



World Food
Programme

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برنامج
الأغذية
العالمي

The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

WFP Video New Release Somalia TRT 02.39

28 May 2008

0-00:14 Geedbuureed Village, Bakool region in southern Somalia

A farmer opens his underground sorghum store to show that it is empty.

00:14-00:30

A farmer shows WFP his field near the village with only a few surviving but stunted sorghum plant, which he says are much shorter than they should be at this stage. The harvest is normally at the end of June, beginning of July. But farmers in the village say they see it as a failure because of a lack of rain.

27 May 2008

00:30-00:43 El Barde town, 3 kilometres from the border with Ethiopia

General view of huts, herd of sheep walking, bones and carcasses of dead cattle, ruined government buildings, dead cow in front of ruined government buildings.

28 May 2008

00:43-01:00 Geedbuureed Village, Bakool region in southern Somalia

GV of women gathered to explain their problems

27 May 2008

01:00-01:37 El Barde town, 3 kilometres from the border with Ethiopia

A street in El Barde's main market. Shopkeepers sit in the shops but there is no business.

01:37-01:41

WFP Deputy Country Director Denise Brown asks questions of Fatuma Sumi Aleyow, a mother of two children. Wide shot of people talking

01:41-01:52 SOT Fatuma Sumi Aleyow

She says she has two children but "*we have cooked nothing for them today. We only gave them some tea in the morning*"

01:52-01:57

WFP staff looking into Fatuma's Kitchen's hut

16 November 2007

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01:57-02:19

GV of French Naval vessel escorting WFP ships, navigating towards Merka port

4 December 2007

02:19-02:39 Merka beach port, South of Mogadishu,

WFP food off loaded on the beach

END

WFP News Release

12 June 2008

MORE NAVAL ESCORTS NEEDED FOR WFP FOOD SHIPS TO SOMALIA

NAIROBI – The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) appealed today to naval powers to help protect its ships carrying life-saving assistance from pirate attacks, saying that as many as 2 million Somalis could go hungry without this essential help.

A Dutch frigate is scheduled to finish escort services for WFP on June 25. Since the escort system started last November, no WFP ships have been targeted by pirates, despite an upsurge of piracy in Somali waters -- 31 attacks so far this year according to the International Maritime Bureau.

“Without escorts, our whole maritime supply route will be threatened,” said WFP Country Director Peter Goossens. “Shipping companies are reluctant to sail unescorted to Somalia, and we have no offers to take over from the Royal Netherlands Navy.”

“Millions of Somalis are suffering from a combination of insecurity, drought and high food and fuel prices. If relief shipments slow down, we could face a major catastrophe,” said Goossens, adding that WFP is trying to scale up relief food distributions to avoid a disaster.

Malnutrition is on the rise in Somalia. An unusually harsh dry season and poor April-June rains, which followed a succession of droughts and poor harvests, have led to increasing hunger in central Somalia. The situation is compounded by conflict, hyperinflation, the weakness of the Somali shilling, high unemployment and high food and fuel prices.

Some 80 percent of WFP food for Somalia arrives by sea. From mid-November to 25 June, a succession of French, Danish and Dutch frigates will have escorted 27 ships loaded with 112,500 metric tons of WFP food – enough to feed nearly 1 million people for six months.



Relief food deliveries by sea are essential. High commodity prices in East Africa have prompted WFP to purchase food in South Africa. WFP plans to ship 220,000 tons of food by sea to Somalia between June and December, to reach a total of 2.4 million people per month by December.

Experts fear that the number of people requiring food assistance later this year could reach 3.5 million people – nearly half the total population. Without urgent new contributions, WFP warned it will run out of food for Somalia in September.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency: this year, WFP plans to feed an average of 90 million people in 78 countries.

Recent video footage from southern Somalia is available by contacting Jonathan Dumont in Rome on +39 06 6513 3152 (jonathan.dumont@wfp.org)

WFP now provides RSS feeds to help journalists keep up with the latest press releases, videos and photos as they are published on WFP.org. For more details see: <http://www.wfp.org/english/?n=999>.

WFP now has a dedicated ISDN line in Italy for quality two-way interviews with WFP officials.

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