

Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG)

2.30 pm, Thursday, 18th June 2009

FAO Regional Emergency Office for Africa (REOA)

Present:

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Lydia Tinka	IFRC	Elizabeth Narrowe	FAO Kenya
Guiseppe Selvaggi	COOPI	Alexandra Crosskey	RELPA/PACAP
Richard Muthoka	GAA	Francesco Del Re	FAO REOA
Tumaini Muthiga	FNSAU	Cyril Ferrand	FAO REOA
Helen Bushell	Oxfam UK	Sophie Green	FAO REOA
Raoul Nteziryayo	Solidarités	Bruno Minjauw	FAO REOA
Mohamed Subiman	FEWSNET		

Agenda:

- 1) The Locust watch, update for June 2009 (Cyril Ferrand, FAO REOA)
- 2) Update on the food security situation in the Horn of Africa (Mohamed Subiman, FEWSNET)
- 3) The Horn of Africa pastoralist networking group
- 4) Action points

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
To send list of desired thematic topics of discussion for the next FSNWG meeting	All FSNWG members	By 4 th June 2009 (1 week ahead)	
To review the FSNWG work plan and decide on which working group to participate in	All FSNWG members	By next FSNWG meeting (11 th June 2009)	
To draft a list of events that FSNWG members are planning to attend or would like to get feedback on if they cannot attend.	All FSNWG members	By next FSNWG meeting (11 th June 2009)	

1) The Locust watch, update for June 2009 (Cyril Ferrand, FAO REOA)

Cyril Ferrand gave a short presentation on the latest update of the desert and red locusts in the Horn of Africa.

The Desert Locust: Whilst swarms have moved East across northern Somalia and reached northeast on 06 June 2009; 2 immature swarms entered Ethiopia on 9th and 10th June respectively, through Aysha & Dembel Woredas of Shinile Zone. Conditions in Ethiopia are favourable to the spread of the locust. Control operations are ongoing. Ground information is limited in Somalia.

The Red Locust: Swarms were reported in April 2009 in the Kigoma District near the Malagarasi Basin in Tanzania, as well as in the Buzi-Gorongosa and Dimba Plains in Mozambique. Also in April low density locusts were seen in Lake Chilwa and Lake Chiuta Plains in Malawi and Mozambique (IRLCO-CSA). In response, FAO submitted a regional CERF application covering Tanzania, Malawi and Mozambique. Operations started on 22nd May in Tanzania and are planned to be concluded by the end of June. No swarm escapes have been reported so far. Operations will shift to Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia once activities are concluded in Tanzania.

For further information, please refer to the attached PowerPoint presentation.

2) Update on the food security situation in the Horn of Africa (Mohamed Subiman, FEWSNET)

Mohamed Subiman (FEWSNET) gave a short presentation of the USAID/East Africa Briefing on the latest food security conditions in the region compiled by FEWSNET together with FSNWG partners (WFP, UNICEF, FAO and ICPAC).

Rainfall performance between March-May 2009 have been below 20% in the south east of Kenya and in the centre and north of Somalia. Overall, the pastoral and agro-pastoralist areas in the HoA are most affected. Due to late rains, harvests in the Belg cropping areas in Ethiopia are expected to be delayed. Projected crop conditions in the north of Tanzania, in the south and central parts of Kenya and in Somalia are negative.

As a consequence of the consecutive rain failure, Somalia and eastern Ethiopia are extremely food insecure. Kenya has entered phase 3 (highly food insecure according to FEWSNET classification) with particular concern for Turkana, Mandera, the centre and the north east regions. In Tanzania, highly food insecure areas have been identified in the southern and northern parts of the country. In the south and east of Sudan, the situation is expected to deteriorate since the rains are further delayed and rising conflicts (this region is at the hub of north/south conflicts) continue to disturb local livelihoods. According to FEWSNET, it is estimated that approximately 12 400 000 people in Ethiopia, 3 200 000 in Somalia, and 2 300 000 in Kenya are in need of humanitarian assistance.

For further information on the FEWSNET food security and nutrition situation update for the Horn of Africa, please contact FEWSNET directly for access to their PowerPoint presentation.

3) The Horn of Africa pastoralist networking group

Under the umbrella of the Horn of African Pastoralist network (HAPN) a second exhibition was implemented at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Addis Ababa during the first week of June 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

60 participants from about 29 organisations were represented. Stalls for each organisation were set up and gave access to videos, pictures and documentation. This exhibition took place in parallel with the closing workshop for the Regional Drought Decision (RDD) Programme which also took place in Addis Ababa. The workshop report is under finalisation and will soon be circulated to all FSNWG members.

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 (for July and August 2009) on 30th July 2009 at 2.30 at the FAO REOA office.

4) Action points

Action points	Who	When	Comments
Definition of sub-group ToR	Sub-group member	By next FSNWG meeting, 30 th July 2009	
FSNAU Regional Analysis Report distribution	FSNAU	18 th September 2009	