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Office of the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator in Kenya

HIGHLIGHTS

- Civil unrest as power-sharing talks break down
- Diplomats and donors warn of aid cuts if peace deal is not implemented
- Growing concern over rising food prices and inflation
- \$189 million Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan launch on 14 April
- Deal agreed to ensure IDP children can sit national exams

The information contained in this report has been compiled by OCHA from information received from the field, from national and international humanitarian partners and from other official sources. It does not represent a position from the United Nations.

I General Overview

Protests and violence erupted in Nairobi's Kibera slum and Kisumu on 8 April following the Orange Democratic Movement's suspension of power-sharing talks. A 40-member Cabinet was due to be announced on 6 April but disagreements resurfaced over the sharing out of ministries. European Union diplomats said aid will be cut until the peace deal is fully implemented.

Inflation rose to 21% in March. The impact is greatest on the poor. WFP Executive Director Josette Sheeran expressed concern over rising farm input and food prices as she toured IDP camps on 3 April. Some have called for subsidies to avert riots over food prices as witnessed elsewhere in the world.

Human Rights Watch accused the army and rebels of torture and extra judicial killings. The alleged spiritual leader of Sabaoth Land Defence Forces Jason Psongoywo was charged with promoting war like activities. Planned evictions from the Mau Forest caused hundreds to flee to Narok trading centre.

II. Humanitarian Situation

The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) distributed food, tarpaulins and mosquito nets to over 500 families displaced by floods in Kimorigo and Mbogoni areas of Taita Taveta District. The floods hit at a time when farmers were harvesting rice and planting maize. KRCS asked the government to provide additional relief.

Security

Tensions have started to build up in Nakuru, Molo, Londiani, Kericho and Elburgon and IDPs who have tried to return to their farms and businesses have been chased

away, the UN Department of Security and Safety reports. Some IDPs who tried to return home to Kapsita in Londiani Division, Kericho District, were shot with arrows last week. On 1 April, a group of IDPs who returned to their looted businesses in Kericho town were chased away by residents. A similar incident was reported in Munyasi, in southern Narok. Hate leaflets were also found in Nakuru Showground last week warning Kikuyus not to go back to their farms. In the Likuyani area of Mumias in Western Province, IDPs trying to resettle reported to KRCS that hostile residents had barred them from entering their businesses.

Shops were looted during demonstrations in Lodwar town, Turkana District, on 30 March, following the alleged shooting of a Turkana man and a 13-year-old boy by a policeman. On the road between Kainuk and Kakong, Turkana bandits sprayed three trucks with bullets on 26 March. Skirmishes between Pokots and Turkanas in Katilu Division could pose logistical challenges to transporters. In West Pokot, Uasin Gishu District, 1000 Pokot villagers raided the home of an elderly man and killed him on suspicion of helping bandits on 25 March. Mount Elgon and Trans Nzoia remain tense due to ongoing military operations.

Population Movements and Displacement Trends

According to the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), the number of IDP camps fell from 235 to 181 in the week from 28 March to 4 April. The IDP population fell from 200,723 to 168,094. This is largely due to consolidation of smaller camps into bigger ones, particularly in Molo District which contained a large number of small camps. Munyaka church camp, between Eldoret and Burnt Forest, has closed and 172 IDPs have been transferred to Eldoret Showground. Similarly, people are being moved from St Patrick's Church in Burnt Forest to the main camp. The closure of satellite camps is challenging because some of the main camps are full and some IDPs have started working in the local communities. Many IDPs in Molo chose to remain behind rather than move to a larger camp. Discussions are underway with IDPs in Makutano and Eldama Ravine camps in Koibatek District on their willingness to move to a new seven-acre site.

An increase in IDP numbers was recorded in Nyanza Province as KRCS moved into areas it had not covered before, such as Gunyak in Kipkelion District. In Western Province, camp populations have risen as people transit homewards after seeking refuge in other parts of the country. In the south Rift Valley, numbers in camps have grown as people leave their homes for fear of being attacked.

IDPs interviewed in Nakuru, Narok and Molo said they were eager to return to their homes but were worried about security. They called for clearer guidelines on resettlement and increased peace building dialogue. In Rift Valley, 48 special district officers trained in conflict resolution have been posted to affected areas. Peace building efforts have begun in Narok, Londiani, Endebess, Noigam, Salama and Geta, among others.

III. Humanitarian Response

The revised Emergency Humanitarian Response Plan for Kenya will be launched on 14 April. It includes projects from 13 UN organizations and 37 international and national NGOs and aims to complement funding requests from the government and KRCS. It appeals for \$189 million for actions with a planning horizon through

to the end of 2008. Taking into consideration funding to date, unmet requirements amount to \$150 million.

The UN Environment Programme led a scouting mission to IDP camps in Naivasha and Eldoret on 3 April to plan an intervention framework. Key issues include finding alternatives to the use of wood as fuel and managing waste. Camps housing over 10,000 people for a period of more than four months will need dedicated environment plans. When the camps have closed, substantial work will be needed to sanitise the areas and restore original land use. The capacity of the National Environment Management Authority will need to be increased. The mission's conclusions will be presented as a concept note outlining the support needs and UNEP's proposed response plans.

Camp Co-ordination/Camp Management

UNHCR, Norwegian Refugee Council and IOM conducted a joint CCCM training of trainers program in Nairobi during the week of 30 March- 4 April. Participants came from agencies in Asia, Africa, the Americas and Europe involved in CCCM and included five people from Kenya operations. The objective is to build local capacity to continue training IDP camp/ site managers.

This week, the Regional Center for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) will share with other agencies the data it has collected on the camp sites, including Global Positioning System co-ordinates, photos and listings of humanitarian agencies working in each site. The mapping exercise was commissioned by UNHCR.

The involvement of IDPs in camp management committees is improving communication between the management and IDPs. Community policing, involving men and women, is also proving successful at Eldoret Showground. In the same camp, a vet has been deployed to treat sick animals as there have been a number of animal deaths.

There is need for greater guidance and instruction at the local level on the issue of compensation for losses sustained during displacement. KRCS reports that this is one of the factors preventing IDPs returning home from the camps. Concerns are being raised about where funding for compensation will come from as it was not included in the government's published recovery strategy. Little is known about what form the compensation will take, who will be eligible and how it will be administered.

Early Recovery

The Early Recovery Needs Assessment (ERNA) mission completed its two-week tour of Rift Valley, Nyanza and Western provinces. A draft report will be circulated to cluster members by the end of the week. Preliminary findings will also be presented to government officials and donors. Further assessments are planned. A database will be created by the end of the month, providing information on the situation and needs in different districts.

The mission found that the conditions for large scale and quick reintegration and return have not yet been met on the ground. Tensions and localized violence still exist and there is a need for more peace and reconciliation efforts at the community level in order to sustain resettlement and recovery. Continued advocacy is required to ensure that

peace and reconciliation efforts are carried out in all affected areas. Community-based reconciliation efforts are being made but they lack training, capacity, resources, mediation and monitoring. The cluster will continue to assist local initiatives to help people return home on a case-by-case basis, according to needs. It is important that success stories are properly documented and that lessons are learned from the various initiatives to facilitate scaling up where appropriate.

The local economy has suffered dramatically and will take a long time to recover, especially as a poor harvest is expected. Support to restart livelihoods is another essential pre-condition for durable return and reintegration. Vulnerable people in the community, such as widows, single mothers, orphans, people with HIV/AIDS, also need support. Many have been severely affected by the post-election violence through higher food prices, disrupted services and job losses. Giving aid to these people would also help heal resentment stemming from the perception that IDPs are being unfairly favoured with aid.

The identification of IDPs in host families for proper delivery of humanitarian assistance is another challenge. Although the government is responsible for this task, local authorities have limited capacity and resources to carry out proper registration. Humanitarian actors are assessing whether profiles of IDPs hosted in local communities can be drawn up to establish estimated numbers, who they are and what their needs are, with a view to helping people restart their lives.

Education

The Kenyan Education Sector Support Programme (KESP) held a three-day workshop from 2-4 April to review the 08/09 education budget which will include emergency response and recovery plans. The ministry's budgeted emergency response cost has been fully integrated in the Ksh 1.5 billion KESP budget and approved. The government said that 30 primary and 8 secondary schools were burnt in the post election violence and an estimated 100,000 students and 1,350 teachers were displaced. The ministry of education plans to integrate peace education into the national curriculum with the support of the Kenya Institute of Education. The ministry will also create a disaster and emergency response and mitigation unit. UNICEF and UNHCR are supporting these plans.

The education ministry agreed with UNICEF to pay honoraria to 166 volunteer teachers in Uasin Gishu District for the next six months through District Education Officers. In Nakuru, the government has agreed to waive penalties for IDP students registering late for their national exams by the late-registration deadline of 31 May. Efforts are ongoing to secure sufficient funds for this. In Eldoret, Mully Children's Home has donated Ksh100,000 for the registration of students at the showground. It is hoped that these two agreements will set precedents for others affected areas.

An emergency education assessment undertaken by the education cluster has been released. The team visited Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Nakuru, Molo and Naivasha districts. The report commends efforts by the government and stakeholders to integrate displaced children into host schools and to set up schools in camps. However, it warned that the quality of teaching and learning is far below minimum standards for emergency education. Primary school class sizes average 100 children, many of whom are being taught by inexperienced volunteer teachers who lack textbooks, desks and chairs. There

are concerns about secondary school aged children in camps, only 20% of whom are enrolled in school.

Recommendations include the urgent provision of 800 latrines for host schools, provision of additional materials for all schools, modification of the curriculum to foster psychosocial recovery, closer co-ordination with responders to health issues, integration of IDP and host children, teacher training in positive methods of discipline, standardizing data collection formats and capacity building for district education officers.

Training of 173 teachers hosting IDP students in child rights and protection has been completed in Nakuru. Volunteer teachers in Endebess and Eldoret will also receive similar training. Additional materials, including furniture and semi-permanent classrooms, are being provided to four primary schools in Nakuru to improve access to education for 900 IDP children in Nakuru Showground currently out of school. The Early Childhood Development school in the camp will also be given materials as part of a cash-for-work scheme run by Save the Children for displaced people.

Emergency Telecommunications

In Kisumu, VSAT is up and running and the radio room should be operational by the end of the week. Radio rooms will also be set up in Eldoret and Nakuru in the next week.

Food Security

The Kenyan government, KRCS, WFP and partners have jointly delivered 9,469 metric tonnes of food from January to date. WFP is also providing one-off one-month rations to 76,500 IDPs returning home in Bondo, Rarieda, Gucha, Homa Bay, Nyando, Siaya and Migori districts in Nyanza Province and Butere, Mumias and Vihiga districts in Western Province. The final round of food distributions to 72,000 people affected by post-election violence in the Nairobi slums is ongoing.

Assessments indicate that maize production may fall by 30% and wheat by 10% this year because of the increased costs of fertiliser, ploughing and land rent and displacement of farmers. Cereal requirements will be higher than normal due to the large number of IDPs in camps dependent on food aid. The ministry of agriculture has begun distributing fertiliser in a few districts through the National Cereals and Produce Board. The government will extend distribution as its supplies increase following a grant from the Japanese government.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation held a workshop last month aimed at controlling the regional spread of Peste des Petite Ruminants (PPR). This virus was first discovered in Kenya in 2006 and threatens the lives of millions of sheep and goats, as well as the welfare of their owners, most of whom are pastoralists. Some 1.5 million sheep and goats were vaccinated against PPR in Kenya last year but vaccination needs to be stepped up.

Health

A local NGO, PACT Kenya, held a trauma awareness workshop for 30 religious leaders in Eldoret last month. It hopes to train another 30 in May. PACT is developing an 18 month program to respond to issues of trauma, both on the individual level, through

counseling, and at the communal level, through community dialogue between victims and perpetrators, in Rift Valley and Western provinces. Societal trauma counseling is essential to break the cycle of revenge and progress to forgiveness and reconciliation.

Within camps, however, there is a risk of causing harm by offering trauma counseling which involves asking the affected person to remember and talk about traumatic events. It breaks down people's resilience to deal with their present situation and should only be carried out when security and other basic needs are met and there is the guarantee of regular follow up. The ministry of health drew up national guidelines on post-disaster psychosocial principles and response last month emphasizing that the priority in the camps should be to meet people's immediate psychosocial needs, such as providing security, reasonable living conditions and a normal routine.

Two people were reported to have died of cholera in Kasarani estate in Naivasha. An assessment is being conducted by the district medical team. The cholera outbreak continues in Nyanza Province, with 1,170 cases and 56 deaths recorded countrywide by 3 April.

There are concerns that Kenya could soon experience a huge influx of Somali refugees as people are massing on the border. Refugees have been steadily arriving at the Kenyan border town of Liboi, from where they are taken to Dadaab Camp. There is a need to screen and vaccinate refugees arriving from Somalia for communicable diseases as they have had extremely limited access to medical services. Eight suspected cases of pertussis, kalazar and chicken pox have already been reported in new arrivals.

Logistics

The cluster was deactivated on 3 April. Meetings will continue in the field as needed. A decision will be made about future logistics co-ordination meetings, the most likely forum being the Inter Agency Working Group Logistics Subgroup. WFP will monitor early warning indicators in case major logistics gaps are identified. The website will continue operating. WFP has extended free warehousing and secondary transport services in Eldoret, Nakuru and Kisumu until the end of May. The contact person for logistics co-ordination issues is Anthony.freeman@wfp.org mobile: 0734 699727.

Nutrition

Recent rapid Mid-Upper-Arm-Circumference (MUAC) screenings by the ministry of health, Action Against Hunger and Samaritan's Purse found that the nutritional situation of the IDP population is of concern. In Molo District, 2.1% of children below five years old are severely malnourished (with a Mid-Upper-Arm-Circumference of less than 11cm). This high rate may be partly due to the fact that some camps have only recently been accessed. Camps in Kuresoi and Kapsita divisions in the district are still not accessible due to insecurity. In Trans Nzoia District, 1.9% of children under five living in IDP camps are severely malnourished, up from 0.5% in February. Merlin now has a field nutritionist based in Nakuru and will scale up activities in collaboration with the ministry of health.

A working group is meeting this week to discuss supplementary feeding activities and whether to provide blanket supplementary feeding for all children under five living in emergency operation arid and semi-arid areas as a preparedness measure for the

eventuality of a drought. The ongoing nutrition survey in Mandera should be completed by 10 April and additional surveys will begin in Marsabit and Samburu next week. These are to follow up on the short rains assessment recommendations and will provide a more accurate picture of the situation to improve the preparedness response strategy. National guidelines on management of acute malnutrition have been finalised with partners and will be circulated soon

Protection

Another training of trainers was carried out on the Guiding Principles of Internal Displacement with UN staff, KRCS, NGOs and Kenya Human Rights Commission. Government officials will be included in follow up training. A week-long child protection network workshop was held in Kakamega last week, attended by the government, KRCS, UNICEF, Save the Children and others. Work is ongoing to set up a Gender Based Violence reporting system in all camps. Currently, many NGOs are present in the camps on an ad hoc basis.

A joint protection assessment mission was undertaken by UNICEF, UNHCR and KRCS to Ekerenyio Camp. Security remains a concern at the camp which has no fencing. Outsiders can walk in and out of the camp at will. The police are providing some protection and KRCS staff and volunteers plan to be present at the camp at all times to increase security and deal with protection issues. They are also working to improve lighting in the camp, especially near the latrines.

In Kisumu, the Children's Department reported that six IDP children ran away from the juvenile home in the city to St Stephen's transit camp, alleging mistreatment. The Children's Department and KRCS are following up on the claims. The Children's Department is also investigating reports of trafficking of children being hosted by the community in Migori. Members of the Kisumu protection cluster are due to present their work plans at this week's Kisumu cluster meeting.

Shelter and NFIs

An IDPs Shelter Committee, composed of cluster members and government representatives from the ministry of housing, Resettlement Committee and National Disaster Operations Centre, is being set up to co-ordinate their housing solutions. The Resettlement Committee has identified potential areas for return, such as Trans Nzoia District, where it is keen to meet returnees' shelter needs. Nationally, UNHCR and partners plan to provide 23,800 transitional shelter kits, which include iron sheeting, wooden beams and ropes, for IDPs returning home. These could be used while the government secures funding to build permanent three-bedroom houses for IDPs as part of its recovery strategy. The shelter committee will be chaired by a representative of the Director for Resettlement and UNHCR. A task force will draw up a joint work plan for responding to returnees' shelter needs, indicating the most urgent activities including technical assessments of return areas, timing and actors' responsibilities.

A shelter assessment carried out in Nakuru Showground and Afraha Stadium on 3 April found that 143 tents needed repair. Plastic sheeting is being issued to address this and a follow up will be conducted this week. Additional tents are also being distributed in Keroka and Ekerenyio camps in Nyamira District and Kakamega Camp. Over 200 family

kits are needed in Ekerenyo Camp where IDPs lack mattresses, cooking sets, mosquito nets and blankets.

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