

WFP/Kenya Video News Release

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00:00/0:11 North East Kenya Liboi 09 October 2006

Various high shots of crowd Somali refugees gathering inside a Kenyan police compound in Liboi.

00:11/00:29 North-East Kenya Somalia border 29 September 2006

Two Somali men crossing the border
Kenyan police loading Somali refugee in the pick-up

00:29/00:40 North East Kenya Dadaab 29 September 2006

GV of new arrivals

00:40/01:06 North East Kenya Dadaab 09 October 2006

SOT Peter Smerdon WFP Spokesman

“Sometimes there are 2,000 people arriving per day from Somalia. They are fleeing the conflict between the Islamic Courts Union and the Transitional Federal Government, or fears of a conflict because people are frightened that fighting will break out so they tend to flee before anything happens. They’re crossing at the border and then they come to this camp Dadaab, where there are approximately 160,000 Somali refugees”.

01:06/01:42 North East Kenya Liboi 09 October 2006

Various of Somali refugees inside the Kenyan police compound waiting to be processed, Shots of men and boys waiting to be processed at Liboi.

Woman and boy sitting

Boys sitting on a bag waiting.

Women being processed.

01:42/02:05 North East Kenya Dadaab 09 October 2006

SOT Peter Smerdon WFP Spokesman

“So it’s a matter of where these new arrivals go. They are out building very weak structures made out of twigs with some sheeting. The worry is that the rains will arrive in the next 15 days or so and then these people are really going to be in trouble unless they get more plastic sheeting and non-food items as well as the food that WFP provides.”

02:05/02:21 North East Kenya Dadaab 09 October 2006

GV of new arrivals, who are building extremely flimsy huts out of twigs and anything they can get to cover them until more UNHCR plastic sheeting arrives.

02:21/02:31 North East Kenya Dadaab 30 September 2006

WFP warehouse North-East Kenya

02:31/03:01 Hagadere Camp in Dadaab in North-East Kenya. 01 Oct 2006

WFP food distribution

Storyline

As the number of Somali refugees fleeing across the border into Kenya continues to rise, the World Food Programme is scaling up its efforts to provide food assistance to the more than 30,000 newcomers since January. There are 240,000 registered refugees in Kenya – living in Dadaab and Kakuma camps. Hundreds more are arriving each day through the Liboi entry point, 80 kilometres north of Dadaab camp.

The number of newcomers is expected to reach 80,000 by the end of the year.

The refugees say they are escaping the possible renewed conflict and insecurity as tensions grow between the Transitional Federal Government in Baidoa and the Union of Islamic Courts, which extended its control to the port city of Kismayo in September. If war breaks out, the refugee flows will increase.

Refugees in Kenya are confined to camps, cutting off access to land or work. This means that WFP rations, distributed every two weeks, are all these people have to eat. They have no other way of making up the difference. Malnutrition rates in the camps are already well above the emergency level and if WFP is forced to cut rations, they will rise even higher.

A recent WFP-UNHCR nutrition assessment noted that poor hygiene and extreme environmental conditions, limited health infrastructure and diseases are some of the main causes of poor nutrition.

To continue feeding 240,000 refugees, as well as the thousands of new arrivals, WFP needs a total of US\$20 million until October 2007. Recent new donations mean that ration cuts will *not* have to take place in November, however, as it takes four months for donations to reach the hungry in the camps, WFP is still urging the international community to be generous, in view of the uncertain situation. The agency is purchasing 100 tons of high energy biscuits to use as emergency food rations, should matters deteriorate.

Kenya's refugee camps were set up 15 years ago, and mainly host refugees from Somalia (62 percent) and Sudan (33 percent). WFP provides general food distributions for all registered refugees in the camps, school meals and food for selective and therapeutic feeding programmes for malnourished children and pregnant and nursing mothers.