

AFAR PASTORALIST DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION QAFAR DACARSITTO DADALIH EGLA

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Statement on drought condition and assistance gaps for
urgent address:

March 30th, 2006

With this message, please find attached the statement issued by the regional government, FAO, ACF and APDA. All were party to an 8 – day assessment in Zone 1, 5 and 3 including people who have migrated out of the region as a result of the drought.

After discussion in the Regional Pastoral Development Desk – led meeting on March 29th, the following gaps in providing immediate assistance in response to the drought were identified:

a) In water tankering

The DPP & FSB, funded through UNICEF will transport water as follows: 2 vehicles to Barahale, 2 to Erebti, 2 to Dallol (all in Zone 2) and 2 vehicles to Teeru Woreda in Zone 4.

The DPP & FSB stated they had no fund to transport water in Eli Daar and Dubte Woreda. Furthermore, they stated that funds to support the tanker that had been working in Guluble Af (Dubte Woreda on the Afdeera to Sardo Road) and for the one vehicle that was running in Eli Daar are now expired. Therefore, **support to transport water to an estimated 40,000 thirsty people in Dubte Woreda (north-west) and Eli Daar Woreda was identified as the most urgent need to fill.**

b) Animal treatment/ vaccination

While FAO representative has estimated the need to de-worm (external and internal parasites), vaccinate and treat animals in identified areas, there is no pledged fund to carry out this work. This is needed to prevent animals deteriorating and slow the animal death rate.

c) Animal feed

Animal feed to assist targeted communities to feed household milk – supplying animals is needed in the case where households are reaching absolute destitution.

d) Human nutrition and medicines

Reports of alarming lack of domestic food means that there is need of support to assist in supplementary child food, nutrition monitoring and health monitoring as well as medicines to combat immanent disease outbreak.

e) Food for work/ food for school children

This is the most practical way of supporting the community to continue development effort as well as targeting needy people.

Brief rain update:

The rainstorm of 28th March did not reach the identified thirst areas in Dubte and Eli Daar. There has to date been around 5 storms in the latter part of March, all very localized. As the Regional Head of Pastoral Development said, such rain is more trouble than it is worth as it attracts Afar to go where the rain has fallen but the effects of that rain are extremely confined.