

UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Somalia

SUMMARY FOR 2005

Critical Issues for Children and Women

In October 2004, extensive peace efforts for Somalia have resulted in the election of a President and transitional government. However, the current combination of instability, insecurity, internal displacement, lack of humanitarian access, and severe natural disasters continue to place children at extreme risk. Somalia remains among the world's poorest countries, ranked 161 out of 163 in the Development Index.

Diarrhoeal diseases, respiratory infections and malaria remain the main killers of infants and young children. Acute global malnutrition stands at 17%. Limited access to clean water is aggravated by the destruction of water infrastructure due to conflict and a general lack of maintenance. Since the targeted murders of four international relief workers in late-2003 and early 2004, security of staff and agency property also remains a critical concern.

Planned Humanitarian Action for 2005

UNICEF actively participates in the Somalia Aid Coordination Body and partners with NGOs, UN agencies, Somali communities and Somali administrations where they exist. UNICEF's humanitarian assistance programme is also reflected in the 2005 CAP document for Somalia.

Health and Nutrition: UNICEF will deliver essential and reproductive health services, provide emergency nutrition response, and strengthen and expand immunization programme including the polio eradication initiative. UNICEF will also support health and nutrition rapid responses especially in northern Somalia.

HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control: UNICEF will conduct awareness activities and establish voluntary counselling and testing centres integrated into existing health services.

Water and Environmental Sanitation: UNICEF will rehabilitate boreholes and shallow wells, install additional hand pumps, and develop sustainable water management mechanisms. UNICEF will also promote sanitation, hygiene and awareness raising activities.

Education: UNICEF will provide education for drought affected communities and IDPs, rehabilitate schools, and distribute education supplies, recreational kits and teaching materials. UNICEF will also promote girls' education and advocate for increased number of teachers, particularly female teachers.

Child Protection: UNICEF will strengthen the protective environment for children by preventing violence and exploitation, particularly gender-based, and provide psychosocial support to the vulnerable, marginalized, IDP and drought affected children.

Youth Development and Participation: UNICEF will strengthen youth capacity as agents of change and support youth's participation in the development and reconstruction process, and in recreation and sports.

Summary of UNICEF Financial Needs in 2005	
Sector	US\$
Health and nutrition and HIV/AIDS	8,303,000
Water and environmental sanitation	1,448,000
Education	3,005,000
Child protection and youth development	2,756,000
Total¹	15,512,000

¹ The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 12 per cent. The actual recovery rate on individual contributions will be calculated in accordance with the Executive Board Decision 2003/9 of 5 June 2003.