

## Food and Security Working Group (FSNWG)

2.30 pm, Thursday, 05 March 2009

FAO Regional Emergency Office for Africa (REOA)

### Present:

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Patrick Vercammen	ECHO	Eric Zapatero	Oxfam GB
Pauline Njugura	ECHO	William Amamfu	FAO ECTAD
Simon Mansfield	DFID	Francesco Del Re	FAO REOA
Bruno Mesureur	ICRC	Cyril Ferrand	FAO REOA
Abdirizak Ahmed Maalim	ICRC	Bruno Minjauw	FAO REOA
Laurent Dufour	OCHA	Elizabeth Narrowe	FAO REOA
Nicoletta Buono	Italian Cooperation	Sophie Green	FAO REOA

### Agenda:

- 1) Discussion on 2009 FSNWG work plan
- 2) The Horn of Africa Pastoralist networking group
- 3) Update on IPC regional activities
- 4) Restitution of the High level meeting on the Horn of Africa crisis
- 5) Any other business (AOB)

Francesco Del Re welcomed all participants to the meeting and thanked them for their presence. He then proceeded to announce the meeting agenda.

### Review of Action points from the previous meeting

Action points	Who	When	Comments	Action
Discuss work plan for 2009	FSNWG	Next meeting		Draft workplan finalized and circulated to group members
Work on high level meeting strategy	FSNWG members Francesco Del Re- Alisson	This week	Work on four slides to submit as part of the <i>Creation of the Common Understanding</i> presentation.	Presentation prepared and FSNWG represented at the High level meeting

### 1) Discussion on 2009 FSNWG work plan

The meeting started with an overview by Elizabeth Narrowe (FAO REOA) of the outcomes of the short survey that was carried out with FSNWG members. This survey had for objectives to give an opportunity to members of the FSNWG to express their opinion on the qualities and limitations of the FSNWG and to suggest means to improve it. Eight members

(2 NGOs, 3 UN organisations, 2 donors and 1 other) replied to the questionnaire. It was concluded from the information received that the FSNWG is useful to members, mostly in terms of information sharing on situation knowledge and to report updates to headquarters. Suggestions for improvement included to put more emphasis on development of appropriate response options and improved programming, technical sharing, response planning as well as on past experiences and lessons learnt. The possibility of having thematic meetings and higher donor involvement was also suggested.

The various points of the work plan were then discussed.

- (i) *Develop Links with Country Coordination Mechanisms (Food Security and Nutrition) through Information Management and Dissemination*: Efforts to strengthen information exchange are ongoing.
- (ii) *Integrated Phase Classification (IPC)*: In relation to the above, developments on food security and nutrition analysis are ongoing.
- (iii) *Market analysis*: activities planned by the market analysis working group are in progress.

These three sectors of activities are closely related and appreciated by the FSNWG members. It was emphasised during the meeting that closer link is necessary between data collection, data analysis and the use of results for improved programme planning. In relation to this, under the work plan activity (vii) "*response analysis and impact assessment*" (vii) various initiatives in the region are taking place, e.g. A new officer was recruited by WFP in the objective of strengthening their response analysis activities; FAO and Care have established a joint project.

- (iv) *Pastoralist networking group*: Please refer to agenda 2 of this meeting below.
- (v) *Agriculture thematic group*: Cyril Ferrand (FAO REOA) informed the FSNWG members that, during the course 2009, the agriculture thematic group plans to finalise a proposal for a joint regional project on dry land farming in emergency and post emergency context. He also informed members that the publication of the regional cassava initiative workshop will be out by the end of March 2009.
- (vi) *Coordination of Assessment and Harmonisation of Methodology*: whilst the working group has not carried out specific activities in the domain of joint need assessment methodology, FSNWG members regularly participate in existing joint assessment exercises (e.g. Kenya, Burundi, Uganda). Given the current resources available within the group members should advice whether to keep the harmonisation of Need Assessment Methodologies in the workplan. In any case efforts will continue to ensure that information from joint assessments is collected, disseminated and used for food security and response options analysis.
- (viii) *Lesson learning and best practice*: Although this activity is considered important by members of the FSNWG, as shown by the results of the short survey, little was carried

out in the past year. The working group is to identify focal points to facilitate the organisation of meetings and the collection of lessons learnt and best practices.

## **2) The Horn of Africa pastoralist networking group**

Bruno Minjauw (FAO REOA) gave a short introduction of a new activity taking place under the umbrella of the Horn of African Pastoralist network (HAPN). This network was established in response to concerns that pastoralist issues often do not enter the political agendas of Governments.

An exhibition was implemented at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2009. The objectives of this event were:

- To facilitate network building;
- To give room for specific issues that are not discussed on other occasions;
- To invite pastoralist beneficiaries to express their needs and priorities;
- To facilitate policy advocacy

Over 20 organisations were represented and four main speakers were punctuated the event. Stalls for each organisation were set up and gave access to videos, pictures and documentation. Two other exhibitions are planned; the next one will take place in Addis Ababa during the first week of June 2009.

Bruno also informed the FSNWG members that in close collaboration with HAPN, the Pastoral Areas Coordination Analysis and Policy Support (PACAPS) organised a seminar (Seminar no.1), "Towards a common long-term strategy for pastoralists", which took place on March 2-3, 2009 at the Red Court Hotel, Nairobi. The seminar was attended by 26 regional organisations, 5 local organisations, 5 government ministries and 15 pastoralists. Its main outcome was the identification and presentation of 6 main recommendations on pastoralist issues at the regional COMESA meeting on March 4-5, 2009. The minutes of seminar will be circulated by PACAPS end of March 2009.

## **3) Update on IPC and regional activities**

Francesco Del Re (FAO REOA) announced that EUR 1.7 M was expected from ECHO for the implementation of a second Phase of the regional IPC roll out project. Funds will be mainly used for activities that aim at improving the quality of analysis in terms of compilation of quantitative data, inclusiveness and decentralisation (e.g. follow-up actions at district level etc.). Efforts will be done to integrate maximum data and to strengthen collaboration and cooperation by connecting various projects, e.g. Assessment and Classification of Emergencies (ACE), Nutrition Information Project for the Horn of Africa (NIPHORN) etc.

In the last month, the following activities were implemented:

- In Burundi a workshop took place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2009 and received good participation of stakeholders. The map and report from this workshop will be released soon.
- In Kenya, the food security assessment planned was carried out and results have been used to feed into the revision of the humanitarian action plan. Results of assessment and the revised map are published on the KFSSG website ([www.kenyafoodsecurity.org](http://www.kenyafoodsecurity.org)).
- In DRC, a new round of IPC provincial analytical workshops is under way. That will lead to the review of the national food security situation.
- Worldwide technical working group video conference at FAO REOA took place on 6 March, 2009.

Planned activities are as follows:

- Kenya: A short rain assessment lessons learning mission will take place in April 2009.
- In Ethiopia, an initial awareness raising/technical training workshop is planned for mid-April. Representative of the Govt. of Ethiopia will come on mission to Kenya end of March. The objective of this mission will be to get a better understanding of the IPC process in Kenya.
- An early forecast, regional event is planned in June 2009.

#### **4) Restitution of the high level meeting on the Horn of Africa crisis**

Laurent Dufour (OCHA) gave a brief overview of the high level meeting on the Horn of Africa Crisis that took place in Nairobi on 12-14 February 2009. The meeting was attended by high-level representatives of 10 UN agencies, 12 international and Non-Governmental Organizations, donors and the World Bank. It also included United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators from Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda together with a representation of IASC country coordination mechanisms. In the light of the current situation in the Horn of Africa, i.e. growing population, increased frequencies of shocks and extreme climatic events, increase in vulnerability and depletion of the natural resource base, there is an increasing need to address structural challenges and governance issues for humanitarian efforts to succeed. The meeting expressed the need to engage more and strengthen collaboration with regional bodies such as the African Union, NEPAD and engage, IGAD etc. The governance issues need to be brought up and discussed with Governments and the regional organizations. There's a need to be time more bound and accountable in this regard. The report from the 2007 Multi Country consultation on Food Security in the Horn of Africa presented some concrete strategies and recommendations that are still valid and should be used possibly linking with the Comprehensive Framework for Action put together by the Global Task Force on Food Crisis. Finally there is a need for increase effort for advocacy and to bring the HoA issue to higher level: the humanitarian segment of ECOSOC scheduled in July 2009 could be a good opportunity. The Regional Humanitarian Partnership Team and the UNCTs through the RC/HC will follow-up on the

outcomes and ensure that the required linkages with interagency working groups and other partners are effective.

The report on the Horn of Africa high level meeting will be circulated to all FSNWG members as soon as they are made available

## 5) Any other business (AOB)

### a) Update of PPR outbreak in Tanzania

William Amanfu (FAO ECTAD) gave an overview of the situation in Tanzania. There is an urgent need for increased funding to scale up response (e.g. surveillance, diagnosis, vaccination etc.) to the PPR outbreak so as to minimise the risk of spread of PPR to SADC countries which are currently free of the disease.

### (b) The Red locust

Cyril Ferrand (FAO REOA) gave an overview of the current Red locust situation. He explained that considering past experiences (e.g. 1994 outbreak in Tanzania and spread to South Africa and Uganda) it is critical that the locust is controlled before April-May 2009 when the spread of the locust will increase rapidly. So far the outbreak was detected in 8 areas of Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia. Pesticides have been spread over 40 000 hectares but the spread of the locust is already larger than that and there is a risk that the areas affected are larger than identified so far (SESNA means of control are limited). Whilst Uganda and South Africa are at high risk of infection, the risk in Kenya is limited. FAO called for help from partners in terms of advocacy and awareness raising. A regional proposal for funds was submitted to CERF.

Francesco Del Re (FAO REOA) then closed the meeting. He thanked all participants for their coming and announced the date of the next FSNWG meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2009 at 2.30 at the FAO REOA office.

### Action point

Action points	Who	When	Comments
To give feedback on whether to keep the harmonisation of Methodologies in the workplan	FSNWG members	Next meeting	
Identify focal points for lesson learning and best practice	FSNWG members	Next meeting	