resulted in serious food resourcing shortfalls and pipeline problems. Subsequently, only about 70% of the planned food ration is being actually distributed to beneficiaries. The situation is now improving and full food rations are expected to be distributed in late October or early November.
- Good progress has been achieved in implementing a new community based food targeting and distribution system. The system places a strong emphasis on community participation and involvement of women in food targeting and distribution.
- Progress has been achieved in the water and sanitation sectors in Kenya. UNICEF has supported community training and the maintenance, rehabilitation or installation of vital water supply points in drought-affected districts.
- A number of livestock projects have been designed and implemented in the pastoral areas of Kenya as a response to the regional UN drought appeal.
- Northern and northeastern parts of Kenya are currently most affected by drought. In these areas, below normal rainfall is predicted for the forthcoming rainy season. Even normal rainfall is thought to be insufficient to restore the water situation. It is anticipated that during the October 2000 short rainy season many farming households in the affected areas will have no seeds for planting.
- Drought relief assistance in Kenya may be required well into 2001.
- Approximately 84% of the drought relief needs for Kenya in the regional Horn of Africa appeal have been met by donors. Special attention should be placed on securing funding for livestock activities.

#### **Djibouti:**

- It is estimated that about 150,000 people in Djibouti are affected by drought. The humanitarian situation is further aggravated by the influx of drought affected people from neighbouring countries who are not considered refugees but nevertheless require humanitarian assistance.
- Food relief for drought-affected people in Djibouti started late, first distributions took place in June.



- UNICEF has provided therapeutic and supplementary food for children and has undertaken in collaboration with WHO immunization and sensitization campaigns in order to avoid a cholera outbreak.
- Distribution of relief food in Djibouti is hampered by the lack of transport capacity. Only six trucks are available for the Government for food transport to the drought operation and to the refugee operation. In order to ensure effectiveness of the drought response, addressing the food transport capacity in Djibouti is a priority.
- Approximately 60% of the drought relief requirements for Djibouti in the UN regional appeal have been met. The food requirements have been fully resourced.
- Although it is a small country, Djibouti has many interlocking problems, drought being but one of many.

**Tanzania:**

The Special Envoy is not able to provide updated drought information for Tanzania at this time due to the inaccessibility of the UN Country Team.



### III. RECOMMENDATIONS

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#### 1. Mobilize additional relief resources to cover shortfalls

- In order to sustain the relief effort and to ensure continuation of the recovery process, which is still fragile in many parts of the region, the remaining food and non-food shortfalls in the UN regional drought appeal need to be resourced as a matter of priority. Even if the rains that are expected in October in parts of the region are good, relief food assistance will be required well into 2001.
- Donors, including WFP, should repay outstanding loans to the Ethiopian Emergency Food Security Reserve, amounting to some 169,000 metric tons.
- The ORHC should develop a plan of action to address remaining food needs and advocate for funds for the non-food sector with emphasis on health and nutrition, livestock, agriculture and seeds.
- The ORHC should establish a tracking system for drought relief contributions provided through NGOs in order to obtain a full picture of the response to the emergency.

#### 2. Assess drought relief requirements and extend the UN appeal

- UN Country Teams in Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Djibouti and Somalia should reassess the drought relief requirements in November 2000. This needs to be done in close collaboration with Governments, NGOs and donors.
- UN should issue a new Interagency Regional Drought Appeal for the Horn of Africa by end of December 2000. In addition to the relief requirements of drought affected people, consideration should be given to include in this appeal also the relief needs of internally displaced people.
- To the extent possible, NGO requirements should be integrated into the next UN regional drought appeal. NGOs should be consulted early whether or how to include them in the appeal and how contributions through NGOs should be tracked.
- ORHC should regularly report to donors what has been requested in the appeal and what has been received.
- OCHA needs to ensure that UN agencies include only real relief priorities in the UN appeal.



3. **Provide drought affected people a balanced food basket and sufficient quantities of supplementary food**
  - A balanced food basket which includes cereals, pulses and oil needs to be provided to beneficiaries in order to compensate loss of protein from livestock.
  - All CSB and locally produced similar products provided as part of therapeutic and supplementary feeding programmes should be fortified.
  - WFP should review the production capacity of blended food in the region and ensure its availability in sufficient quantities.
4. **Emphasise non-food relief requirements**
  - UN agencies should make a special effort to ensure adequate resourcing of the non-food sector of the UN regional drought appeal, i.e. water and sanitation, health and nutrition, shelter, livestock, agriculture and seeds. These inputs are crucial to ensure sustainability of the recovery process of drought affected communities.
  - FAO should follow-up with Saudi-Arabia and other relevant Governments in finding a quick solution to the ban on livestock imports from the Horn of Africa.
5. **Address the needs of the most vulnerable by ensuring participation of women in drought relief leadership**
  - Women and children are most severely affected by the drought and are the main beneficiaries of the drought relief effort. Successful delivery of relief to this target group requires that women are included in the leadership of drought relief activities.
6. **Link drought relief to longer-term food security initiatives**
  - Governments of the Horn of Africa region should be encouraged to develop and implement pastoralist food security and early warning systems.
  - The ORHC should coordinate relief activities with the World Bank food security initiatives, for example, in road rehabilitation.
  - OCHA should seek ways to mobilise donor or World Bank support to rehabilitate the Lokichoggio and Garissa-Dadub roads.



7. **Strengthen local and national capacities**

- Donors, UN agencies and NGOs should strengthen local and national capacities in disaster response, prevention and preparedness in the Horn of Africa region. Particular attention should be paid to building capacities in emergency food distribution, health and nutritional surveillance as well as in agricultural and livestock needs assessment.

8. **UN Regional Humanitarian Coordination for drought relief has been effective and should be continued**

- The Office of the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator has provided effective coordination to the UN drought relief effort in the Horn of Africa. It is recommended that the appointment of the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator be extended until end of June 2001 and the ORHC be maintained in Addis Ababa.
- The ORHC should complete an exit strategy by end of January 2001, to be implemented before the end of June.
- The mandate of the Regional Humanitarian Coordinator should be limited to Horn of Africa regional issues. The responsibility for coordinating the drought relief effort in Ethiopia should revert to the UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Ethiopia.
- The Emergency Unit for Ethiopia (EUE) will support the UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Ethiopia in coordination of the drought relief effort in Ethiopia. OCHA should assume responsibility of the Unit. OCHA will assign a P-5 level Officer as Head of Unit to be deployed as soon as possible.
- OCHA should consider assigning one person to support the UN Resident Coordinator in Djibouti.

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