Global information and early warning system on food and agriculture

FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION AND CROP PROSPECTS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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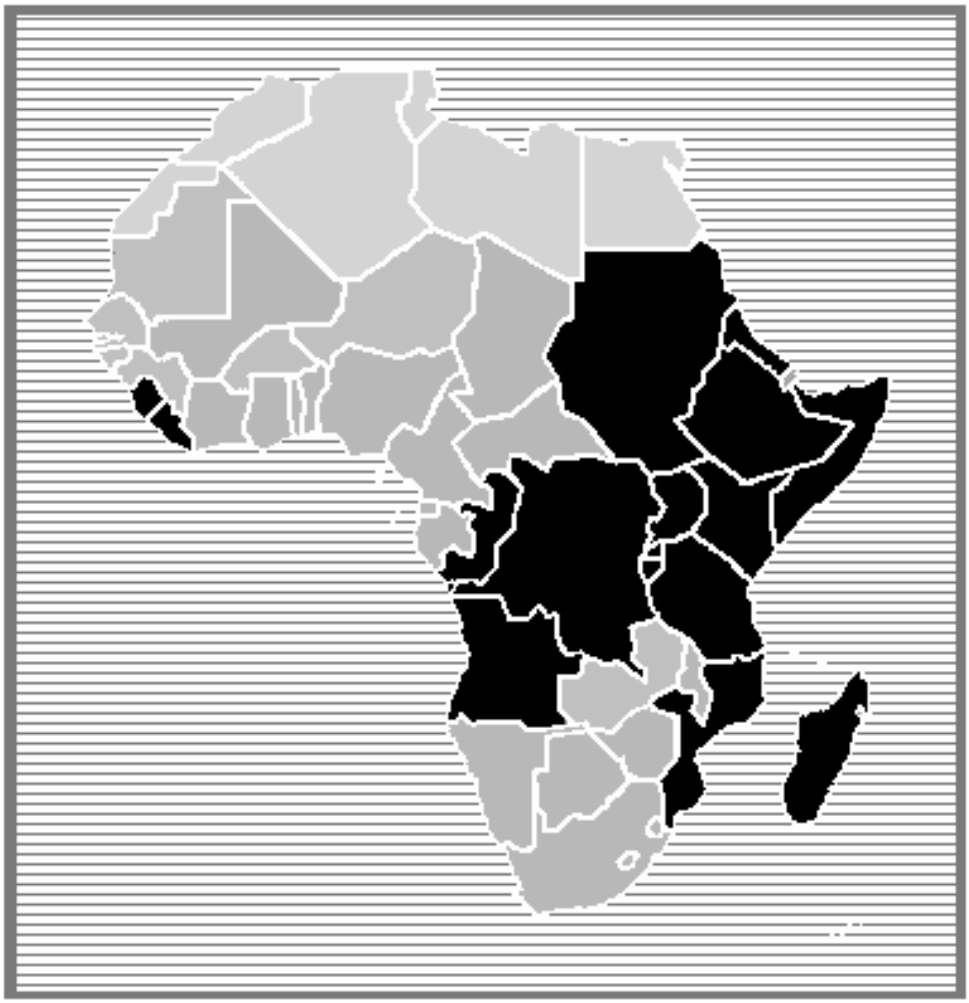

Countries facing exceptional food emergencies:
Angola, Burundi, Dem.Rep. of Congo, Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

INTRODUCTION

This is the first of three annual issues of this report prepared by the FAO Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) on the food supply situation and cereal import and food aid requirements for all countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The report is designed to provide the latest analysis and information on the food situation in these countries to governments, international organizations and other institutions engaged in relief operations.

Part I focuses on the extensive damage to agriculture and infrastructure caused by floods in Mozambique and other parts of southern Africa. It also draws attention to the severe food shortages that have emerged in several east African countries, particularly in pastoral areas, due mainly to drought. On the positive side, it points to the record harvests in the Sahelian countries while highlighting the persisting food supply difficulties in Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Part II contains an assessment of crop prospects and the food supply situation by sub-region, giving the latest estimates of cereal import and food aid requirements of all four sub-regions of sub-Saharan Africa.

Part III presents the latest analysis and information on crop prospects and the food supply situation and outlook in each country. The information on food aid pledges, including triangular transactions and local purchases, and on expected arrivals, is based on data transmitted to GIEWS as of late March 2000 by the following donors: Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, EC, Germany, France, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States as well as the World Food Programme. For other donors, data are based on field reports from various sources (see Tables 7 and 8).

COUNTRIES FACING EXCEPTIONAL FOOD EMERGENCIES (Total: 16 countries)

Country	Reasons for emergency
Angola	Civil strife, population displacement
Burundi	Civil strife, population displacement
Congo, Dem.Rep. of	Civil strife, population displacement
Congo, Rep. of	Civil strife, population displacement
Eritrea	War-displaced people and returnees, drought
Ethiopia	Drought, large number of vulnerable people, IDPs
Kenya	Drought
Liberia	Impact of past civil strife, shortage of farm inputs
Madagascar	Floods, cyclones
Mozambique	Floods, cyclones
Rwanda	Insecurity in parts
Sierra Leone	Impact of past civil strife, population displacement
Somalia	Drought, civil strife
Sudan	Civil strife in the south
Tanzania	Successive poor harvests in several regions
Uganda	Civil strife in parts, drought

Since conditions can change rapidly, and published information may not always represent the most up-to-date basis for action, further enquiries or corrections should be directed to Mr. Abdur Rashid, Chief, Global Information and Early Warning Service (ESCG), FAO, Rome (Fax: 39-06-5705-4495, E-mail: GIEWS1@FAO.ORG).

Please note that this report is available on the Internet as part of the FAO World Wide Web at the following address: http://www.fao.org/giews/

HIGHLIGHTS

Massive relief and rehabilitation assistance needed in Mozambique, following the devastation caused by severe floods. Latest estimates indicate that 1.9 million people have been affected by the disaster and major losses to crops and livestock have been sustained in the southern and central provinces of Maputo, Gaza, Inhambane, Manica and Sofala. In these traditionally food-deficit provinces, the sharp reduction in cereal production will be compounded by loss of farmers' food and seed stocks. As a result the food security situation of the affected populations is likely to remain precarious until the next harvest in April 2001. In **Madagascar** heavy rains and high winds by two consecutive cyclones also caused destruction to property and infrastructure and left some 10 000 people homeless. Preliminary indications point to serious damage to coffee plantations, fruit trees and paddy crop in low-lying areas. FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Missions are scheduled to visit both countries shortly to assess the impact of weather hazards on food production and the food supply situation and estimate the cereal import requirements, including food aid, for the next marketing year starting April 2000.

Elsewhere in southern Africa production prospects are generally satisfactory, notwithstanding severe localized flood damage to crops and infrastructure in Botswana, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. However, the food supply situation remains very serious in the civil-war ravaged Angola, where emergency food aid continues to be necessary for some 1.1 million displaced people, as well as for large numbers of Angolan refugees in Zambia and Namibia. A joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission is planned to visit Angola in mid April to review the harvest outcome, assess the food supply situation and estimate the cereal import requirements, including food aid, for the marketing year 2000/2001(April/March).

The threat of starvation is severe in parts of eastern Africa with nearly 16 million people in need of emergency food assistance. Pastoral areas of the sub-region, including south-eastern Ethiopia, northern Kenya and several parts of Somalia, have been particularly affected due to successive years of poor rains with loss of large numbers of livestock. Hardest hit is Ethiopia, where more than 8 million people are at risk, while in Kenya nearly 2.7 million people are facing severe food shortages. Past or ongoing civil conflicts in parts are also disrupting food production and distribution, triggering food shortages and mass population displacements. With poor rainfall forecast for the sub-region during the current season, the number of people in need of assistance is anticipated to increase. Only a massive international effort in the coming months in support of the affected populations can avert further human suffering and loss of life.

Food supply situation remains bleak in the Great Lakes region due to the combined effects of civil strife, insecurity, shortage of inputs and erratic rainfall. In **Burundi**, food supply position is tight following the reduced harvest last season due to dry weather and population displacement. The food and health situation is particularly critical for some 800 000 displaced people in camps, most of whom do not have access to their fields. The Government has recently started closing some camps. In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, severe food shortages and malnutrition are reported among large numbers of displaced people, mainly in north-eastern Katanga and South Kivu areas, which remain inaccessible due to insecurity. In **Rwanda**, despite a significant improvement in food production last season, food supply difficulties persist in some parts.

Food supply position improves in Sahelian countries of western Africa, following bumper harvests which have allowed the replenishment of farm and national food stocks. The markets are generally well supplied in most countries. Record harvests were gathered in Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal, while production levels were above-average in Chad and Niger. By contrast, output is estimated to be below average in Guinea-Bissau due to the effect of civil strife and population displacement. Despite some improvement in food production, Sierra Leone and Liberia remain heavily dependent on international food assistance.

Sub-Saharan Africa's cereal import requirements are set to remain high in 2000, reflecting reduced production in the eastern and southern Africa. However, continuing balance of payments difficulties in the low-income food deficit countries of the region mean that their food aid requirements will increase. The food aid requirements could increase further in the coming months, if current forecasts of poor rainfall in eastern Africa materialize.

CONTENTS

PART I: OVERVIEW

Recent weather-related hazards have dealt a severe blow to sub-Saharan Africa's food security. While the worst floods in nearly half a century have ravaged southern areas of Mozambique and caused extensive damage in Botswana, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, severe cyclones have devastated parts of Madagascar. By contrast, several countries of eastern Africa have been seriously affected by a prolonged drought rendering some 16 million people in the sub-region in need of urgent relief assistance. The situation also remains bleak in Angola and parts of Great Lakes region, mainly due to persistent civil conflicts which have seriously compromised production, disrupted distribution activities and triggered massive population displacements. There are, however, some positive signs. In the Sahelian countries of western Africa, above-average to record harvests have been gathered, boosting food supplies for the new marketing year. A significant step towards food security has been the initiation of the process of restoration of political stability in Sierra Leone and a continued gradual recovery of foodcrop production in Liberia. Nevertheless, the overall picture is of another year of tight food supplies in sub-Saharan Africa, with cereal import and food aid requirements projected to remain high in 2000.

FLOODS AND CYCLONES CAUSE EXTENSIVE DAMAGE IN MOZAMBIQUE AND OTHER PARTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

The worst floods in nearly half a century have devastated parts of southern Africa, causing loss of life and seriously threatening food supplies. Damage to housing, property and infrastructure has also been extensive, and the affected countries will need substantial external relief and rehabilitation assistance. Based on past experience, the sub-region has developed contingency plans against drought. However, given the magnitude of flood problems faced by the sub-region this year, priority attention will also be needed to develop contingency plans for devastating floods and cyclones.

Southern and central **Mozambique** have borne the brunt of the floods with severe damage and destruction inflicted on crops (both in fields and stores) and livestock, as well as to housing and communication and transport infrastructure (roads, bridges, railways, telephone lines, etc.). A full assessment of the agriculture and livestock damage is not yet available. However, near-total crop losses are almost certain in the southern provinces of Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane, where the most productive areas such as Boane and Chokwe had been completely submerged, while serious losses are expected in the central provinces of Manica and Sofala. Substantial livestock losses are also reported. In these traditionally food-deficit provinces, the sharp reduction in cereal production in 2000 will be aggravated by loss of farmers' food and seed stocks. With some 1.9 million people affected by the disaster, it is anticipated that large numbers of people will require food assistance until the next main harvest in April 2001.

There is a pressing need for seeds and agricultural tools and for the restocking of livestock. In the medium to long term, Mozambique will need massive international assistance for the rehabilitation of the agriculture sector and the reconstruction of its damaged infrastructure. An FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission is scheduled to visit the country in mid-April to assess the impact of the floods on food production and the food supply situation and estimate the country's food import, including food aid, requirements for the marketing year 2000/01.

In **Madagascar,** heavy rains and high force winds following Cyclones "Eline" on 17 February and "Gloria" on 2 March, have resulted in severe damage to infrastructure and left over 10 000 people homeless. Worst affected areas are the north and central areas of the east coast, including the cities of Andapa, Vatomandry, Mahanoro and Belo-Tsiribihina. Preliminary reports indicate that about 560 000 people have been affected to varying degrees by the cyclone. Access to the affected people remains difficult due to damage to main roads and bridges. The Government has appealed for international assistance to cope with the emergency

The impact on the agriculture sector is not yet assessed but crop losses are reported in low-lying areas. Prospects for the 2000 paddy crop, already poor due to erratic and below-average rains, have deteriorated with the flood damage. This year's paddy crop, to be harvested from April is, therefore, anticipated to be significantly reduced. An FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission will visit the country shortly to assess the effects of cyclones on crop production and food supply situation and estimate food import and food aid needs for the next marketing year.

In **South Africa**, heavy rains and floods in the second half of March affected the Kwa Zulu-Natal province and parts of the Northern and Mpumalgna provinces. These latter two provinces were seriously affected by floods in early February and subsequently by cyclone “Eline”, which resulted in further damage to housing and infrastructure, as well as heavy losses to pulses, maize and vegetables. The Government has provided relief assistance in the affected areas. Notwithstanding the localized flood damage, the overall harvest outlook for maize crop remains favourable since the floods only marginally affected the maize belt.

In **Zimbabwe**, heavy rains in the second half of March aggravated the flood situation caused by cyclone “Eline” on 17 February in the eastern and southern provinces of Manicaland, Masvingo and Matabeleland, bordering Mozambique and South Africa. Floods have severely damaged roads, bridges and dams. An estimated 500 000 people have been affected, of whom 250 000 are in need of assistance. The Government has declared the three affected provinces as disaster zones and has appealed to the international community for US$21 million to assist the affected population. The damage to infrastructure has further compounded the production and distribution problems caused by severe fuel shortages.

Preliminary Government estimates indicate that 30 000 hectares of crops have been destroyed and 17 000 livestock lost. However, the floods have not affected the main maize growing areas of the north-east, where the bulk of cereal crops is produced. Nevertheless, this year's maize production, which normally represents 90 percent of total cereal output, is forecast to decline due to a reduction in the planted area. Heavy rains since mid-February may also result in yield reductions.

In **Botswana**, cyclone Eline aggravated the already serious situation caused by flooding in early February which destroyed some 10 000 homes. The number of affected people is estimated at 73 000. Before the cyclone, the Government had estimated the flood damage at US$8.5 million and appealed for international assistance to deal with the emergency. An assessment of crop losses in the eastern growing areas is not yet available. However, there is great concern over the effect of the floods on livestock, which is of great importance to farmers' food security.

In **Malawi**, heavy rains in mid-March in southern areas bordering Mozambique resulted in severe damage to housing and infrastructure, and crop and livestock losses. Preliminary estimates indicate that 10 000 people have been displaced by the floodwaters. Worst affected areas are those along the Lower Shire Valley, particularly the districts of Nsanje and Chikwawa. Emergency food and non-food assistance is urgently required for these populations.

In **Angola,** the food situation remains extremely critical for about 2 million internally displaced people as a result of the persistent civil war. The escalation of the conflict in recent months has resulted in further displacement of population, particularly along the borders with Namibia and Zambia. Malnutrition is on the increase, as persistent insecurity hampers distribution of emergency food assistance in several parts. Currently, food aid is being provided to some 1.1 million people.

Elsewhere in southern Africa, heavy flooding in **Zambia,** due to the overflow of the Zambezi river in early March, has resulted in the closure of roads in the river basin, but the overall prospects for the cereal crop remain satisfactory. In **Swaziland,** harvest prospects are unfavourable following crop losses caused by floods in early February.

UPCOMING CROP AND FOOD SUPPLY ASSESSMENT MISSIONS TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Between April and June 2000, a series of joint FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Missions are planned to southern and central Africa, including Mozambique, Madagascar, Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi. The Missions will assess the damage caused by adverse weather (floods and cyclones) in Mozambique and Madagascar, and persistent civil unrest, in Angola, DRC and Burundi, to crops and livestock and its implications on the overall food supply situation of these countries. Estimates of cereal and other foodcrop production will be made together with the cereal import and food aid requirements for new marketing years of the respective countries. The tentative dates of these Mission are as follows:

April-May 2000

Angola
Democratic Republic of Congo
Madagascar
Mozambique

June 2000

Burundi

SIXTEEN MILLION PEOPLE AFFECTED BY SERIOUS FOOD SHORTAGES IN EASTERN AFRICA

Severe food shortages have emerged in several east African countries mainly due to drought-induced crop and livestock losses. Pastoralists in the sub-region have been the worst affected by a succession of poor rains which have led to losses of large numbers of their livestock. Past or ongoing civil strife and conflicts in parts are also disrupting food production and distribution, resulting in food shortages and population displacements. Substantial food assistance will be needed through 2000 for an estimated 16 million people in the sub-region.

In **Ethiopia**, the food supply situation in the pastoral areas of the east and south, particularly the Somali Region, which have had three consecutive years of little or no rainfall, gives cause for serious concern. The current drought has killed large numbers of livestock and people are migrating in search of water and food. In the country as a whole, the food supply situation is very tight for more than 8 million people, including some 400 000 displaced by the border war with Eritrea. The December 1999 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission forecast a below-average Belg crop of about 250 000 tonnes, due to shortages of draught oxen and seed. Based on the production forecast in December, the Mission estimated the national import requirement in 2000 at 764 000 tonnes, to be covered by food aid. However, with poor rainfall during the current Belg season, the food aid requirement could increase significantly.

In **Eritrea**, the food situation is very tight for nearly 600 000 people affected by the war with Ethiopia and the prevailing drought along the coastal areas. Prices of cereals are unseasonably high. In January 2000, prices of red sorghum, white wheat and barley were higher by about 15, 27 and 23 percent respectively, compared to January 1999. Livestock prices have also increased. In January 2000, the UN Country Team appealed for US$42.7 million to assist some 372 000 war-affected and over 211 000 drought-affected people.

In **Kenya**, The food supply situation is critical in the northern, eastern and north-western pastoral districts and in parts of Central, Coast and Rift Valley provinces affected by drought during the 1999/2000 “short rains” season. In the pastoral areas, the “short rains” (November-January) are crucial for the replenishment of water supplies and pastures after the dry season, while in agricultural areas, crops from the short rains season provide the bulk of food supplies. The Government has appealed to the international community for emergency assistance until the next harvest from July. It is estimated that more than 2.7 million people are in need of food assistance. Worst affected districts include Turkana, Mandera, Moyale, Garissa, Kajiado, Machakos, Mbeere, Kitui, Wajir, Mwingi, Tana River, Marsabit, Isiolo, Baringo, Samburu, West Pokot, Makueni, and Tharaka Nithi. Prices of maize, the key staple in the country, have increased sharply in most parts, reducing access to food for a large number of people. In January, maize prices were up to 50 percent

higher than the average for the previous five years. Increasing malnutrition and health problems are reported. Adequate rainfall during the current season (March to May) will be crucial for improved food security in north-western and eastern provinces.

In **Somalia**, despite anticipated food supply improvement in the southern parts with a better Deyr harvest, nearly 526 000 people in 6 regions are facing severe food shortages, requiring food aid estimated at 14 200 tonnes. Hardest hit are farmers in Huddur, Wajid and Rab-Dure districts in Bakool Region, where many have left their villages in search of food. Furthermore, the food supply situation remains tight for the agro-pastoralists in Gedo, Bay and Hiran regions due to successive poor harvests and population displacements. In north-western Somalia (Somaliland), despite fast depletion of pasture and water supplies due to a high influx of pastoralists from neighbouring Ethiopia, overall livestock and food supply conditions are stable. In north-eastern Somalia (Puntland), livestock conditions improved in parts with good Deyr season rains, but increased livestock concentration and overgrazing is of concern.

Food aid deliveries to some regions improved during January 2000 with nearly 1 300 tonnes distributed in Bay region alone. However, a slowdown of relief effort was reported in February due to attacks on humanitarian workers.

In **Tanzania**, precipitation during the short rains ("Vuli") season was generally inadequate and particularly poor in Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Tanga Regions, prompting farmers to drastically reduce plantings and affecting yields. This followed the below-average main harvest in 1999. However, the overall food supply situation is stable, reflecting large maize imports in the second half of 1999 and the maize export ban imposed by the Government. In January 2000, maize prices in many markets throughout the country were lower by up to 56 percent compared with the same period last year. Bean prices were lower by up to 41 percent. However, food assistance is required for nearly 800 000 food insecure people, mainly in the regions of Dodoma, Mara, Shinyanga, Singida, Tabora, Tanga and southern Mwanza, all of whom have suffered their third consecutive poor harvest. WFP school-feeding programme began in January in 128 primary schools in Dodoma region and is expected to expand to Arusha and Singida regions.

In **Sudan**, despite an overall stable food supply situation, about 103 000 tonnes of food aid is needed for some 2.4 million people affected by drought and the long-running civil conflict. Major cereal deficits are estimated in Unity State, which has suffered greatly from internecine fighting and Government/rebel clashes, in Lakes and Bahr el Jebel States due mainly to floods, and in many localities throughout Jonglei, Upper Nile and Eastern Equatoria where weather conditions were unfavourable.

In **Uganda**, the food supply situation has deteriorated in Kotido and Moroto districts, with nearly 215 000 people needing urgent food assistance, mainly due to a poor harvest last season and loss of cattle due to raids. Also, the food situation in Gulu and Kitgum districts gives cause for concern due to renewed civil conflict. Furthermore, food assistance continues to be needed for nearly 112 000 people in Bundibugyo District displaced by civil strife.

PERSISTENT FOOD SUPPLY DIFFICULTIES IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

Food security in the Great Lakes region continues to be undermined by the combined effects of civil strife, insecurity and shortages of inputs, aggravated by erratic rainfall.

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo,** the persistent civil conflict in several parts continues to cause large scale population movements. Recent displacements are reported in the Kalange area of South Kivu around Bukavu, where 24 000 people have taken refuge in Katana and Kabare zones since the beginning of the year. Nutrition studies indicate that around 8 percent of children in this population are severely malnourished. In general, food shortages and high rates of malnutrition are reported among the displaced people in north-eastern Katanga, South Kivu and Ituri area of Upper Congo. Meanwhile, insecurity severely restricts relief operations. The food situation is also extremely difficult in urban areas, which have been cut-off from vital supply routes since the start of the conflict. In particular, the situation is critical in Kinshasa where high levels of inflation have eroded the purchasing power of the majority of the population. Recent nutritional surveys in Kinshasa show an increase in child malnutrition, particularly in the surrounding rural areas.

In **Burundi,** the overall food supply situation is tight following the poor 2000 season "A" harvest, which was affected by severe dry weather and the displacement and regroupment in camps of some 13 percent of the population. The Government is in the process of dismantling these camps where the food and health

conditions of the population are very poor and malnutrition is widespread. By early March over 50 camps had been closed. Food assistance is needed for the people still in the camps, as well as for those returning to their areas of origin who were unable to grow crops last season.

In **Rwanda**, the overall food supply situation is stable as a result of improved food production in the first season of 2000 and increased flow of commercial imports. Although food aid requirements for the first half of the year have declined, the food situation remains critical for vulnerable people in several areas, particularly in the north-west province of Ruhengeri where chronic malnutrition is high.

FOOD SUPPLIES IMPROVE IN THE SAHEL FOLLOWING RECORD HARVESTS, BUT DIFFICULTIES PERSIST IN SIERRA LEONE AND LIBERIA

Reflecting generally favourable growing conditions during the 1999 rainy season, particularly in August and September, a bumper crop is estimated in the **Sahel** for the second consecutive year. Rains started generally on time, were relatively widespread and regular, and were particularly abundant during the critical months of July, August and September, which generally benefited crops. However, heavy rains caused flooding in The Gambia, Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Niger and Chad. The pest situation was mostly calm. The abundant rains also permitted satisfactory regeneration of pastures and replenishment of water reserves.

Following release of final production estimates by several countries, the 1999 aggregate cereal production of the nine CILSS member countries has been revised to 11.6 million tonnes, which is 8 percent higher than in 1998 and 23 percent above the average of the last five years. Record crops have been harvested in Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal, while above-average outputs are estimated in Chad and Niger. Output is estimated to remain below average in Guinea-Bissau due to civil strife and population displacement in 1998.

Following these good harvests, the food supply situation will be satisfactory in 2000. Markets are well supplied and prices are much lower than at the same time in previous years. Farmers have replenished their stocks. Low prices of cereals have also facilitated the replenishment of national food security stocks in several countries. Terms of trade for pastoralists are favourable. However, localised food supply difficulties are anticipated during the lean season in the areas affected by flooding, notably in Mauritania, northern Senegal and southern Chad. Local purchases and/or triangular transactions in the surplus areas for transfer to deficit areas are encouraged to support domestic production.

In **Sierra Leone**, the agricultural sector has been extensively disrupted by civil strife throughout the country. Over the years, farmers have lost all their productive resources including seeds, implements and other capital assets. There has been large-scale destruction of infrastructure and rural institutions. The rice area in 1999 is estimated at about 225 000 hectares, about 20 percent below the 1998 estimate. Despite very good rainfall, delayed transplanting and shortages of inputs resulted in a decline in yields of about 4 percent from the previous year. Thus, production of paddy is estimated at about 248 000 tonnes for 1999, 25 percent below the 1998 volume. The 1999 paddy production is around 45 percent of the pre-civil war (1990) production level and just about 60 percent of 1997 volume when the security situation improved in many parts of the country. In the South-West region, where the security situation has improved, production has increased slightly over the previous year. However, in the North, North-West and part of Eastern region, where insecurity was high and which remained inaccessible to most of the relief agencies, both area and yield decreased from the previous year. The rice import requirement in 2000 is estimated at 329 000 tonnes.

With the Lomé Peace Accord in July 1999, there has been a gradual improvement in the security situation, which should encourage recovery of the agricultural sector, exerting a positive impact on the food security of the population.

In **Liberia**, reflecting favourable growing conditions and an improved security situation, 1999 cereal production is expected to be satisfactory. Relative peace has exerted a positive influence on farming activities, with the exception of Lofa County in the north, where fighting broke out during the growing season. The cultivated area is estimated to be substantially higher than in 1998, with rice production expected to be around 80 percent and cassava output close to the pre-civil war average. Agricultural production increased in Bong, Bomi, Montserrado and Nimba counties, but remained low in Maryland, Sinoe and Grand Kru due to difficult access to farms. Although shortage of basic agricultural inputs was a limiting factor for farmers, it was largely offset by substantial distribution of seeds and tools and improved technical assistance to resettling farm families. In Lofa County, most of the estimated 25 000 displaced farmers have not been able to harvest

their crops. Several thousands have been displaced from Voinjama and Kolahum camps in upper Lofa to Tarvey and Sinje in lower Lofa.

The overall food situation has improved significantly and food supplies in urban markets are relatively stable, while food prices are lower than in the previous year. However, food supply in rural areas continues to be tight. Humanitarian programmes for Liberian returnees and Sierra Leonean refugees were disrupted by insecurity and looting in Lofa county, where the nutritional and health condition of displaced people is reported to have deteriorated. About 90 000 refugees from Sierra Leone remain in Liberia.

UPDATE ON FOOD AID PLEDGES AND DELIVERIES

The cereal import requirements in sub-Saharan Africa in 2000 are expected to increase reflecting reduced harvests in eastern and parts of southern Africa. GIEWS latest estimates of 1999 production and 1999/2000 import and food aid requirements are summarized in Table 1. The total food aid requirement is estimated at 2.5 million tonnes, some 4 percent more than 1998/99. Cereal food aid pledges for 1999/2000, including those carried over from 1998/99, amount to 1.1 million tonnes of which 0.5 tonnes have so far been delivered. It must be noted that these estimates do not include requirements for several southern African countries affected by floods and cyclones as these countries will be entering their new marketing year in April 2000 and the full extent of crop damage still needs to be assessed.

AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTION

The food supply situation in several countries of southern and eastern Africa will be very tight in 2000. A prolonged drought has aggravated an already precarious food supply situation in parts of eastern Africa, while the floods in southern Africa have dealt a severe blow to food security particularly in Mozambique and Madagascar. In Angola, continuing population displacements due to the persistent civil conflict have rendered large numbers of people entirely dependent on food assistance. The food supply situation remains bleak in the Great Lakes Region. In Sierra Leone, despite progress made on the political front, insecurity persists in the rural areas, hampering farming activities.

Against this background, the attention of the international community is drawn to the following areas requiring assistance:

First, Substantial assistance for agricultural rehabilitation, repair of damaged infrastructure and continued relief assistance is needed in Mozambique. International assistance for other southern African countries affected by adverse weather is also needed.

Second, the serious food situation in parts of eastern Africa, especially in the pastoral areas of Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda, calls for urgent food assistance, as well as provision of water for both human and livestock use.

Third, more food assistance is needed in Angola, Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo for internally displaced people as a result of civil strife.

Fourth, sustained donor assistance is needed for the rehabilitation of the agricultural sector in countries where prospects for lasting peace are a reality following the devastation by prolonged civil strife, including Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea Bissau and Rwanda.

SPECIAL FEATURE
FORESTS AND FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA

Introduction

Foods from forests and other tree systems in Africa constitute an important component of household food supply. Such foods are found in markets in both rural and urban areas, in a wide variety of plant and animal products. In many villages and small towns, the contribution of forests and trees to food supply is essential for food security, as it provides a number of important dietary elements that the normal agricultural produce does not adequately provide. In many areas, dietary deficiencies and monotony of normal diets are reduced or avoided, through this "hidden harvest". However, despite the variety, importance and richness of foods from forests in Africa, progress has been very slow in designing and implementing measures to increase the contribution of wild plants and animals to food production and food security, through bold application of science and technology. Furthermore, forests and trees also contribute indirectly to food security because they play a major role in the sustainability of agricultural production systems. However, they could make a greater contribution to agriculture with a better and more systematic approach to agro-forestry and tree planting in agricultural systems. FAO's Special Programme for Food Security has, since February 1998, addressed this issue through the introduction of the diversification component in its strategy.

The starting point for consideration of forests and food security in Africa is the present agricultural land use situation and how it is likely to evolve with the growing demand for agricultural land to produce food for a rapidly expanding population. In 1986, the FAO study, "African Agriculture - the Next 25 Years", stated that Africa, compared to Asia, had enough land to feed itself. That meant that new land could be brought under cultivation and the challenge was how to manage and guide this process. The challenge now is to increase land productivity through sound use of the best technological practices, agricultural inputs, including irrigation, and the promotion of more effective food markets. Intensification will not only increase food production but will also ease the pressure on forest resources and other natural landscapes: less forest land will be claimed for agricultural production.

Direct contribution to Food Security and Ways to Improve it

Trees and forests contribute in many ways a wealth of products that may be used for food, medicines, beverages and other ways that improve the wellbeing of local populations. In fact, it can be said that nearly every single tree, shrub or grass species is used in one way or another for food and nutrition. Plants provide food either directly in the form of fruits, seeds and other edible parts, or indirectly by facilitating consumption of other foods.

LEAVES

Through inter-generation processes of trial and error, African societies have discovered and utilized innumerable plant species whose leaves can be used for food. The leaves contribute to the richness of diets, hence reducing various dietary deficiencies. Well known leaves include the Cameroonian ndole, the baobab tree leaves and the many types of leaves used for making beverages. With more research and greater application of the available technologies and processes, leaves can contribute a great deal more to the wellbeing of the African population.

WILD FLOWERS AND FRUITS

The issue here is not the direct contribution of forests and trees to food security, but rather their potential for future food production. For this, investment in science and technology is necessary, as well as improved management of the natural sources of forest foods. Concerned organizations including the International Council for Research in Agro-Forestry (ICRAF), FAO, a number of non-governmental organizations and national research organizations need to co-ordinate their efforts and come up with strong co-operative programmes on the various levels of action needed to fully maximize the "hidden harvest". Steps should include: i) updating documentation of the issue; ii) improvement of the traditional methods of management,

conservation and use of the resource; iii) selection of key species for priority research and technology development; iv) approaches to domestication.

WILD ROOTS AND TUBERS

The tropical humid forests and woodlands contain a host of plants which produce starchy roots and tubers which are eaten. Although these may just be snacks for the youth to tap throughout the year, their variety and the potential for their improvement hold great promise for the future.

UNDERUTILIZED POTENTIAL FOR MUSHROOM PRODUCTION

The potential of mushrooms in African forests and other landscapes is largely untapped. There are long periods in which warm weather and air moisture combine to provide excellent conditions for the production of mushrooms. There are several varieties, including those which grow on decaying roots, dead wood, termite mounds or directly on cultivated land. There is much to do in sensitisation and information, but also in research to increase knowledge and use of African mushrooms for food. FAO has assisted a number of countries to develop mushroom production but the potential remains largely untapped.

FORESTS, JOBS AND INCOME

The international debate around sustainable forest management has yet to produce practical and concrete action at the field level. However, it is likely to improve the way forests are being used. The major social dimension of forestry in this debate is the possibility of creating more jobs at local level on a sustainable basis. Sylvicultural operations of managed forests are continuous throughout the year, with logging providing many job opportunities, while well organized logging companies include social programmes that cater for the wellbeing and food security of their workers. There is great scope for this in countries such as Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Ghana and Central African Republic.

Improving Agricultural Production: the Role of Trees

AGRO-FORESTRY PARKLANDS AND MODERN AGRO-FORESTRY SYSTEMS

The greatest contribution of trees to food production and food security is at the farm level. Indeed, trees under various forms, either as single trees or organized in lines or clusters (shelter belts, groves), have a fundamental role to play in food production and food security. This is particularly true in Africa, where agriculture is in transitional stages in many locations with low input levels and fragile soil systems. The development of new agro-forestry systems and/or improved management and conservation of traditional tree systems are essential to maintaining land productivity and buffering degradation processes and other constraints to sustainable farming systems. In many countries of the continent, a number of processes have led to a gradual modification of the initial natural forest and tree formations to tree-picketed land use patterns, the so-called agro-forestry parklands. The same process can lead to tree-garnered rangelands. In both land use types the tree component plays a multifunctional role, including restoration of soil fertility and diversification of production, thus contributing to food security. Agro-forestry parklands characterise most of the sub-humid to semi-arid rural landscapes of Africa and have been essential to maintaining cereal production in these eco-geographical regions.

These important systems are now seriously threatened and need to be conserved until improved farming systems are developed to replace them. The challenges to their conservation are the following:

- increasing demand for fuel wood from poor rural populations which have no alternative sources of energy for cooking, as well as urban poor households which cannot access alternative sources of energy;
- biological constraints, when physical, ecological and climatic constraints are so strong that the system is no longer renewed through natural regeneration and when assisted regeneration is inadequate;
- lack of or inadequate policy framework and guidance for governing land and tree tenure, non forest tree resources management and when extension services fail to address the issue of rural land use sustainability.

Active government, community and individual commitment is necessary to maintain these systems and their role in sustainable farming systems and, most importantly, the conservation of biological diversity in the rural landscapes.

DIVERSIFICATION COMPONENT IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR FOOD SECURITY

Trees, shrubs and grasses contribute directly to maintaining or restoring soil fertility through build-up of organic matter and slowing down soil erosion. This is another important contribution to food security. They also contribute to water resources conservation by limiting run-off and increasing soil water intake, thus improving water resource availability in any farming system, including systems in semi-arid lands. In addition, they contribute to improved agricultural practices by controlling water logging. Diversification and sustainability of farming systems are the basic reasons for the introduction of both tree planting and agro-forestry practices in FAO's Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS). Since February 1998, the clear definition of the diversification concept and its incorporation into the SPFS have provided greater scope for trees and tree-related systems in the Special Programme. This is important for Africa as many countries need and recognize the role of trees, in both irrigated and rainfed farming systems.

The Energy Dimension

The contribution of forest and tree resources to household energy supply is essential in Africa and will remain so for the foreseeable future. Africa has the highest per capita annual fuel wood consumption in the world (0.89 m^3 per year). An estimated 623 million m^3 are taken annually from forest and tree resources. Most of this goes to cooking, thus contributing to household food security and nutrition. However, in fragile areas, such extractions cause severe deforestation, bio-diversity loss and reduction of food opportunities from natural vegetation. This means that the supply of wood to meet household energy needs should be properly taken into account in forest policy formulation and planning. It should also be incorporated into agricultural diversification programmes.

Contribution of Wild Animal Resources

The conservation of forest resources in Africa is no easy task. The continent is losing 4.1 million hectares of forests annually. The protected areas of the continent face many pressures, including severe poaching, illegal logging and land clearing for agriculture. Also the pressure of livestock in some areas has serious consequences for the status of wildlife. Nevertheless, wild animal resources contribute greatly and in a very diversified manner to food production and household food security.

Game meat, the so-called "bush" meat, is an important complement to household food supply and nutrition. Besides the adult activity of hunting, the direct consumption of small wild animals provides a remarkable amount of proteins. A study in Senegal has shown that the use by children of only small rodents, reptiles and fowl resulted in an average protein intake of 400g/person/month[1].

Hunting still provides a sizeable part of meat consumption for many societies, but also cash income that contributes to food security. In a study "Wildlife and Food security in Africa"[2], the various aspects of wildlife contribution to food, jobs and income have been described and analysed. The study makes the important conclusion that "a number of promising emerging wildlife production systems, including wildlife ranching, farming and domestication can contribute significantly and sustainably to food security and nutrition in Africa, if proper measures and approaches are taken." Hunting is, however, doomed to disappear as a factor in food security in Africa unless it is organized. There are good examples where the setting up and proper management of game preserves provide many opportunities to local populations as they create jobs, including servicing tourism and organized hunting.

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1 In "Pour une gestion de la faune au Sahel: Enjeux et perspectives de la conservation au Service du développement: le cas de la Mauritanie"
2 FAO Conservation Guide No 32: Wildlife and Food Security in Africa, by Yaa Ntiamoa Baidu.

New trends towards fully fledged, community-based natural resources management schemes, especially in Southern Africa, are emerging and will help organize and modernise the wildlife sectors, allowing increased use of wildlife resources for food and income, thus contributing to diversification of food production and to sustainable food security and nutrition. In West Africa, especially in the Benin Gulf region, the use of game meat provides a substantial amount of proteins, and initiatives for raising small rodents and antelopes are promising. There is scope for small animal domestication in the diversification component of the SPFS. Improved organization of the wildlife sector will require: i) re-orientation of wildlife management and use towards more community-sensitive programmes; ii) more research and development in the area of wildlife domestication and husbandry; iii) organization of markets and introduction of related regulations. The rich and diversified wildlife of Africa has a huge potential for enhancing food security and nutrition in the continent.

Conclusions

The contribution of forests and trees to food security in Africa is significant, diversified and valuable. It ranges from direct production of food to provision of jobs and income. Also, most African households, both rural and urban, depend on fuel wood for domestic energy supply. However, under current practices, these contributions are not sustainable. They can only be sustainable if the natural resources are managed in an appropriate manner and if substantive research and improved technology are invested in the forestry sector. A combination of initiatives aiming at better understanding of local and traditional practices, inventorying, better management of resources, and integration of trees into farming systems, can greatly enhance the contribution of forests to food security in Africa.

PART II : POSITION BY SUB-REGION

In southern Africa and some countries in eastern Africa, the 2000 cereal crops will be harvested from April, while planting is underway in some eastern African countries. Planting has also started in central Africa and the coastal countries of western Africa, but in Sahelian countries of western Africa it will not begin until June.

Cereal Crop Calendar

Sub-Region	Cereal Crops	
	Planting	**Harvesting**
Eastern Africa 1/	March-June	Aug.-Dec.
Southern Africa	Oct.-Dec.	April-June
Western Africa		
- Coastal areas (first season)	March-April	July-Sept.
- Sahel zone	June-July	Oct.-Nov.
Central Africa 1/	April-June	Aug.-Dec.

1/ Except Burundi, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo which have two main seasons and Tanzania whose main season follows the southern Africa planting calendar. For Sudan, the planting period for the staple coarse grain crop is June-July and the harvesting period is October-December.

In **eastern Africa**, harvesting of the 1999/2000 secondary season cereal crops is completed, except in Ethiopia where the "Belg" crops are harvested from June. Prolonged drought and erratic rainfall reduced crop production in several countries. This follows a poor 1999 main season cereal forecast in most of the sub-region. Pastoralists have been particularly affected by successive droughts that killed large number of their livestock. Latest FAO estimates indicate an aggregate 1999/2000 cereal production of about 22 778 million tonnes, about 5 percent below the previous year.

In Ethiopia, the 1999 main "Meher" cereal and pulse production is estimated to have decreased by 6 percent from the previous year to 10.7 million tonnes, due mainly to drought. A below-average 2000 Belg crop is also anticipated, reflecting continued drought, shortages of oxen and seed. In Eritrea, the 1999 coarse grains production is anticipated to decline due to drought and population displacement. In Kenya, reflecting late and insufficient rainfall, the aggregate 1999/2000 cereal production is provisionally estimated at 2.5 million tonnes, 18 percent below the previous year and the average of the previous five years. In Somalia, the output of the recently harvested secondary "Deyr" season cereal crops is forecast at an above average 130 000 tonnes, reflecting favourable conditions in some main growing areas. However, poor rains in Bakool Region have severely affected production. In Sudan, the 1999 cereal harvest was reduced by lower plantings, mainly due to a shift to more profitable crops, and the output is estimated at about 3.7 million tonnes, substantially lower than the record production of the previous year. Harvesting of the 2000 wheat crop is underway and production is forecast at 288 000 tonnes, substantially higher than in 1999 but well the below average output. In Tanzania, the recently harvested secondary "Vuli" season cereal crop was drastically reduced due to poor rains, and current estimates suggest a reduction of about 70 percent compared to the previous five years' average. However, production of non-cereal foodcrops has been satisfactory. In Uganda, well distributed rains resulted in satisfactory harvest of the recently harvested secondary season coarse grain crops. However, the output of the main season crop, harvested from late last summer, was below average due to prolonged drought. The 1999/2000 aggregate coarse grain output is estimated at a below average 1.6 million tonnes.

The aggregate cereal import requirement of the sub-region in 1999/2000 is estimated at 4.9 million tonnes. With commercial imports anticipated at 3.2 million tonnes, the food aid requirement is estimated at 1.7 million tonnes. Food aid pledges reported as of mid-March amount to 0.6 million tonnes of which 0.2 million tonnes have been delivered.

In **southern Africa**, prospects for the 2000 cereal harvest remain uncertain, torrential rains and floods in early February, Cyclone Eline in late February, and erratic and insufficient rains in several areas earlier in the season. Despite extensive damage in several countries, the major cereal growing areas have not been

affected by the floods. In some countries, however, abundant rains in February benefited cereal crops stressed by previous dry weather. In particular, in South Africa, which accounts for half of the sub-region's coarse grain output, a bumper maize crop is still forecast despite crop losses in some provinces. In Mozambique, the severe crop damage in southern and central parts, coupled with below average precipitation in February in the main northern growing areas, have dampened prospects for this year's harvest. In Zimbabwe, despite severe crop losses in the south, good growing conditions prevail in the main maize areas. However, this year's production is anticipated to decline due to lower plantings. In Botswana**,** precipitation in February in the eastern sorghum growing areas benefited the sorghum crop. However, floods caused damage to crops and infrastructure. In Swaziland**,** harvest prospects are unfavourable due to crop losses caused by floods in early February. In Zambia**,** despite recent floods in the Zambezi valley, the outlook for the cereal harvest remains satisfactory. Elsewhere in the sub-region, good rains in February improved crop prospects in Lesotho, Malawi, and Namibia. By contrast, in Angola, rains in February were insufficient in several parts and the outlook for this year's cereal crops has deteriorated.

The sub-region aggregate cereal import requirement in marketing year 1999/2000 (May/April) was estimated at 4.9 million tonnes. Most of this was anticipated to be covered commercially, with 0.3 million tonnes required as food aid. However, following the recent flood emergency situation in several countries of the sub region, the cereal import and food aid requirements in the marketing year 2000/01 are likely to increase. Food aid pledges reported to GIEWS as of mid-March amount to 0.3 million tonnes.

In **western Africa**, seasonably dry conditions prevail in the Sahel while the first cropping season is starting in the countries along the Gulf of Guinea. Reflecting generally favourable growing conditions in 1999, particularly during the critical months of August and September, above average to record crops have been gathered in the main producing countries of the Sahel. Rains started generally on time and only limited replantings were necessary. Rainfall was generally widespread, regular and abundant, even though it caused substantial flooding in The Gambia, Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Niger and Chad. The abundant rains also permitted satisfactory regeneration of pastures and adequate replenishment of water reserves, thus providing excellent conditions for recession and off-season crops.

A series of FAO/CILSS Crop Assessment missions in October 1999 estimated aggregate cereal production for the nine CILSS countries in 1999 at a record 10.9 million tonnes. Following release of final production figures by several countries, the production figure has been revised upward to 11.6 million tonnes, which is 8 percent higher than in 1998 and 23 percent above the average of the last five years. Record crops were harvested in Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal, while above-average output is anticipated in Chad and Niger. Output is estimated to remain below average in Guinea-Bissau due to civil strife and population displacement in 1998.

In the coastal countries along the Gulf of Guinea, the rainy season has just started with substantial rains registered during the second dekad of March in the south, allowing land preparation and planting of the first maize crop. Cereal harvests in 1999 were generally good in Benin, Nigeria and Togo but less favourable in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. An FAO crop and food supply assessment mission to Sierra Leone in December estimated paddy production at around 45 percent of pre-civil war production and 60 percent of 1997 production, when the security situation improved. The aggregate 1999 cereal output for the eight countries along the Gulf of Guinea (Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo) is estimated at around 29.8 million tonnes compared to 29.3 million tonnes in 1998 (including rice in paddy). Liberia and Sierra Leone remain heavily dependent on international food assistance despite some improvement in food production, notably in Liberia.

The cereal import requirement of the sub-region during the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 5.6 million tonnes. Anticipated commercial imports are estimated at 5.18 million tonnes and the food aid requirement at 470 000 tonnes, mainly in wheat and rice. Food aid pledges reported to GIEWS as of mid-March amount to around 170 000 tonnes, of which 70 000 tonnes have been delivered so far. No imported food aid in coarse grains is necessary for Guinea, Mali and Niger. Local purchases are strongly recommended to cover ongoing or planned food aid programmes or for the replenishment of the national security stocks.

LOCUST SITUATION

The Desert Locust situation needs careful vigilance in West and North-West Africa. Breeding of scattered populations has been reported in the extreme north-west of Mauritania where favourable conditions for laying developed at the end of February. Elsewhere in northern Mauritania, scattered populations were observed. In Niger, and probably in Mali, locust populations were present in the mountainous areas of Adrar des Iforas and Aïr. Breeding will continue in north-western Mauritania. No significant developments are likely elsewhere in the region.

In Sudan, scattered adults and solitary hoppers were reported in the southern part of the Red Sea coastal plains during February. Isolated immature adults were reported in a few places on the western coastal plains of Somalia. No locusts were reported in Ethiopia during February. Small-scale breeding will continue locally in the coastal areas of these countries. Elsewhere, the situation remains calm.

In **central Africa**, production was favourable in the Central African Republic and Cameroon. Civil strife in both the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo, however, continues to hamper agriculture and marketing activities. In the Republic of Congo, floods affected the north and the capital Brazzaville in November/December. There are concerns regarding the nutritional situation of displaced people.

For the 2000 marketing year, the cereal import requirement for the seven countries of the sub-region is estimated at 800 000 tonnes. Food aid pledges reported to GIEWS as of mid-March amount to 14 000 tonnes, of which 12 000 tonnes have been delivered.

The table below summarizes sub-Saharan Africa's cereal import and food aid requirements by sub-region.

Sub-Saharan Africa: Cereal Import and Food Aid Requirements by Sub-Region (in thousand tonnes)

Sub-Region	1999 Production	1999/2000 or 2000		
		Cereal import requirements	Anticipated commercial imports	Food aid Requirements
Eastern Africa	22 778	4 898	3 187	1 711
Southern Africa 1/	19 858	4 918	4 596	322
Western Africa	38 577	5 649	5 180	469
Central Africa	2 998	800	770	30
TOTAL	**84 211**	**16 265**	**13 738**	**2 532**

1/ Data on cereal import and food aid requirements refer to the current marketing year which ends on 31 March for most southern African countries. Requirements for the new marketing year 2000/01 will be provided in the next issue of this report.

Table 1: Cereal Imports and Food Aid Requirements in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1999/2000 or 2000 (in thousand tonnes)

Sub-Region/ Country	Marketing year	1999 Cereal production 1/		1998/99 or 1999 imports			Position for 1999/2000 or 2000							
									Food aid requirements				Food aid	
		Total	As %of average of previous 5 years	Total imports	As % of average of previous 5 years	Food aid	Cereal import require-ment 2/	Antici-pated commer-cial imports	Total	of which: excep-tional	Commer-cial imports already made or contracted	Pledges 3/	of which received so far	Uncov. food aid require-ments
Eastern Africa		**22 778**	**103**	**3 797**	**106**	**1 519**	**4 898**	**3 187**	**1 711**	**-**	**267**	**578**	**182**	**1 133**
Burundi	Jan./Dec.	291	110	44	69	5	65	15	50	-	-	-	-	50
Comoros	Jan./Dec.	6	100	46	105	-	46	36	10	-	-	1	-	9
Djibouti	Jan./Dec.	-	-	129	142	8	105	85	20	-	-	-	-	20
Eritrea	Jan./Dec.	160	78	109	43	15	290	190	100	-	-	12	-	88
Ethiopia 4/	Jan./Dec.	9 885	130	751	129	730	840	20	820	-	-	430	80	390
Kenya	Oct./Sept.	2 514	79	861	69	145	1 590	1 380	210	-	119	9	9	201
Rwanda	Jan./Dec.	202	113	247	93	205	210	60	150	-	-	9	3	141
Seychelles	Jan./Dec.	-	-	13	78	-	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somalia	Aug./July	243	83	315	170	38	310	240	70	-	12	41	23	29
Sudan	Nov./Oct.	3 779	79	641	121	226	823	718	105	-	-	56	56	49
Tanzania	June/May	4 008	102	490	212	73	450	365	85	-	137	8	8	77
Uganda	Jan./Dec.	1 690	91	152	203	74	156	65	91	-	-	12	4	79
Southern Africa		**19 858**	**96**	**4 338**	***106***	**487**	**4 918**	**4 596**	**322**	**-**	**1 944**	**341**	**237**	**81**
Angola	April/March	535	130	517	139	157	505	325	180	-	38	127	106	53
Botswana	April/March	20	53	256	131	-	250	250	-	-	143	-	-	
Lesotho	April/March	172	90	158	82	8	203	180	23	-	101	3	3	21
Madagascar	April/March	1 962	106	143	95	19	170	155	15	-	55	8	6	7
Malawi	April/March	2 603	157	201	81	34	116	58	58	-	58	58	58	
Mauritius	Jan./Dec.	2	100	275	122	-	248	248	-	-	12	-	-	
Mozambique	April/March	1 692	134	262	70	156	325	280	45	-	125	141	60	
Namibia	May/April	75	76	97	97	-	126	126	-	-	58	0.7	0.7	
South Africa	May/April	9 620	82	1 448	89	-	1 924	1 924	-	-	1 014	-	-	
Swaziland	May/April	115	106	75	104	-	72	72	-	-	54	-	-	
Zambia	May/April	1 054	95	387	193	32	434	433	1	-	2	4	4	
Zimbabwe	April/March	2 008	88	520	179	81	545	545	-	-	284	-	-	
Western Africa		**38 577**	**113**	**6 628**	**122**	**391**	**5 649**	**5 180**	**469**	**-**	**366**	**170**	**70**	**310**
Coastal countries		***27 531***	**110**	***4 741***	***135***	***188***	***3 804***	***3 482***	***322***	**-**	***314***	***70***	***10***	***250***
Benin	Jan./Dec.	910	123	120	105	9	115	105	10	-	-	6	-	5
Côte d'Ivoire	Jan./Dec.	1 378	124	769	147	18	655	635	20	-	32	-	-	20
Ghana	Jan./Dec.	1 616	97	478	123	26	485	439	46	-	53	32	-	14
Guinea	Jan./Dec.	769	120	352	95	18	350	345	5	-	7	-	-	5
Liberia	Jan./Dec.	148	200	227	105	89	200	130	70	-	-	13	10	57
Nigeria	Jan./Dec.	21 808	110	2 382	154	-	1 600	1 600	-	-	220	0.3	-	-
Sierra Leone	Jan./Dec.	181	62	290	125	27	329	160	169	-	3	20	-	150
Togo	Jan./Dec.	721	131	124	96	-	70	68	2	-	-	-	-	-
Sahelian countries		***11 046***	**122**	***1 887***	**99**	***204***	***1 845***	***1 698***	***147***	**-**	***52***	***100***	***60***	***60***
Burkina Faso	Nov./Oct.	2 668	113	137	89	33	155	131	24	-	2	10	10	14
Cape Verde	Nov./Oct.	26	650	87	98	57	70	20	50	-	-	62	37	
Chad	Nov./Oct.	1 186	117	70	92	10	67	55	12	-	-	7	2	5
Gambia	Nov./Oct.	143	147	127	128	4	114	112	2	-	-	3	1	
Guinea-Bissau	Nov./Oct.	112	83	76	105	21	99	85	14	-	-	-	-	14
Mali	Nov./Oct.	2 693	127	122	121	6	100	95	5	-	-	3	3	2
Mauritania	Nov./Oct.	222	124	242	88	27	260	235	25	-	-	9	1	17
Niger	Nov./Oct.	2 850	103	332	111	26	220	215	5	-	-	0.4	0.4	5
Senegal	Nov./Oct.	1 146	127	695	93	20	760	750	10	-	50	6	6	4
Central Africa		**2 998**	**107**	**771**	**35**	**42**	**800**	**770**	**30**	**-**	**26**	**14**	**12**	**17**
Cameroon	Jan./Dec.	1 318	117	270	96	3	280	278	2	-	16	3	3	
Cent.Afr.Rep.	Jan./Dec.	153	128	29	82	1	29	28	1	-	-	0.5	0.5	1
Congo, Dem. Rep of	Jan./Dec.	1 498	99	250	103	26	250	244	6	-	-	6	6	1
Congo, Rep.of	Jan./Dec.	4	100	115	103	12	140	120	20	-	8	5	3	15
Equat.Guinea	Jan./Dec.	-	-	14	125	-	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	
Gabon	Jan./Dec.	25	100	84	122	-	82	82	-	-	2	-	-	-
Sao Tome	Jan./Dec.	-	-	9	86	1	10	9	1	-	-	0.2	0.2	1
TOTAL		**84 211**	**106**	**15 533**	**112**	**2 440**	**16 265**	**13 733**	**2 532**	**-**	**2 604**	**1 103**	**501**	**1 541**

Note : Totals computed from unrounded data.

1/ Including rice in milled equivalent.

2/ Excludes re-exports.

3/ Includes all pledges reported to the GIEWS , whether for free distribution or market sale. However, there may be some cases where governments count some food aid received for market sale against commercial import requirements.

4/ Includes refugee needs.

Table 2: Utilization of 1999/2000 or 2000 Cereal Surpluses in Sub-Saharan Africa (in thousand tonnes)

Sub-Region/ Country	Cereal import requirement		Total availabilities for export and/or local purchases	of which local purchase require-ment	Surpluses utilized or committed so far			Remain-ing surpluses
					Donor financed local purchases	Exports		
	Wheat and rice	Coarse grains				Commer-cial	Trian-gular trans-actions 1/	
Eastern Africa	**2 797**	**2 101**	**539**	**309**	**35**	**-**	**-**	**504**
Burundi	30	35	-	-	-	-	-	-
Comoros	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Djibouti	105	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	150	140	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethiopia 2/	720	120	250	200	25	-	-	225
Kenya	590	1 000	5	5	1	-	-	4
Rwanda	25	185	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seychelles	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somalia	250	60	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sudan	718	105	103	103	7	-	-	96
Tanzania	80	370	81	1	1	-	-	80
Uganda	76	80	100	-	-	-	-	100
Southern Africa	**2 675**	**2 243**	**1 293**	**21**	**21**	**192**	**118**	**962**
Angola	290	215	3	3	3	-	-	-
Botswana	65	185	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesotho	48	155	1	1	1	-	-	-
Madagascar	165	5	13	3	3	-	-	10
Malawi	58	58	405	5	5	-	-	400
Mauritius	228	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mozambique	325	-	152	2	2	100	-	50
Namibia	42	84	12	1	1	11	-	-
South Africa	1 247	677	600	-	-	-	100	500
Swaziland	48	24	2	-	-	-	-	2
Zambia	64	370	58	6	6	52	-	-
Zimbabwe	95	450	47	-	-	29	18	-
Western Africa	**5 068**	**581**	**599**	**110**	**6**	**-**	**-**	**593**
Coastal countries	***3 475***	***329***	***280***	***-***	***-***	***-***	***-***	***280***
Benin	115	-	45	-	-	-	-	45
Côte d'ivoire	650	5	10	-	-	-	-	10
Ghana	440	45	5	-	-	-	-	5
Guinea	350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liberia	180	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nigeria	1 400	200	210	-	-	-	-	210
Sierra Leone	270	59	-	-	-	-	-	-
Togo	70	-	10	-	-	-	-	10
Sahelian countries	***1 593***	***252***	***319***	***110***	***6***	***-***	***-***	***313***
Burkina Faso	145	10	47	20	4	-	-	43
Cape Verde	40	30	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chad	65	2	35	20	-	-	-	35
Gambia	114	-	5	5	-	-	-	5
Guinea-Bissau	94	5	5	-	-	-	-	5
Mali	100	-	110	10	-	-	-	110
Mauritania	260	-	12	10	-	-	-	12
Niger	100	120	85	25	2	-	-	83
Senegal	675	85	20	20	-	-	-	20
Central Africa	**714**	**86**	**14**	**4**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**14**
Cameroon	270	10	14	4	-	-	-	14
Cent.Afr.Rep.	27	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congo, Dem.Rep.of	190	60	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congo, Rep. of	130	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equat.Guinea	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gabon	80	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sao Tome	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	**11 254**	**5 011**	**2 445**	**444**	**62**	**192**	**118**	**2 073**

Note: Totals computed from unrounded data.

1/ Referring to supplying countries

2/ Includes refugee needs.

Table 3 - Triangular Transactions within Sub-Saharan Africa in 1999/2000 or 2000 (in thousand tonnes) 1/

Donor	Source of supply	Recipient Country	Total by donor
Belgium	South Africa	Congo Dem.Rep.(1.1)	1.1
EC	Zimbabwe	Malawi (18.1)	18.1
WFP	Kenya	Somalia (6.3)	58.2
	South Africa	Angola (5.9), Lesotho (0.4), Liberia (3.4), Malawi (28.1), Mozambique (4.3), Sao Tomé (0.2) Somalia (5.5), Tanzania (2.9), Zambia (1.2)	
TOTAL			**77.4**

1/ Based on information reported by donors to GIEWS as of mid-March 2000.

Table 4 - Local Purchases within Sub-Saharan Africa in 1999/2000 or 2000 (in thousand tonnes) 1/

Donor	Recipient Country	Total by donor
EC	Burkina Faso (4.2), Ethiopia (17.9), Madagascar (2.0), Sudan (7.4)	31.5
France	Niger (1.5)	1.5
Germany	Ethiopia (7.0), Kenya (0.6)	7.6
Switzerland	Madagascar (0.9)	0.9
United Kingdom	Ethiopia (0.2)	0.2
WFP	Angola (2.5), Kenya (0.5), Lesotho (0.9), Madagascar (0.5), Malawi (5.4), Mozambique (2.3), Namibia (0.8), Tanzania (1.1), Zambia (6.4)	20.4
TOTAL		**62.1**

1/ Based on information reported by donors to GIEWS as of mid-March 2000

Table 5: Availabilities for Export and Local Purchase Requirements in Cereals in Sub-Saharan Africa in 1999/2000 or 2000 (in thousand tonnes)

Sub-Region / Country	Availabilities for export		Local Purchase Requirements	
	Total	Contracted so far	Total	Utilized so far
Eastern Africa	**230**	**-**	**309**	**35**
Ethiopia	50	-	200	25
Kenya	-	-	5	1
Sudan	-	-	103	7
Tanzania	80	-	1	1
Uganda	100	-	-	-
Southern Africa	**1 272**	**310**	**21**	**21**
Angola	-	-	3	3
Lesotho	-	-	1	1
Madagascar	10	-	3	3
Malawi	400	-	5	5
Mozambique	150	100	2	2
Namibia	11	11	1	1
South Africa	600	100	-	-
Swaziland	2	-	-	-
Zambia	52	52	6	6
Zimbabwe	47	47	-	-
Western Africa	**489**	**-**	**110**	**6**
Coastal countries	***280***	**-**	**-**	**-**
Benin	45	-	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	10	-	-	-
Ghana	5	-	-	-
Nigeria	210	-	-	-
Togo	10	-	-	-
Sahelian countries	**209**	**-**	**110**	**6**
Burkina Faso	27	-	20	4
Chad	15	-	20	-
Gambia	-	-	5	-
Guinea-Bissau	5	-	-	-
Mali	100	-	10	-
Mauritania	2	-	10	-
Niger	60	-	25	2
Senegal	-	-	20	-
Central Africa	**10**	**-**	**4**	**-**
Cameroon	10	-	4	-
Congo, Dem.Rep.of	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	**2 001**	**310 1/**	**444**	**62**

Note: Totals computed from unrounded data.

1/ Of which 192 000 tonnes have been contracted on a commercial basis and 118 000 tonnes should be considered as triangular transacti

Table 6: Cereal Food Aid Pledges to Sub-Saharan Africa for 1999/2000 or 2000 and Triangular Transactions/Local Purchases known to FAO as of mid-March 2000 (in thousand tonnes).

Donor	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total cereals	Of which: triangular	Local purcha-ses
Canada	13.5	-	-	13.5	-	-
EC	223.7	11.6	44.4	279.7	19.2	40.8
of which:						
Community action	164.1	0.3	33.8	198.2	18.1	31.5
National action	59.6	11.3	10.6	81.5	1.1	9.3
Austria	11.7		-	11.7	-	-
Belgium	-	-	1.1	1.1	1.1	-
France	16.8	1.0	-	17.8	-	1.5
Germany	2.9	-	7.2	10.1	-	7.6
Italy	14.2	7.4	2.3	23.9	-	-
Luxembourg	3.0	2.4	-	5.4	-	-
Netherlands	5.0	-	-	5.0	-	-
Spain	-	0.5	-	0.5	-	-
United Kingdom	6.0	-	-	6.0	-	0.2
Japan	-	14.3	-	14.3	-	-
NGOs	4.2	-	-	4.2	-	-
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	-	0.9
United States	386.7	19.5	86.1	492.3	-	-
World Food Programme	86.0	7.0	205.7	298.7	58.2	20.4
TOTAL	**714.1**	**52.4**	**336.2**	**1 102.7**	**77.4**	**62.1**

Note: Totals computed from unrounded data

Table 7: Food Aid Pledges in Cereals for 1999/2000 or 2000 by Donor and by Recipient (in thousand tonnes)

Donor/Recipient	Total	delivered	Canada	EC	Japan	U.S.A.	WFP	NGOs
Eastern Africa	**578.3**	**182.2**	**13.5**	**205.2**	**-**	**229.0**	**126.4**	**4.2**
Burundi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Comoros	1.0	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-
Djibouti	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eritrea	12.0	-	-	2.0	-	10.0	-	-
Ethiopia 1/	430.3	79.9	13.5	195.8	-	174.7	42.1	4.2
Kenya	9.0	9.0	-	-	-	-	9.0	-
Rwanda	9.4	2.8	-	6.0	-	0.3	3.1	-
Seychelles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somalia	40.9	22.5	-	0.4	-	28.0	12.5	-
Sudan	55.8	55.8	-	-	-	6.3	49.5	-
Tanzania	7.9	7.9	-	-	-	-	7.9	-
Uganda	12.0	4.3	-	-	-	9.7	2.3	-
Southern Africa	**340.3**	**236.6**	**-**	**48.0**	**-**	**162.6**	**129.7**	**-**
Angola	126.8	106.0	-	7.9	-	26.8	92.1	-
Botswana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesotho	2.5	2.5	-	-	-	-	2.5	-
Madagascar	8.0	5.8	-	3.3	-	3.7	1.0	-
Malawi	58.1	58.1	-	30.0	-	-	28.1	-
Mauritius	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mozambique	140.6	59.9	-	3.8	-	132.1	4.7	-
Namibia	0.7	0.7	-	0.7	-	-	-	-
South Africa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swaziland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zambia	3.6	3.6	-	2.3	-	-	1.3	-
Zimbabwe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Africa	**170.0**	**70.4**	**-**	**23.4**	**14.3**	**100.7**	**31.6**	**-**
Coastal countries	**70.1**	***10.2***	**-**	***0.3***	**-**	***59.6***	***10.2***	**-**
Benin	5.5	-	-	-	-	5.5	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ghana	31.7	-	-	-	-	31.7	-	-
Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liberia	13.1	10.2	-	-	-	2.9	10.2	-
Nigeria	0.3	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leone	19.5	-	-	-	-	19.5	-	-
Togo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sahelian countries	**99.9**	***60.2***	**-**	***23.1***	***14.3***	***41.1***	***21.4***	**-**
Burkina Faso	10.4	10.4	-	-	-	6.8	3.6	-
Cape Verde	61.8	37.4	-	23.1	8.8	29.0	0.9	-
Chad	6.7	1.5	-	-	-	-	6.7	-
Gambia	3.2	0.7	-	-	-	3.2	-	-
Guinea-Bissau	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mali	2.7	2.7	-	-	-	-	2.7	-
Mauritania	8.5	0.9	-	-	5.5	2.1	0.9	-
Niger	0.4	0.4	-	-	-	-	0.4	-
Senegal	6.2	6.2	-	-	-	-	6.2	-
Central Africa	**14.1**	**12.1**	**-**	**3.1**	**-**	**-**	**11.0**	**-**
Cameroon	2.6	2.6	-	-	-	-	2.6	-
Cent.Afr.Rep.	0.5	0.5	-	-	-	-	0.5	-
Congo, Dem.Rep.of	5.5	5.5	-	1.1	-	-	4.4	-
Congo, Rep.of	5.3	3.3	-	2.0	-	-	3.3	-
Equat. Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gabon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sao Tome	0.2	0.2	-	-	-	-	0.2	-
TOTAL	**1 102.7**	**501.3**	**13.5**	**279.7**	**14.3**	**492.3**	**298.7**	**4.2**

1/ Includes refugee needs.

PART III : CROP PROSPECTS AND FOOD SUPPLY POSITION IN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES

(situation as of mid-March 2000)

ANGOLA

Area: 1 247 000 sq.km
Climate: Coastal desert, south-west semi-arid, rest tropical wet-dry. Rainy season: Sept.-May
Population: 13.42 million (1999 estimate), G.N.P. per caput US$ 340 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; infrastructure devastated by prolonged civil strife
Logistics: Inadequate port, rail and road facilities
Major foodcrops: Roots, tubers, maize, plantains
Marketing year: April/March; Lean season: January-April
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 35 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Growing conditions, have deteriorated somewhat with below average precipitation in the past month in the major growing areas of the central Provinces. The outlook for the 1999/2000 cereal crops, to be harvested from April, is uncertain. Continuous movements of population during the growing season, due to the civil war, have disrupted agricultural activities in several areas. In recent months, the escalation of the conflict has resulted in fresh waves of population displacements along the borders with Namibia and Zambia. The security conditions have continued to deteriorate with severe attacks in early March reported in the central highlands province of Huambo, in Uige in the north, in parts of Malanje in the northwest and in Benguela in the south.

The food situation remains extremely critical for about 2 million internally displaced people. Recent nutritional surveys indicate increased malnutrition among these populations. In the provinces of Benguela, in the northern districts of Ganda and Balomba, malnutrition was estimated at 7.4 percent among resident children and 23.1 percent for IDP children, including 6.2 percent of severe malnutrition. However, the persistent insecurity is hampering distribution of emergency food assistance in several parts. Food aid is being provided to some 1.1 million persons.

An FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission is scheduled to visit Angola from mid-April to review foodcrop production and the food supply situation and estimate cereal import and food aid requirements for the 2000/01 marketing year (April/March).

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	3	3	330	336
Normal Imports	110	100	90	300
of which: Structural food aid	20	15	60	95
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**5**	**530**	**535**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*7*	*530*	*537*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	5	530	535
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Utilization	**220**	**75**	**745**	**1 040**
Food Use	220	75	645	940
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*3*	*3*
Non-food use	-	-	100	100
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**220**	**70**	**215**	**505**
Anticipated commercial imports	220	70	35	325
Food aid needs	-	-	180	180
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	18	109	127
of which: Delivered	-	4	102	106
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	3	3
of which: for local use	-	-	3	3
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**16**	**6**	**48**	**70**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				160
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				168
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				189

BENIN

Area: 111 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry; two rainy seasons in south (Mar.-Jul. and Oct.) and one in north (May-Oct.)
Population: 5.68 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput US$ 380 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics: Ports, roads, rail adequate; gateway to Niger
Major foodcrops: Roots and tubers, maize
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: April-June
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 37 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The first rains started in mid-March in the south, allowing planting of the first maize crop. The aggregate output of cereals (including rice in paddy equivalent) in 1999 is estimated at 925 000 tonnes, which is well above average. As a result, the overall food supply situation is satisfactory. However, at the end of last rainy season, in September/October, floods in many villages displaced thousands of people. Cereal imports, for domestic use and re-exports, during the 2000 marketing year are estimated at 145 000 tonnes and the food aid requirement is estimated at 10 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	19	719	738
Normal Imports	50	100	4	154
of which: Structural food aid	3	6	4	13
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**22**	**889**	**910**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*37*	*889*	*925*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	22	889	910
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**60**	**107**	**889**	**1 055**
Food Use	49	71	580	699
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	1	6	219	226
Exports or Re-exports	5	25	45	75
Possible stock build up	5	5	45	55
2000 Import Requirement	**60**	**85**	**-**	**145**[1/]
Anticipated commercial imports	55	80	-	135
Food aid needs	5	5	-	10
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	4	-	2	6
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**9**	**12**	**101**	**122**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				125
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				94
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				77

1/ Includes 25 000 tonnes of re-exports of rice and 5 000 tonnes of wheat.

BOTSWANA

Area:	567 000 sq.km
Climate:	South-western part arid (Kalahari desert); rest semi-arid with some rains in Dec.-Feb.
Population:	1.585 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 3 600 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	east; swamps in the northern parts; desert in the west
Logistics:	Imports through South Africa
Major foodcrops:	Sorghum, pulses, vegetables
Marketing year:	April/March; Lean season: January/March
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	55 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Cyclone Eline in late February aggravated the already serious humanitarian situation caused by flooding earlier in the month which destroyed some 10 000 homes and affected 73 000 people. The Government had estimated the flood damage at US$8.5 million and appealed for international assistance to deal with the emergency.

An assessment of crop losses in the eastern growing areas is not yet available. However, there is concern about the effect of the floods on livestock, which is of great importance to farmers' food security. Overall, abundant rains of the past February and March have likely benefited the main sorghum crop, to be harvested from mid-April.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	1	-	59	60
Normal Imports	60	8	116	184
of which: Structural food aid	-	-	20	20
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**2**	**-**	**20**	**22**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	*20*	*20*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	20	20
Possible stock drawdown	2	-	-	2
1999/2000 Utilization	**67**	**-**	**205**	**272**
Food Use	67	-	201	268
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	-	4	4
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**65**	**-**	**185**	**250**
Anticipated commercial imports	65	-	185	250
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**42**	**-**	**126**	**168**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				33
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				136
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

BURKINA FASO

Area: 274 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry in south, semi-arid in north; rainy season: May-October
Population: 11.25 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 240 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; sahelian land-locked country
Logistics: Roads inadequate during rainy season; adequate rail link to Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire)
Major foodcrops: Millet, sorghum, pulses, maize
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: July-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 73 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. The final 1999 production estimates released by the statistical services indicate that 1999 aggregate production of cereals reached a record of 2.7 million tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent), which is 12.9 percent above average output for the last five years. Millet and sorghum production showed a decrease, while maize and rice production increased.

The overall food supply situation is satisfactory. Markets are well supplied and prices of local millet and sorghum are lower than previous years. However, some populations may be vulnerable notably in the provinces of Boulkiemdé and Sanguié. The cereal import requirement for the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 155 000 tonnes, mainly wheat and rice. Emergency food assistance (340 tonnes of assorted food purchased locally) has been distributed in the provinces of Boulkiemdé, Kouritenga, Passore, Poni, and Yatenga to 12 000 Burkinabe who fled since early November the area of Tebou in south-west Côte d'Ivoire following land tenure disputes in cocoa plantations. Around 4 000 people have been identified as particularly vulnerable. Returnees are now arriving in Côte d'Ivoire.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	87	2 303	2 390
Normal Imports	60	90	20	170
of which: Structural food aid	8	8	15	31
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**1**	**92**	**2 606**	**2 699**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*94*	*2 606*	*2 700*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	62	2 606	2 668
Possible stock drawdown	1	30	-	31
1999/2000 Utilization	**56**	**182**	**2 616**	**2 854**
Food Use	55	171	2 121	2 347
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*20*	*20*
Non-food use	1	11	403	415
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	27	27
Possible stock build up	-	-	65	65
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**55**	**90**	**10**	**155**
Anticipated commercial imports	45	80	6	131
Food aid needs	10	10	4	24
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	7	-	4	10
of which: Delivered	7	-	4	10
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	4	4
of which: for local use	-	-	4	4
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**5**	**15**	**189**	**209**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				113
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				91
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				77

BURUNDI

Area:	25 700 sq.km
Climate:	Highland rainy climate with moderate temperature (20^{0}C); two rainy seasons: Feb.-May and Sept.-Nov.
Population:	6.47 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 140 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked country
Logistics:	Ports: Mombasa (Kenya) and Dar es Salaam (Tanzania); rail and road connections inadequate
Major foodcrops:	Pulses, plantains, roots, tubers, maize and sorghum
Marketing year:	January/December; Lean season: November-December
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	34 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The output of the recently harvested 2000 A season crops is estimated to be lower than last year's already reduced level. This reflects adverse weather during the growing season, coupled with deterioration in the security situation. Following an early start of the rains, a prolonged dry spell from mid-October to mid-November resulted in reductions in plantings and yields, particularly in the northern province of Kirundo. The displacement and regroupment in camps of large numbers of population, as a result of the escalation of the civil conflict, occurred immediately after the beginning of the rains, contributing to a further reduction in the area planted. Provinces most affected by insecurity were Rutana, Makamba and Bujumbura rural.

The output of cereals is estimated at 74 000 tonnes, a decline of 13 percent from last year and that of beans at 62 000 tonnes some 17 percent down. Production of roots/tubers and of bananas and plantains declined by 3 percent and 1 percent to 464 000 tonnes and 450 000 tonnes respectively.

The overall food and nutritional situation continues to deteriorate following a succession of reduced harvests and the persistent population displacement. Food prices have increased sharply from a year ago, mainly for beans, the crop most affected by the dry weather. An estimated 1.6 million people have been seriously affected by a drought-reduced harvest this season. Food aid is being distributed to 60 000 families in the province of Kirundo. In addition, the situation of some 800 000 people (12 percent of the population) in regroupment camps gives particular cause for concern. Living conditions in the camps are extremely poor. Only a limited number of people have access to their fields, while most remain entirely dependent on food aid. A nutritional survey carried out in nine regroupment camps last December shows a global malnutrition rate of about 18 percent and severe malnutrition rates between 3 and 5 percent. WFP resumed its normal activities in the camps in mid-November, since the suspension of all UN operations in mid-October.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	7	41	253	301
Normal Imports	20	2	7	29
of which: Structural food aid	-	-	-	-
2000 Domestic Availability	**10**	**25**	**215**	**250**
2000 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*10*	*38*	*215*	*263*
2000 Production (rice in milled terms)	10	25	215	250
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**35**	**30**	**250**	**315**
Food Use	35	28	221	284
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	2	24	26
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	5	5
2000 Import Requirement	**25**	**5**	**35**	**65**
Anticipated commercial imports	10	5	-	15
Food aid needs	15	-	35	50
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**5**	**4**	**34**	**44**
Indexes				
2000 production as % of normal:				87
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				224
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

CAMEROON

Area:	465 000 sq.km
Climate:	North: tropical wet-dry, south: tropical wet; length of rainy season declines from 11 months in south to 4 months in extreme north
Population:	15.1 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 610 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics:	Ports and roads adequate; gateway to Chad
Major foodcrops:	Roots and tubers, coarse grains, fruit
Marketing year:	Jan./Dec.; Lean season: June-August
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	39 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Planting of the first maize crop started in the south. Reflecting favourable growing conditions, 1999 cereal production was above average. Heavy rains led to water release from the Lagdo dam and flooding along the Benue river in the north, forcing the displacement of about 1 000 persons.

The overall food supply situation is satisfactory except in the flooded areas. Cereal imports for domestic use and re-export during the 2000 marketing year are estimated at 290 000 tonnes, mostly wheat and rice. About 1 000 Congolese refugees arrived in northern Cameroon in December 1999.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	80	1 101	1 181
Normal Imports	180	100	15	295
of which: Structural food aid	-	2	1	3
2000 Domestic Availability	**0**	**78**	**1 270**	**1 348**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*0*	*100*	*1 250*	*1 350*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	0	68	1 250	1 318
Possible stock drawdown	-	10	20	30
2000 Utilization	**180**	**178**	**1 280**	**1 638**
Food Use	166	166	1 005	1 337
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*4*	*4*
Non-food use	4	12	265	281
Exports or Re-exports	10	-	10	20
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**180**	**100**	**10**	**290**[1/]
Anticipated commercial imports	180	98	10	288
Food aid needs	-	2	-	2
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	3	-	3
of which: Delivered	-	3	-	3
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	4	4
of which: for local use	-	-	4	4
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**11**	**11**	**67**	**89**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				114
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				98
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				67

1/ Includes 10 000 tonnes of re-exports of wheat.

CAPE VERDE

Area: 4 000 sq.km
Climate: Semi-arid; rainfall increases with altitude; rainy season: July-December
Population: 439 500 (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 960 (1995)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; archipelago
Logistics: Port capacity and roads adequate
Major foodcrops: Maize, rice, pulses
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: n.a. since 90 percent of requirements covered by imports
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 57 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. An FAO/CILSS Crop Assessment Mission in October estimated 1999 cereal production at a record 25 700 tonnes which is about 5 times higher than in 1998 and the last five-year average.

Following this record crop, the overall food supply situation has improved in rural areas affected by several successive poor crops. Following regular cereal imports, markets are well supplied and prices are stable. However, the areas of Ribeira Grande and Paúl in Santo Antão island are reported as vulnerable. The bumper 1999 production will cover only about a quarter of consumption requirement, but available stocks and planned commercial imports or food aid for the year 2000 will be sufficient to cover the deficit. The cereal import requirement for the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 70 000 tonnes of which 50 000 tonnes of food aid. About 37 000 tonnes of food aid have been received so far.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	5	5
Normal Imports	20	23	40	83
of which: Structural food aid	17	14	28	59
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**3**	**5**	**26**	**34**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	*26*	*26*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	26	26
Possible stock drawdown	3	5	-	8
1999/2000 Utilization	**23**	**25**	**56**	**104**
Food Use	22	24	47	93
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	1	1	4	6
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	5	5
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**20**	**20**	**30**	**70**
Anticipated commercial imports	5	5	10	20
Food aid needs	15	15	20	50
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	24	11	26	62
of which: Delivered	8	4	26	37
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**50**	**55**	**107**	**211**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				514
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				84
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				85

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Area:	623 000 sq.km
Climate:	North: tropical wet-dry, south: tropical wet; rainy season: March-November
Population:	3.62 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 300 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked country
Logistics:	Roads inadequate during rainy season; river transport important
Major foodcrops:	Roots and tubers, tree nuts, coarse grain, fruits
Marketing year:	January/December; Lean season: May-July
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	21 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The seasonal rains reached the south of the country in early March. Reflecting abundant rains and favourable growing conditions, cereal production in 1999 is estimated at a record of 161 000 tonnes which is 9 percent above 1998.

Following successive good crops, the food supply situation is satisfactory. The cereal import requirement for the 2000 marketing year is estimated at 29 000 tonnes, mainly wheat.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	14	112	126
Normal Imports	25	4	3	32
of which: Structural food aid	-	-	1	1
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**13**	**140**	**153**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*21*	*140*	*161*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	13	140	153
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**25**	**15**	**142**	**182**
Food Use	24	13	109	146
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	1	3	21	24
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	12	12
2000 Import Requirement	**25**	**2**	**2**	**29**
Anticipated commercial imports	25	2	1	28
Food aid needs	-	-	1	1
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	1	1
of which: Delivered	-	-	1	1
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**7**	**4**	**30**	**41**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				128
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				91
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				100

CHAD

Area: 1 259 000 sq.km
Climate: From north to south: arid, semi-arid and tropical wet-dry; rainy season: May-Oct.
Population: 7.4 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 230 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked sahelian country.
Logistics: Roads inadequate during rainy season
Major foodcrops: Millet and sorghum, roots and tubers, tree nuts
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: August-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 52 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. Off-season crops are growing satisfactorily and prospects are good for berbéré (recessional sorghum) in Chari Baguirmi, Mayo Kebbi and Salamat Prefectures as well as for off-season maize and wheat crops in the Lake Chad polders. Following release of final production estimates by the national statistical services, the aggregate 1999 cereal production is put at 1 230 000 tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent), which is 9 percent below the 1998 record but 16 percent above the five-year average. Desert Locust populations, frequently mixed with Migratory Locusts, have been reported in the Fada area in November/December. Locusts may concentrate in the few remaining green patches of vegetation.

The overall food supply situation is satisfactory. Prices of cereals remain stable. Farmers have reconstituted stocks for the second consecutive year or sold cereals to compensate for low cotton prices and poor groundnut production. Some areas were flooded in Moyen Chari and Logone Oriental prefectures. Food supply difficulties are also possible in northern Lac province and in some areas of Batha, Biltine, Kanem, Ouaddaï and Tandjilé. The cereal import requirement for the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 67 000 tonnes, including 12 000 tonnes of food aid.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	3	100	956	1 059
Normal Imports	55	10	8	73
of which: Structural food aid	6	1	8	15
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**4**	**95**	**1 088**	**1 186**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*4*	*138*	*1 088*	*1 230*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	4	95	1 088	1 186
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Utilization	**64**	**100**	**1 090**	**1 253**
Food Use	63	73	835	970
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*20*	*20*
Non-food use	1	17	170	188
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	15	15
Possible stock build up	-	10	70	80
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**60**	**5**	**2**	**67**
Anticipated commercial imports	50	5	-	55
Food aid needs	10	-	2	12
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	7	7
of which: Delivered	-	-	2	2
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**9**	**10**	**113**	**131**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				116
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				92
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				80

COMOROS

Area: 2 200 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry; one hot rainy season with cyclone probability; June-October dry and cool
Population: 0.73 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 470 (1995)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; archipelago of four small islands
Logistics: -
Major foodcrops: Rice, roots, tubers, bananas and coconuts
Marketing year: January/December
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 44 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Most of the country's agricultural land is planted to cash crops, bananas and root crops. Only one-quarter of the cereal requirement is produced locally and, consequently, there is a structural deficit of some 46 000 tonnes of cereals, largely covered by commercial imports. Food aid needs are estimated at 10 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	17	4	21
Normal Imports	5	35	-	40
of which: Structural food aid	1	5	-	6
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**2**	**4**	**6**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*3*	*4*	*7*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	2	4	6
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**6**	**42**	**4**	**52**
Food Use	6	40	2	48
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	2	2	4
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	1	1
2000 Import Requirement	**6**	**40**	**-**	**46**
Anticipated commercial imports	5	31	-	36
Food aid needs	1	9	-	10
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	1	-	1
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**8**	**53**	**2**	**63**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				33
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				115
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				167

CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF

Area: 2 268 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet climate in the central basin, tropical wet-dry in the extreme north and south
Population: 46.19 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US $ 110 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; tropical country with access to sea
Logistics: Roads inadequate
Major foodcrops: Roots and tubers, coarse grains, fruit
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: October (north), November-December (south)
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 15 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The food supply situation remains tight in most parts of the country as a result of persistent civil war. In particular, severe food shortages and malnutrition are reported among large numbers of displaced population in northeastern Katanga, South Kivu and Ituri area of Upper Congo. In the latter, reports indicate that a serious humanitarian crisis is developing. A UN assessment mission to Djugu area of Ituri, estimated last October that over 100 000 people had been displaced and about 5000-7 000 people killed. In another measure of the seriousness of the situation in the area, a recent nutritional survey by MSF showed 11.6 percent global malnutrition and 9.1 percent severe to acute malnutrition. In addition to people who have died as a direct result of the conflict, many others have died of illnesses or epidemics due to inadequate access to drinking water or medical care.

Among the population most affected by the crisis, are also those in urban areas, in particular in the city of Kinshasa (about 6 million people). The division of the country in two since the start of the conflict has virtually halted all formal internal trade, while population displacements have seriously disrupted agricultural activities in surrounding rural areas. Recent estimates indicate that about 10 percent of the population in Kinshasa is severely affected due to a serious erosion of the purchasing power and suffer acute malnutrition, against 6 percent in 1998.

Overall, it is estimated that more than 10 million people in the country are living in conditions of food insecurity, including 1 million internally displaced persons. The most affected population remain inaccessible to humanitarian assistance due to insecurity and cut-off of roads. While WFP has recently created a fourth corridor to access displaced people in Northeastern Katanga and South Kivu, food aid pledges for the emergency operation remain well below requirements. There is an urgent need of additional contributions.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	18	445	1 279	1 742
Normal Imports	130	45	45	220
of which: Structural food aid	5	-	5	10
2000 Domestic Availability	**18**	**233**	**1 247**	**1 498**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*18*	*350*	*1 247*	*1 615*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	18	233	1 247	1 498
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**158**	**283**	**1 307**	**1 748**
Food Use	150	242	1 027	1 419
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	8	42	280	330
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**140**	**50**	**60**	**250**
Anticipated commercial imports	140	50	54	244
Food aid needs	-	-	6	6
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	6	6
of which: Delivered	-	-	6	6
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**3**	**5**	**22**	**30**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				93
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				114
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				60

CONGO, REPUBLIC OF

Area:	342 000 sq.km
Climate:	Tropical wet climate in north, tropical wet-dry in south with main rainy season in October-April
Population:	2.94 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 690 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; tropical coastal country
Logistics:	Ports adequate; roads inadequate during rainy season
Major foodcrops:	Roots and tubers, fruit
Marketing year:	Jan./Dec.; Lean season: September-November
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	19 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Substantial floods affected the north of the country in early November and the districts of Mpila and Kangabanzi in the north-east of Brazzaville in late November/early December. The security situation has improved in the Pool region over the past months but remains fragile. Severe malnutrition is affecting the displaced population. Nutrition centres have been opened to help malnourished people. The rate of return of displaced people to the cities is rising fast. Following the December 1999 ceasefire signed between the government and opposition parties, about half of the estimated 810 000 displaced people have returned. The food supply situation should improve in Brazzaville once the railway link Pointe-Noire to Brazzaville reopens, which is scheduled for late April. The cereal import requirement for the 2000 marketing year is estimated at 140 000 tonnes, mostly wheat and rice.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	1	4	5
Normal Imports	90	30	5	125
of which: Structural food aid	-	8	1	9
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**-**	**4**	**4**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*1*	*4*	*5*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	4	4
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**100**	**30**	**14**	**144**
Food Use	98	24	12	134
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	2	2	2	6
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	4	-	4
2000 Import Requirement	**100**	**30**	**10**	**140**
Anticipated commercial imports	95	20	5	120
Food aid needs	5	10	5	20
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	2	2	1	5
of which: Delivered	-	2	1	3
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**33**	**8**	**4**	**46**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				100
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				112
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				222

COTE D'IVOIRE

Area:	318 000 sq.km
Climate:	Tropical wet-dry; two rainy seasons (March-July and September-December) in south and one in north (May-Oct.)
Population:	15.2 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 700 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics:	Ports and roads adequate; gateway to Burkina Faso and Mali
Major foodcrops:	Roots and tubers, fruit, rice, maize
Marketing year:	January/December; Lean season: April to July
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	40 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Rains have started in the south and the centre in mid-March allowing planting of the first maize crop. Production of rice in 1999 increased compared to 1998 due to good rains and larger plantings. The aggregate output of cereals in 1999 is estimated at almost 1.8 million tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent), which is slightly above the 1998 level.

The overall food supply situation is satisfactory. The cereal import requirement for the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 655 000 tonnes, mainly rice and wheat. The number of Liberian refugees is decreasing due to repatriation. However some 100 000 Liberian refugees and 1 500 Sierra Leoneans are still present in the west.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	1 002	728	1 730
Normal Imports	250	350	5	605
of which: Structural food aid	-	20	3	23
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**586**	**793**	**1 378**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*976*	*793*	*1 769*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	586	793	1 378
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**250**	**986**	**798**	**2 033**
Food Use	245	819	580	1 644
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	5	146	188	339
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	10	10
Possible stock build up	-	20	20	40
2000 Import Requirement	**250**	**400**	**5**	**655**
Anticipated commercial imports	250	380	5	635
Food aid needs	-	20	-	20
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**16**	**54**	**38**	**108**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				102
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				108
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				87

DJIBOUTI

Area: 23 000 sq.km
Climate: Arid climate
Population: 0.617 million (1998 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: n.a.
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country
Logistics: Djibouti is one of the three gateways of Ethiopia
Major foodcrops: Vegetables
Marketing year: January/December
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 52

CURRENT SITUATION

The agriculture sector in Djibouti accounts for less than 3 percent of the gross domestic product. The population is mostly urban and is concentrated in the capital. Agriculture production is marginal and most of the food is imported. The economy of the country is dominated by its trade activity based on a port and airport infrastructure.

A severe drought since last May has put more than 100 000 people, one-sixth of the country's population, at risk of starvation. Emergency food aid is being distributed to the affected population.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	-	-
Normal Imports	37	24	2	63
of which: Structural food aid	5	5	1	11
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	-	-
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	-	-
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**85**	**20**	**-**	**105**
Food Use	65	15	-	80
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	-	-	-
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	20	5	-	25
2000 Import Requirement	**85**	**20**	**-**	**105**
Anticipated commercial imports	65	20	-	85
Food aid needs	20	-	-	20
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**100**	**23**	**2**	**124**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				-
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				127
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				45

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Area: 28 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet climate
Population: 445 000 (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 380 (1995)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics: Ports and roads inadequate
Major foodcrops: Cassava, sweet potatoes, bananas
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: September-November
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 12 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Rainfall remained low during the 1999 season but is unlikely to have a serious affect on foodcrop production as the staple crops are sweet potatoes, cassava and plantains. The cereal import requirement for the 2000 marketing year is estimated at 9 000 tonnes of rice and wheat.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	-	-
Normal Imports	4	5	-	9
of which: Structural food aid	1	-	-	1
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	-	-
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	-	-
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**4**	**5**	**-**	**9**
Food Use	4	5	-	9
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	-	-	-
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**4**	**5**	**-**	**9**
Anticipated commercial imports	4	5	-	9
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**9**	**11**	**-**	**20**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				-
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				100
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

ERITREA

Area: 124 320 sq.km
Climate: Highland areas: tropical wet/dry with unreliable rains. Lowlands: semi-arid to arid
Population: 3.0 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$200 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country
Logistics: Roads inadequate, gateway to northern Ethiopia
Major foodcrops: Sorghum, teff, millet, maize, pulses
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: August-November
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 73 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Grain production in 1999 is lower than the bumper crop in 1998 due to drought and delayed sowing. The drought in coastal areas was particularly severe affecting crops and pasture. In addition, in areas affected by conflict with Ethiopia, production was seriously reduced by population displacement.

The food situation is very tight for nearly 600 000 people affected by the war with Ethiopia and prevailing drought along the coastal areas. Prices of cereals are unseasonably high. In January 2000, prices of red sorghum, white wheat and barley were respectively higher by about 15, 27 and 23 percent compared to January 1999. Livestock prices have also showed an increase.

The UN Country Team appealed in January 2000 for US$42.7 million (62 800 tonnes of food) to assist some 372 000 war-affected and over 211 000 drought affected people. Total pledges by mid-March amounted to 12 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	-	-
Normal Imports	-	-	-	-
of which: Structural food aid	-	-	-	-
2000 Domestic Availability	**12**	**-**	**188**	**200**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*12*	-	*148*	*160*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	12	-	148	160
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	40	40
2000 Utilization	**162**	**-**	**328**	**490**
Food Use	157	-	263	420
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	5	-	65	70
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**150**	**-**	**140**	**290**
Anticipated commercial imports	70	-	120	190
Food aid needs	80	-	20	100
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	12	-	-	12
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**51**	**-**	**85**	**135**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				-
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				-
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

ETHIOPIA

Area: 976 680 sq.km
Climate: Northern coastal area and lowlands in south and east are semi-arid to arid; rest of country has a highland rainy climate with mild winter.
Population: 61.67 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 100 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country
Logistics: Land-locked country, roads inadequate
Major foodcrops: Maize, teff, barley, sorghum, wheat, pulses, enset (false banana)
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: August-November
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 69 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Prospects for the 2000 secondary "Belg" season crops, to be harvested from June, are unfavorable reflecting continued drought. The Belg crop accounts for around 8 to 10 percent of annual cereal and pulse production but in some of the northern parts of the country, it provides important amounts of the annual grain production. The failure of last year's Belg season has severely affected the food supply situation of a large number of people and was exacerbated by the continued drought through the 1999 main season in these areas. The 1999/2000 main "Meher" season grain harvest was estimated by an FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission in December at 10.7 million tonnes, some 6 percent below the previous year's outturn but 22 percent higher than the poor year of 1997. The most important factors affecting production were the poor Belg rains and the late start of the Meher rains.

The food supply situation in pastoral areas of the east and south, bordering Somalia and Kenya, particularly the Somali region, which have had three consecutive years of little or no rainfall, gives cause for serious concern. The on-going drought has already killed large number of livestock and people are migrating in search of water and food. With a below-average Belg crop of about 250 000 tonnes anticipated for 2000, due to continued shortages of oxen and possibly of seed, the Mission estimates the national import requirement to be 764 000 tonnes - significantly above last year's level. A net relief food aid requirement in 2000 of almost 652 000 tonnes is estimated to support 7.8 million people affected by severe food shortages resulting from weather related hazards. In addition to the relief needs caused by natural disasters, food aid will also be needed for IDPs from the border areas with Eritrea, who have been unable to plant their land and have lost income-earning opportunities. However, with poor rainfall during the current Belg season, the food aid requirement may increase significantly.

An Emergency Operation was jointly approved in February 2000 by FAO and WFP for food assistance to 2.3 million people affected by natural disasters, worth US$ 136.8 million for a period of nine months. This is part of appeal for US$ 190 million launched by the UN country team to avert another major humanitarian crisis in the country. Total pledges by mid-March amounted to 430 000 tonnes of which 80 000 tonnes have been delivered.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	950	-	5 600	6 550
Normal Imports	700	5	75	780
of which: Structural food aid	380	5	65	450
2000 Domestic Availability	**2 200**	**-**	**8 085**	**10 285**
1999/2000 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*2 200*	-	*7 685*	*9 885*
1999/2000 Production (rice in milled terms)	2 200	-	7 685	9 885
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	400	400
2000 Utilization	**2 900**	**20**	**8 205**	**11 125**
Food Use	1 950	20	6 611	8 581
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*200*	*200*
Non-food use	550	-	1 544	2 094
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	50	50
Possible stock build up	400	-	-	400
2000 Import Requirement	**700**	**20**	**120**	**840**
Anticipated commercial imports	-	20	-	20
Food aid needs	700	-	120	820
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	424	1	5	430
of which: Delivered	79	-	1	80
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	25	25
of which: for local use	-	-	25	25
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**31**	**0**	**103**	**134**
Indexes				
1999/2000 production as % of normal:				151
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				98
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				152

GABON

Area: 258 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet climate; most rainfall: October-May
Population: 1.48 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 4 230 (1997)
Specific characteristics of the country: Coastal country
Logistics: Ports and roads adequate
Major foodcrops: Roots and tubers
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: September-November
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 19 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The main foodcrops are cassava and plantains but some maize is also produced (around 25 000 tonnes). The country commercially imports the bulk of its cereal requirement, estimated at around 82 000 tonnes in 2000. In a census conducted in November and December 1999 in Libreville, about 13 500 Congolese refugees were registered in Haut-Ogooue in the east and Nyanga in the southwest, the two provinces bordering Congo. Congolese refugees in two other provinces, Ngounie and Ogooue-Lolo, are estimated between 3 000 and 4 000. There are also about 1 500 people from other countries such as Angola, Chad, DRC, Equatorial Guinea and Rwanda. Food supplies to the refugees and other sources ran out in mid-February. WFP will provide some 12 000 refugees with 1 200 tonnes of food for six months.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	25	25
Normal Imports	45	35	2	82
of which: Structural food aid	0	-	-	0
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**-**	**27**	**27**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	*25*	*25*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	25	25
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	2	2
2000 Utilization	**45**	**35**	**29**	**109**
Food Use	44	35	21	100
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	1	-	8	9
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**45**	**35**	**2**	**82**
Anticipated commercial imports	45	35	2	82
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**30**	**24**	**14**	**68**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				100
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				100
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

GAMBIA

Area: 10 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry climate; rainy season: May-October
Population: 1.38 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 320 (1995)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal sahelian country
Logistics: Port capacity and roads adequate
Major foodcrops: Rice, millet and sorghum
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: July-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 63 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. Following release of final production figures by national statistical services, the aggregate 1999 cereal production is estimated at a record of 155 600 tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent), which is 36 percent above 1998 and 48 percent above the five-year average.

The overall food supply situation is satisfactory. Markets are well supplied. However, some areas have been affected by substantial flooding, especially in Lower, Central and Upper Baddibous, Fulladu West in the Central River Division and in Sandu, Wulli and Kontora in the Upper River Division. Cereal imports for domestic use and re-export during the 1999/2000 marketing year are estimated at 114 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	23	82	105
Normal Imports	25	80	3	108
of which: Structural food aid	1	2	3	6
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**5**	**24**	**119**	**148**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*37*	*119*	*156*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	24	119	143
Possible stock drawdown	5	-	-	5
1999/2000 Utilization	**27**	**116**	**119**	**262**
Food Use	21	96	96	214
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*5*	*5*
Non-food use	1	4	21	26
Exports or Re-exports	5	15	-	20
Possible stock build up	-	-	2	2
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**22**	**92**	**-**	**114**
Anticipated commercial imports	22	90	-	112
Food aid needs	-	2	-	2
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	3	3
of which: Delivered	-	-	1	1
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**15**	**70**	**69**	**154**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				148
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				106
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				33

GHANA

Area: 230 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry; two rainy seasons in south and one in north
Population: 20.2 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 390 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics: Ports and roads inadequate
Major foodcrops: Roots and tubers, coarse grain, rice
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: April-June
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 27 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Substantial first rains have been registered in the south during the second dekad of March, allowing land preparation and planting of the first maize crop. Severe floods in September 1999 devastated three areas in the Northern Regions as major rivers burst banks. Some 332 000 people have been made homeless by the floods which have destroyed farmlands, crops and livestock and caused an outbreak of cholera in some villages. The aggregate output of cereals in 1999 is estimated at 1 686 000 tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent) which is slightly below the output in 1998 and the average.

The food supply situation is tight for the populations affected by flooding. WFP is providing 900 tonnes of maize and 83 tonnes of beans to some 50 000 vulnerable people, including women, children and the elderly in Northern Region (30 000), Upper East Region (12 000) and Upper West Region (8 000). Water and sanitation remains a problem as small dams and wells were destroyed, particularly in the Upper East Region. Many water sources have been contaminated. About 10 000 Liberian refugees remain in the country. Out of these, only 2 000 are receiving food rations. Cereal imports for domestic use and re-export during the 2000 marketing year are estimated at 485 000 tonnes and the food aid requirement at 46 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	204	1 528	1 732
Normal Imports	220	220	25	465
of which: Structural food aid	30	5	6	41
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**150**	**1 546**	**1 696**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*210*	*1 476*	*1 686*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	140	1 476	1 616
Possible stock drawdown	-	10	70	80
2000 Utilization	**220**	**370**	**1 591**	**2 181**
Food Use	218	340	1 261	1 818
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	2	25	325	353
Exports or Re-exports	-	5	5	10
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**220**	**220**	**45**	**485**
Anticipated commercial imports	190	210	39	439
Food aid needs	30	10	6	46
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	20	-	12	32
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**11**	**17**	**62**	**90**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				97
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				104
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				112

GUINEA

Area:	246 000 sq.km
Climate:	Tropical wet-dry; rainy season: March/June to October/November
Population:	7.11 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 540 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; mountainous coastal country
Logistics:	Ports and roads inadequate
Major foodcrops:	Rice, roots and tubers, coarse grains
Marketing year:	January/December; Lean season: July-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	52 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

First rains have been registered in the extreme south in March. Reflecting favourable growing conditions, the output of cereals in 1999 is estimated at a record 1.04 million tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent). Markets are well supplied both in urban and rural areas. Surpluses are available in the Guinée Maritime and Guinée Forestière regions.

The overall food supply situation is satisfactory except for displaced persons and refugees. Some 488 000 refugees remain in the country (120 000 from Liberia and 366 000 from Sierra Leone). They are located mainly in Gueckadou (360 000), Forecariah (60 000) and N'zerekore (60 000). They are receiving food assistance and are considered at moderate nutritional risk. The cereal import requirement for the 2000 marketing year is estimated at 350 000 tonnes of wheat and rice.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	707	206	913
Normal Imports	110	250	-	360
of which: Structural food aid	5	5	-	10
2000 Domestic Availability	**5**	**547**	**222**	**774**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*820*	*222*	*1 042*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	547	222	769
Possible stock drawdown	5	-	-	5
2000 Utilization	**115**	**787**	**222**	**1 124**
Food Use	113	644	178	935
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	2	123	44	169
Exports or Re-exports	-	15	-	15
Possible stock build up	-	5	-	5
2000 Import Requirement	**110**	**240**	**-**	**350**
Anticipated commercial imports	105	240	-	345
Food aid needs	5	-	-	5
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**16**	**91**	**25**	**132**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				114
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				97
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				50

GUINEA-BISSAU

Area: 28 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry; rainy season: May-October
Population: 1.16 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 240 (1997)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics: Roads inadequate, particularly during the rainy season; river transport important
Major foodcrops: Rice, coarse grains, oils and fats, roots and tubers
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: May-August
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 64 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. A joint FAO/CILSS Crop Assessment Mission estimated 1999 cereal production at 138 700 tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent), which is 6 percent above 1998, but below the 1997/98 pre-crisis level and below average. Production of coarse grains increased, while that of rice decreased due to flooding and pest attacks.

Following recent presidential elections, the overall food supply situation has improved. However, some population groups are still facing food supply difficulties, notably in urban areas and in Catio, Fulakunda and Bambadinca areas.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	107	59	166
Normal Imports	6	70	2	78
of which: Structural food aid	2	3	2	7
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**54**	**58**	**112**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*80*	*58*	*139*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	54	58	112
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Utilization	**7**	**141**	**73**	**221**
Food Use	7	121	53	181
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	10	19	28
Exports or Re-exports	-	5	-	5
Possible stock build up	-	5	2	7
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**7**	**87**	**5**	**99**
Anticipated commercial imports	5	80	-	85
Food aid needs	2	7	5	14
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	10	3	7	20
of which: Delivered	-	3	7	10
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**6**	**105**	**46**	**156**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				84
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				127
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				200

KENYA

Area:	570 000 sq.km
Climate:	North-east is semi-arid to arid; mountainous central and south-western areas have two rainy seasons: March-May and November December.
Population:	31.10 million (1999 estimate), GNP per caput US$ 330 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; regular importer and occasional exporter of grain.
Logistics:	Good port (Mombasa) and extensive rail and road network. Gateway to Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda
Major foodcrops:	Maize, wheat, pulses, roots and tubers
Marketing year:	October/September
Lean season:	June-July
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	56 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The 2000 main "long rains" cropping season has began and the outlook is uncertain so far due to continued drought conditions in most regions.

Harvesting of the 1999/2000 secondary "short rains" cereal crop, accounting for some 20 percent of annual production, is complete. Late and insufficient rains resulted in reduction in planting and negatively affected yields. Current estimates put the short rains maize crop at 315 000 tonnes, compared with the previous five year average of about 410 000 tonnes. The output of the main "long rains" cereal crop, harvested until last October, was significantly reduced, particularly in Eastern, Central, Western and Nyanza Provinces due to drought, inadequate input supply and armyworm infestation in parts. Official estimates indicate maize output of about 2.1 million tonnes compared to 2.44 million tonnes in 1998 and 2.5 million tonnes average over the previous five years.

The food supply situation is critical in the northern, eastern and north-western pastoral districts and parts of Central, Coast and Rift Valley provinces affected by drought during the 1999/2000 "short rains" season. In the pastoral areas, the short rains are crucial for the replenishment of water supplies and pastures after the long dry season, while in agricultural areas, crops from the short rains provide the bulk of food supplies. Worst affected districts include Turkana, Mandera, Moyale, Garissa, Kajiado, Machakos, Mbeere, Kitui, Wajir, Mwingi, Tana River, Marsabit, Isiolo, Baringo, Samburu, West Pokot, Makueni, and Tharaka Nithi. Prices of maize, the major staple in the country have increased sharply in most parts affecting the livelihood of large number of people. In January, maize prices were up to 50 percent higher than the average for the previous five years. Increased malnutrition and health problems were also reported.

An Emergency Operation was jointly approved in January 2000 by FAO and WFP for food assistance to 2.74 million drought affected people, worth US$ 43.4 million for a period of five months. The Government has also appealed in February for about US$62 million to combat the looming food shortage and distributed 5 400 tonnes of maize to 25 food-insecure districts.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	241	49	2 587	2 877
Normal Imports	311	57	312	680
of which: Structural food aid	74	-	-	74
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**335**	**33**	**2 366**	**2 734**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*135*	*50*	*2 346*	*2 531*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	135	33	2 346	2 514
Possible stock drawdown	200	-	20	220
1999/2000 Utilization	**725**	**233**	**3 366**	**4 324**
Food Use	705	213	3 107	4 025
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*5*	*5*
Non-food use	20	20	259	299
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**390**	**200**	**1 000**	**1 590**
Anticipated commercial imports	300	200	880	1 380
Food aid needs	90	-	120	210
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	5	-	4	9
of which: Delivered	5	-	4	9
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	1	1
of which: for local use	-	-	1	1
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**22**	**7**	**97**	**126**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				88
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				234
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				230

LESOTHO

Area: 30 000 sq.km
Climate: Highland rainy climate with mild winter. Rainy season: Oct.-April. Cool temperatures in May-September with frost hazard
Population: 2.24 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 570 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked
Logistics: All imports through South Africa
Major foodcrops: Maize, sorghum, vegetables
Marketing year: April/March; Lean season: February-April
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 75 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Normal to above-normal rains in February and March improved growing conditions for the 2000 cereal crops to be harvested from May. However, the outlook is uncertain. Crops have been affected by a prolonged dry spell at the beginning of the season and by heavy rains and floods in early December, particularly in the lowlands. In these areas, maize production is expected to be reduced.

The overall food supply situation remains satisfactory, reflecting adequate commercial imports so far.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	23	-	155	178
Normal Imports	55	10	150	215
of which: Structural food aid	15	2	20	37
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**24**	**-**	**158**	**182**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*14*	-	*158*	*172*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	14	-	158	172
Possible stock drawdown	10	-	-	10
1999/2000 Utilization	**69**	**3**	**313**	**385**
Food Use	68	3	293	364
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*1*	*1*
Non-food use	1	-	18	19
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	2	2
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**45**	**3**	**155**	**203**
Anticipated commercial imports	45	3	132	180
Food aid needs	-	-	23	23
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	3	3
of which: Delivered	-	-	3	3
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	1	1
of which: for local use	-	-	1	1
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**32**	**1**	**139**	**173**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				97
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				94
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				62

LIBERIA

Area: 96 000 sq.km
Climate: Southern half tropical wet, northern half tropical wet-dry; rainy season: March-November
Population: 2.93 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: n.a.
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics: Ports and roads adequate
Major foodcrops: Rice, roots and tubers, oils
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: July-August
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 48 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

First seasonal rains were received in early March. Reflecting favourable growing conditions and an improved security situation, 1999 cereal production is expected to be similar to or above the previous year, except in the north where fighting broke out in Lofa County during the growing season. Agricultural production increased in Bong, Bomi, Montserrado and Nimba counties, but remained depressed in Maryland, Sinoe and Grand Kru due to poor roads rendering access to farms difficult. With the exception of Lofa County, relative peace in most areas has exerted a positive influence on farming activities. The cultivated area in 1999 is anticipated to be substantially higher than in 1998, with rice production expected to reach around 80 percent of pre-civil war level and cassava recovering to normal levels. Although a shortage of basic agricultural inputs was a limiting factor for farmers, it was alleviated by substantial distribution of seeds and tools and improved technical assistance to resettling farm families. In Lofa County, most of the estimated 25 000 displaced people are farmers who have not been able to harvest their crops. Several thousands have been displaced from Voinjama and Kolahum camps in upper Lofa to Tarvey and Sinje in lower Lofa.

The overall food situation has improved significantly in 1999. Food supplies in urban markets are relatively stable, and in general, prices are lower than in 1998. Food supply in rural areas continues to be tight. Rehabilitation programmes are allowing resettlement and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons through provision of repatriation packages. However, humanitarian programmes for Liberian returnees and Sierra Leonean refugees were disrupted by insecurity and looting in Lofa county, where the nutritional and health conditions of displaced people have reportedly deteriorated. It is estimated that around 500 000 refugees, internally-displaced persons and returnees are present in Liberia, including 90 000 refugees from Sierra Leone. The country continues to rely heavily on food aid.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	110	1	111
Normal Imports	80	70	40	190
of which: Structural food aid	50	5	20	75
2000 Domestic Availability	**10**	**147**	**1**	**158**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*220*	*1*	*221*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	147	1	148
Possible stock drawdown	10	-	-	10
2000 Utilization	**90**	**247**	**21**	**358**
Food Use	88	215	21	324
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	2	26	-	29
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	5	-	5
2000 Import Requirement	**80**	**100**	**20**	**200**
Anticipated commercial imports	30	100	-	130
Food aid needs	50	-	20	70
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	5	-	8	13
of which: Delivered	3	-	8	10
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**30**	**74**	**7**	**111**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				199
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				105
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				93

MADAGASCAR

Area: 582 000 sq.km
Climate: Eastern coast is tropical wet, the rest tropical wet-dry. Rainy season: October-March; tropical cyclones
Population: 14.78 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 260 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country
Logistics: Dilapidated roads and lack of spare parts and tyres
Major foodcrops: Rice, roots, tubers, maize, fruit
Marketing year: April/March; Lean season: February/March
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 60 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Relief operations continue in Madagascar following Cyclones Eline on 17 February and Gloria on 2 March. Several villages remain isolated by floodwaters and by severe damage to transport infrastructure. Preliminary estimates indicate 10 000 people homeless and 560 000 affected to varying degrees. Worst affected areas are north and central parts of the East Coast including the areas around the cities of Andapa, Antalaha, Vatomandry and Mahanoro, as well as Belo-Tsiribihina and Morondava on the West Coast. The food situation in these areas is critical and there is urgent need of food and non-food assistance. The Government has appealed for international assistance to cope with the emergency.

A full assessment of crop losses and agricultural damage has not yet been undertaken, but preliminary indications point to almost total crop losses in low-lying areas. Serious damage to coffee plantations by heavy winds in the major growing areas of the eastern coast is reported, including those around Andapa/Samabava and Mahanoro. Banana, orange, avocado and cocoa trees have also been seriously affected. These cash crops play an important role in the food economies of farm families. Thousands of hectares of rice along the eastern coast strip north of Mahanoro, around Belo and Morondova on the western coast and around Antananarivo are completely flooded. The prolonged submersion and the siltation of the paddy fields could result in serious crop loss in these areas. Severe damage and losses of food stocks in households will further diminish food supplies.

The losses and yield reductions caused by the cyclones have worsened the already unfavourable prospects for the paddy crop, affected by earlier dry weather. Production is forecast to decline sharply from the good level of 1999 and the food supply situation is expected to tighten in the next marketing year.

An FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment will visit the country in mid-April, to assess the crop losses and the food supply situation and to estimate the country's cereal import requirements for 2000/01 (April/March), including food aid needs of the affected population.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	7	2 476	152	2 635
Normal Imports	48	53	10	111
of which: Structural food aid	13	11	10	34
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**9**	**1 792**	**164**	**1 965**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*9*	*2 635*	*161*	*2 805*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	9	1 792	161	1 962
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	3	3
1999/2000 Utilization	**89**	**1 877**	**169**	**2 135**
Food Use	88	1 852	136	2 076
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*3*	*3*
Non-food use	1	10	23	34
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	10	10
Possible stock build up	-	15	-	15
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**80**	**85**	**5**	**170**
Anticipated commercial imports	75	75	5	155
Food aid needs	5	10	-	15
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	4	1	4	8
of which: Delivered	3	1	2	6
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	3	3
of which: for local use	-	-	3	3
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**6**	**125**	**9**	**141**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				106
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				153
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				44

MALAWI

Area: 94 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry climate; rainy season: November-May
Population 12.58 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 200 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked country; importer and exporter of grain
Logistics: Imports/exports through Beira (Mozambique) or Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)
Major foodcrops: Maize, pulses, roots, tubers, rice
Marketing year: April/March; Lean season: February-March
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 70 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Heavy rains in mid-March in southern areas bordering Mozambique resulted in severe damage to housing and infrastructure, and crop and livestock losses. Preliminary estimates indicate that 10 000 people have been displaced by the floodwaters. Worst affected areas are those along the Lower Shire Valley, particularly the districts of Nsanje and Chikwawa. Emergency food and non-food assistance is urgently required for these populations.

Despite the crop losses in the Southern Region, the abundant rains from the second dekad of February have generally benefited cereal crops in central and northern parts, affected by dry weather earlier in the season. Overall crop prospects are rated favourable. Official forecast indicates a 2000 maize production of 2.33 million tonnes, only 6 percent below the record harvest of last year.

The overall food supply remains satisfactory following the bumper cereal crop of 1999, which resulted in exportable surplus and a substantial increase in maize stocks.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	2	35	1 330	1 367
Normal Imports	40	3	40	83
of which: Structural food aid	-	-	40	40
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**2**	**60**	**2 541**	**2 603**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*2*	*93*	*2 541*	*2 636*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	2	60	2 541	2 603
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Utilization	**60**	**60**	**2 599**	**2 719**
Food Use	60	49	1 934	2 043
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*5*	*5*
Non-food use	-	8	170	178
Exports or Re-exports	-	1	400	401
Possible stock build up	-	2	95	97
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**58**	**-**	**58**	**116**
Anticipated commercial imports	58	-	-	58
Food aid needs	-	-	58	58
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	58	58
of which: Delivered	-	-	58	58
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	5	5
of which: for local use	-	-	5	5
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**5**	**4**	**154**	**162**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				193
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				140
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				145

MALI

Area:	1 220 000 sq.km
Climate:	From north to south: arid, semi-arid and tropical wet-dry; rainy season: May-October
Population:	10.22 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 250 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked sahelian country
Logistics:	Roads inadequate during rainy season; river transport important; rail link to Dakar (Senegal)
Major foodcrops:	Millet, sorghum, rice, maize
Marketing year:	November/October; Lean season: July-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	75 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. Harvesting of rice is underway in the Niger River areas where fish catches are also reported to be good (almost double compared to previous year). Prospects for off-season irrigated or recession crops are particularly favourable. Reflecting adequate growing conditions, the aggregate 1999 cereal production was estimated by a joint FAO/CILSS Crop Assessment Mission last October at 2 951 700 tonnes (rice in paddy equivalent). This exceeds the previous 1998 record by 16 percent and is 28 percent above the five-year average. Production of rice increased by 13 percent and 41 percent respectively compared to 1998 and the average for the last five years, while coarse grains production increased by 17 percent and 23 percent respectively. Desert Locusts have been reported in the Timetrine area in December. About 1 700 hectares were treated out of 2 575 hectares infested. Locusts escaping control will concentrate in the remaining green areas of Adrar or move further north into southern Algeria.

Following two successive bumper crops, the overall food situation is satisfactory. Markets are well supplied and cereal prices declined sharply following harvest and are much lower than the previous years. There are good opportunities for local purchases and transfer of surplus cereals to neighbouring countries or even outside West Africa. The national early warning system (SAP) estimated that only 2 arrondissements out of the 173 it monitors in the centre and the north (namely Baye in the Bankass cercle and Diankabou in the Koro cercle), are moderately at risk of food shortages following floods which destroyed rice crops. Therefore, no food aid distributions or sales are required. The cereal import requirement for the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 100 000 tonnes of wheat and rice.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	4	566	1 730	2 300
Normal Imports	50	50	5	105
of which: Structural food aid	10	-	2	12
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**15**	**551**	**2 127**	**2 693**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*15*	*810*	*2 127*	*2 952*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	15	551	2 127	2 693
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Utilization	**65**	**601**	**2 127**	**2 793**
Food Use	64	405	1 624	2 093
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*10*	*10*
Non-food use	1	105	333	439
Exports or Re-exports	-	50	50	100
Possible stock build up	-	40	120	160
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**50**	**50**	**-**	**100**
Anticipated commercial imports	45	50	-	95
Food aid needs	5	-	-	5
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	3	-	-	3
of which: Delivered	3	-	-	3
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**6**	**40**	**159**	**205**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				128
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				95
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				42

MAURITANIA

Area: 1 025 000 sq.km
Climate: Mostly a Saharian country; semi-arid fringe in extreme south with rains in June-September
Population: 2.64 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 410 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics: Port capacity adequate, though storms during January-March sometimes cause difficulties
Major foodcrops: Wheat, rice, millet and sorghum
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: July-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 54 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Prospects for off-season and recession crops are excellent (anticipated to be the best in 30-40 years in many areas). Abundant precipitation during the rainy season filled dams, enabling much larger areas to be sown with recession (walo) or "bas-fonds" crops. Pest attacks are also limited. However, the high level reached by the Sénégal river caused substantial flooding in Brakna, Gorgol and Trarza, in the Sénégal river basin and reduced irrigated rice production.

A joint FAO/CILSS Crop Assessment Mission estimated aggregate cereal production in 1999/2000 at 250 900 tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent) which is 28 percent above the 1998/99 production and well above average. Desert Locusts have been reported in Dakhlet Nouadhibou, in northern Trarza and Tiris Zemmour. Breeding of sparse populations will continue in the extreme north-west but the development could be slowed down by low temperatures. From the Zouerate area to the Malian border, scattered mature populations were observed in February. In Tagant, hoppers and adults were also reported. Elsewhere in the country, no significant developments are likely.

The food situation improved in rural areas following a good harvest, except in the flooded areas. Food distributions are underway for the affected populations. Markets are well supplied and prices of cereals declined substantially following harvest. Some areas of Aftout and Affolé, Tagant, southern Assaba and the two Hodhs are also vulnerable. The cereal import requirement for the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 260 000 tonnes (excluding re-exports) and the food aid requirement at 25 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	71	101	172
Normal Imports	200	70	12	282
of which: Structural food aid	17	7	3	27
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**20**	**68**	**165**	**252**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*86*	*165*	*251*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	58	165	222
Possible stock drawdown	20	10	-	30
1999/2000 Utilization	**235**	**128**	**165**	**527**
Food Use	195	114	112	421
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*10*	*10*
Non-food use	25	10	26	61
Exports or Re-exports	15	3	2	20
Possible stock build up	-	-	25	25
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**215**	**60**	**-**	**275**[1/]
Anticipated commercial imports	200	50	-	250
Food aid needs	15	10	-	25
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	6	2	9
of which: Delivered	-	1	-	1
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**74**	**43**	**42**	**159**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				146
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				98
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				93

1/ Including 15 000 tonnes for re-export.

MAURITIUS

Area: 1 850 sq.km
Climate: No dry months, most rainfall in November-July; tropical cyclones
Population: 1.15 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 3 800 (1997)
Specific characteristics of the country: Cereal consumption covered almost entirely by imports
Logistics: Inadequate port handling capacity; road system good
Major foodcrops: Vegetables
Marketing year: January/December
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 48 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The bulk of the cultivated area is normally devoted to sugar cane and most of the remainder to fruits and vegetables. As a consequence, the country is virtually dependent on imports to meet its cereal needs. Cereal import requirements estimated at 248 000 tonnes, will continue to be met through commercial channels.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	2	2
Normal Imports	72	75	25	172
of which: Structural food aid	5	1	-	6
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**-**	**2**	**2**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	*2*	*2*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	2	2
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**150**	**78**	**22**	**250**
Food Use	104	78	2	184
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	6	-	20	26
Exports or Re-exports	40	-	-	40
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**150**	**78**	**20**	**248**
Anticipated commercial imports	150	78	20	248
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**90**	**68**	**2**	**160**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				100
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				144
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

MOZAMBIQUE

Area: 784 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry; coast is semi-arid
Population: 19.57 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 210 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; exposed to tropical storms and cyclones
Logistics: Dilapidated rail and road transport fleet; lack of fuel and spares; poor roads; substantial deliveries by coastal vessels
Major foodcrops: Roots, tubers, maize
Marketing year: April/March; Lean season: February-April
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 53 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Rains until mid-March hampered relief operations but the levels of the rivers are progressively decreasing. Despite this, by 20 March, the level of Limpopo River was expected to rise following rains in South Africa, threatening the already affected village of Chowke with further floods. In general, access to 350 000 persons still in displaced camps has improved substantially. Food aid and agricultural support is now needed for the flood-affected people returning to their fields. Preliminary estimates indicated that 1.9 million have been affected by the disaster, and that some 126 000 hectares in the southern and central provinces of Maputo, Gaza and Inhambane, Manica and Sofala have been lost to the floods. Substantial livestock losses are also reported. In these traditionally food-deficit provinces, the sharp reduction in cereal production in 2000 will be compounded by loss of farmers' food and seed stocks in household granaries. However, a full assessment of the damage is not yet possible.

The major cereal growing areas of the north have not been affected by floods, and have benefited from good rains in the first two dekads of March. However, overall prospects for the harvest from April have deteriorated with the crop losses in the South. Southern provinces ravaged by floods account for some 13 percent of the total cereal production, and those affected in the central region for an additional 20 percent. Therefore, about one third of national cereal production has been affected by losses and yield reductions. An FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission will be fielded in mid-April to review the outcome of 2000 foodcrops and estimate the cereal import and food aid needs for the new marketing year 2000/01 (April/March). International assistance will also be needed for the reconstruction of housing and infrastructure, severely damaged by the floods.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	50	458	508
Normal Imports	102	60	244	406
of which: Structural food aid	102	52	140	294
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**5**	**124**	**1 628**	**1 757**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*186*	*1 568*	*1 754*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	124	1 568	1 692
Possible stock drawdown	5	-	60	65
1999/2000 Utilization	**180**	**274**	**1 628**	**2 082**
Food Use	173	261	1 306	1 740
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*2*	*2*
Non-food use	7	13	172	192
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	150	150
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**175**	**150**	**-**	**325**
Anticipated commercial imports	150	130	-	280
Food aid needs	25	20	-	45
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	127	9	5	141
of which: Delivered	51	4	5	60
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	102	102
of which: for local use	-	-	2	2
for export	-	-	100	100
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**9**	**13**	**67**	**89**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				345
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				80
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				15

NAMIBIA

Area: 823 000 sq.km
Climate: Mostly arid (south-west and coast) or semi-arid. Only north and north-east gets regular rainfall in November-April
Population: 1.81 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 1 940 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Arid to semi-arid country; cereal production mainly in the north
Logistics: Good road and railway network
Major foodcrops: Millet, maize, sorghum, wheat
Marketing year: May/April;
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 48 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Prospects for the 2000 cereal crops, mainly sorghum, have deteriorated. Heavy rains in mid-February in the major northern growing areas have been followed by below average precipitation until the second dekad of March. More rains are needed to avoid yield reductions. Elsewhere in the country, the abundant rains during the season have improved pastures and livestock conditions.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	4	-	88	92
Normal Imports	30	-	31	61
of which: Structural food aid	1	-	2	3
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**5**	**-**	**70**	**75**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*5*	-	*70*	*75*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	5	-	70	75
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Utilization	**47**	**-**	**154**	**201**
Food Use	41	-	128	169
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*1*	*1*
Non-food use	-	-	12	12
Exports or Re-exports	6	-	11	17
Possible stock build up	-	-	3	3
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**42**	**-**	**84**	**126**
Anticipated commercial imports	42	-	84	126
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	1	-	-	1
of which: Delivered	1	-	-	1
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	1	1
of which: for local use	-	-	1	1
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**24**	**-**	**76**	**100**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				82
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				207
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

NIGER

Area: 1 267 000 sq.km
Climate: Northern part arid, southern part semi-arid with rains in June-October
Population: 10.06 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 190 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked sahelian country
Logistics: Roads inadequate during rainy season
Major foodcrops: Millet and sorghum, pulses, roots and tubers
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: July-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 70 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. Prospects for off-season irrigated crops are favourable. Following release of final production figures by national statistical services, the aggregate production of cereals in 1999 is estimated at 2.87 million tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent), about 4 percent below previous year's record crop but 25 percent above average. Desert Locusts have been reported in south-eastern Aïr in February but at lower densities than in December. A total of 700 hectares were sprayed in the area of wadi Tafidet. Locusts are expected to slowly mature. Local breeding will be limited by the dry soil.

The overall food supply situation remains satisfactory. Markets are well supplied and prices of cereals are low. The assessments by the National Early Warning System indicate that no emergency assistance is needed by the country. However, some areas in Aguié, Guidan Roumdji, Illéla, Keita, Matameye and Mayahi may be somewhat vulnerable. The national security stock has been reconstituted at a level of 12 277 tonnes of millet and 2 132 tonnes of sorghum.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	6	64	2 230	2 300
Normal Imports	30	85	215	330
of which: Structural food aid	1	5	8	14
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**23**	**79**	**2 798**	**2 900**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*13*	*60*	*2 798*	*2 871*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	13	39	2 798	2 850
Possible stock drawdown	10	40	-	50
1999/2000 Utilization	**43**	**159**	**2 918**	**3 120**
Food Use	32	152	2 268	2 452
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*25*	*25*
Non-food use	1	7	430	438
Exports or Re-exports	10	-	60	70
Possible stock build up	-	-	160	160
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**20**	**80**	**120**	**220**
Anticipated commercial imports	20	75	120	215
Food aid needs	-	5	-	5
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	2	2
of which: for local use	-	-	2	2
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**3**	**15**	**225**	**244**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				125
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				67
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				36

NIGERIA

Area:	911 000 sq.km
Climate:	Mostly tropical wet-dry, south-west tropical wet, extreme north semi-arid
Population:	111 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 300 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics:	Ports adequate, roads inadequate during rainy season
Major foodcrops:	Roots and tubers, coarse grains, rice
Marketing year:	January/December; Lean season: April-May
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	43 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Substantial rains started in the south during the second dekad of March, allowing land preparation and planting of the first maize crop. The 1999 cereal production is estimated at 23.2 million tonnes.

The overall food supply situation is satisfactory. However, due to heavy rains, three hydroelectric dams released water in the Kaduna, Benue and Niger rivers in early October, causing flooding of villages located along the river banks. The Nigerian Government estimates that about 300 000 people have been affected by the flooding, and that several thousand hectares have been flooded in 5 States (Sokoto, Adamwara, Borno, Kwara and Niger). About 6 000 hectares of sugar cane plantation, expected to produce about 25 000 tonnes of sugar, have been flooded in central region. The south-eastern Bayelsa State and five districts in the Niger Delta (in the municipalities of Patani, Oshimili South, Ndokwa East, Burutu and Bomadi) have also been affected by floods. Rising waters in Lake Chad have also left an estimated 25 000 people homeless in northern Nigeria. The government approved in late 1999 the purchase of 55 000 tonnes of local grains as part of the country's strategic food reserve.

The government decided on 11 February to remove import duties and value-added tax on all agricultural inputs, including fertilizer. The government would no longer be involved in the importation and distribution of fertilizer.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	58	2 937	18 470	21 465
Normal Imports	1150	350	100	1 600
of which: Structural food aid	-	-	-	-
2000 Domestic Availability	**158**	**2 038**	**19 712**	**21 908**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*58*	*3 397*	*19 712*	*23 167*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	58	2 038	19 712	21 808
Possible stock drawdown	100	-	-	100
2000 Utilization	**1 358**	**2 238**	**19 912**	**23 508**
Food Use	1 286	1 848	15 783	18 917
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	52	390	3869	4 311
Exports or Re-exports	20	-	210	230
Possible stock build up	-	-	50	50
2000 Import Requirement	**1 200**	**200**	**200**	**1 600**
Anticipated commercial imports	1 200	200	200	1 600
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**12**	**17**	**142**	**170**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				108
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				100
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

RWANDA

Area:	25 000 sq.km
Climate:	Highland rainy climate with moderate temperature (20^{0}C); two rainy seasons: February-May and September-November
Population:	8.11 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 230 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked country
Logistics:	Ports: Mombasa (Kenya) and Dar es Salaam (Tanzania); roads and railway inadequate
Major foodcrops:	Roots, tubers, pulses, plantains, sorghum, maize
Marketing year:	January/December; Lean season: November-December
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	25 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The output of the recently harvested 2000 A season was good despite severe crop losses due to dry weather in eastern and southern parts. Aggregate food production is estimated at 2.8 million tonnes, a rise of 20 percent from the previous year. A substantial increase in area planted compared to the 1999 A season, as well as overall favourable rains, contributed to an increase in production. However, a prolonged dry spell during the month of October, severely damaged cereal and beans crops in the Eastern and Southern provinces.

As a result of the satisfactory food production and increased flow of commercial imports, there has been an improvement in the overall food supply situation and a decline in food aid requirements for the first half of the year. However, the food situation remains critical for vulnerable people in several areas. A recent nutritional survey carried out in the Northwest province of Ruhengeri last December, indicate a chronic malnutrition rate of 56 percent and a severe malnutrition rate of 2.5 percent.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	10	9	276	295
Normal Imports	10	6	3	19
of which: Structural food aid	3	1	3	7
2000 Domestic Availability	**4**	**5**	**221**	**230**
2000 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*4*	*8*	*211*	*223*
2000 Production (rice in milled terms)	4	5	211	220
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	10	10
2000 Utilization	**19**	**15**	**406**	**440**
Food Use	15	14	385	414
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	1	21	22
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	4	-	-	4
2000 Import Requirement	**15**	**10**	**185**	**210**
Anticipated commercial imports	-	-	60	60
Food aid needs	15	10	125	150
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	6	-	3	9
of which: Delivered	-	-	3	3
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**2**	**2**	**46**	**50**
Indexes				
2000 production as % of normal:				76
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				1 105
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				2 143

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

Area: 960 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet; rainfall increases with altitude and towards southern parts of the islands
Population: 147 000 (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 350 (1995)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; archipelago
Logistics: Ports and roads adequate
Major foodcrops: Bananas, breadfruit, cocoyam
Marketing year: January/December
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 36 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The staple foodcrops are roots, tubers and plantains. The country imports around 10 000 tonnes of wheat and rice annually.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	-	-
Normal Imports	4	5	2	11
of which: Structural food aid	1	1	-	2
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	-	-
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	-	-
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**2**	**6**	**2**	**10**
Food Use	2	6	2	10
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	-	-	-
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**2**	**6**	**2**	**10**
Anticipated commercial imports	2	5	2	9
Food aid needs	-	1	-	1
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**14**	**41**	**14**	**68**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				-
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				91
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				50

SENEGAL

Area: 193 000 sq.km
Climate: Semi-arid in north, tropical wet-dry in south, with rains in June-October
Population: 9.48 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 530 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal sahelian country
Logistics: Port capacity adequate; gateway to Mali.
Major foodcrops: Millet and sorghum, rice, maize, wheat
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: August-September
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 61 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Seasonably dry conditions prevail. Prospects for off-season irrigated or recession crops are favourable as large areas have been flooded in the Sénégal River valley. The national statistical services released new production figures. The aggregate production of cereal 1999 is now estimated 1 256 000 tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent), which is 63 percent above 1998 level and 34 percent above the five-year average.

The overall food situation is satisfactory. Following substantial imports of rice in late 1999, markets are well supplied and the price of rice is stable. Import taxes were reduced from 15.7 percent to 12.2 percent in early 2000. Prices of local cereals are low. However, in Casamance, in some areas of the departments of Diourbel, Kaffrine, Gossas, M'Backé and in the flooded areas of the Sénégal river valley (Dagana, Podor, Matam and Bakel), localized food supply difficulties are likely. The cereal import requirement for the 1999/2000 marketing year is estimated at 760 000 tonnes, including 450 000 tonnes of rice. The food aid requirement is estimated at 10 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	172	762	934
Normal Imports	200	440	60	700
of which: Structural food aid	4	7	2	13
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**10**	**255**	**892**	**1 156**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*364*	*892*	*1 256*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	255	892	1 146
Possible stock drawdown	10	-	-	10
1999/2000 Utilization	**235**	**705**	**977**	**1 916**
Food Use	232	611	826	1 669
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*20*	*20*
Non-food use	3	44	138	185
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	50	12	62
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**225**	**450**	**85**	**760**
Anticipated commercial imports	220	450	80	750
Food aid needs	5	-	5	10
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	5	0	1	6
of which: Delivered	5	0	1	6
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**25**	**64**	**87**	**176**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				134
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				109
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				77

SEYCHELLES

Area: 455 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet; rains throughout the year, peaking in October-May
Population: 76 000 (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 6 620 (1995)
Specific characteristics of the country: Consists of about 100 islands scattered over more than 1 million sq.km. Tourism provides 50 percent of G.D.P.
Logistics: -
Major foodcrops: Coconuts, fruit, vegetables
Marketing year: January/December
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 49 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The cultivated area of only some 6 000 hectares is used mainly for coconuts, cinnamon and tea. Other crops, of secondary importance, include fruit and vegetables. The cereal needs for human consumption and feed are all imported commercially. For 1999, the cereal import requirement is estimated at 13 000 tonnes.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	-	0	0
Normal Imports	2	5	5	12
of which: Structural food aid	-	-	0	0
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	-	-	-
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	-	-	-
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**2**	**5**	**6**	**13**
Food Use	2	5	1	8
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	-	5	5
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**2**	**5**	**6**	**13**
Anticipated commercial imports	2	5	6	13
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**26**	**65**	**13**	**105**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				-
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				108
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

SIERRA LEONE

Area: 72 000 sq.km
Climate: Mostly tropical wet-dry; extreme south tropical wet; rainy season: March-October
Population: 4.92 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 140 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics: Roads inadequate
Major foodcrops: Rice, roots and tubers
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: July-August
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 57 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

An FAO Crop Assessment Mission which visited the South West, Southern and part of Eastern regions in December 1999 found that the agricultural sector has been extensively disrupted by civil disturbances throughout the country, even including the Southern region where relative peace now prevails. Over the years, farmers have lost all their productive resources including seeds, implements and other capital assets. There has been large-scale destruction of infrastructure and rural institutions. As most rural farm families were displaced, availability of labour for planting and harvesting is a major constraint. Also, farmers' capacity to retain stocks is low due to financial constraints and the fear of looting. Practically all the farmers are dependent on Government and NGOs for the supply of seeds, and thus planted areas are determined by the capacity of these agencies to assist them. Due to shortages of seeds and other inputs, average rice area per farm has declined from about 0.80 hectare normally to about 0.60 hectare in the current year. Thus, the shortage of tools, fertilizers and labour adversely affected food production in 1999.

The Mission estimated rice area in 1999 at about 225 000 hectares, about 21 percent below the 1998 estimate of 285 000 hectares. Despite very good rainfall, delayed transplanting and shortages of inputs resulted in a decline in yields of about 4 percent from the previous year. Thus, production of paddy is estimated as 248 220 tonnes for 1999, about 24 percent below the 1998 estimate of 328 310 tonnes. The 1999 paddy production is around 45 percent of the pre-civil war (1990) production and just about 60 percent of 1997 production when the security situation improved in many parts of the country. In the South-West region, where the security situation has improved, production has increased slightly over the previous year. However, in the North, North-West and part of Eastern region, where insecurity was high and remained inaccessible to most of the relief agencies, both area and yield decreased from the previous year.

Total cereal supply in 2000, including rice in milled form, is estimated at 181 000 tonnes against a utilization requirement of 510 000 tonnes, resulting in an import requirement of 329 000 tonnes for 2000. This compares with 1999 estimated imports of 290 000 tonnes. Over the civil war years, there has been a steady substitution of roots and tubers for cereals, and this largely explains the estimated small increase in cereal imports between the two years.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING Y EAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	378	52	430
Normal Imports	100	120	45	265
of which: Structural food aid	50	10	45	105
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**149**	**32**	**181**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*248*	*32*	*280*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	149	32	181
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**100**	**319**	**91**	**510**
Food Use	100	282	85	467
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	37	6	43
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**100**	**170**	**59**	**329**
Anticipated commercial imports	40	120	-	160
Food aid needs	60	50	59	169
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	19	-	1	20
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**20**	**57**	**17**	**95**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				65
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				124
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				161

SOMALIA

Area: 627 000 sq.km
Climate: Semi-arid in the south; rest arid
Population: 6.40 million (2000 estimate); G.N.P. per caput; n.a.
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country
Logistics: Inadequate port facilities; serious shortage of fuel and spare parts
Major foodcrops: Maize, sorghum, sesame
Marketing year: August/July; Lean season: June-August
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 45 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Harvesting of the 1999/2000 secondary "Deyr" cereal crop, normally accounting for some 25 percent of annual cereal production, is completed, while planting of the 2000/01 main season cereal crop is about to start. The total cereal production for the 1999/2000 Deyr season is estimated at about 108 000 tonnes, 53 percent above the post-civil war (1993-1998) average. However, the main 1999 "Gu" season, harvested until last September, was estimated by an FAO/WFP Mission at 135 683 tonnes of cereals, about 32 percent below the post-war average due to low and poorly distributed rains, pests and displacement of farmers.

Despite expected food supply improvement in parts of southern Somalia with better Deyr harvest, nearly 526 000 people in 6 regions are facing severe food shortages with an estimated food aid needs of over 14 200 tonnes. Hardest hit are farmers in Huddur, Wajid and Rab-Dure districts in Bakool Region where many have left their villages in search of food assistance. Furthermore, the food supply situation remains tight for the agro-pastoralists in Gedo, Bay and Hiran regions due to successive poor harvests and displacements.

Elsewhere, in north-western Somalia (Somaliland), despite a growing concern of fast depletion of pasture and water due to high influx of pastoralists from neighbouring Ethiopia, overall livestock and food supply conditions are stable. In north-eastern Somalia (Puntland), livestock conditions improved in parts with good Deyr season rains, but increased livestock concentration and over grazing is a concern.

Food aid deliveries to some regions improved during January 2000 with nearly 1 300 tonnes distributed in Bay region alone. However, a slow down of relief effort was reported in February due to attacks on humanitarian workers.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	13	550	563
Normal Imports	70	60	10	140
of which: Structural food aid	40	20	10	70
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**6**	**242**	**248**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*2*	*242*	*244*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	1	242	243
Possible stock drawdown	-	5	-	5
1999/2000 Utilization	**160**	**96**	**302**	**558**
Food Use	135	96	287	518
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	20	-	15	35
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	5	-	-	5
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**160**	**90**	**60**	**310**
Anticipated commercial imports	125	75	40	240
Food aid needs	35	15	20	70
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	6	-	35	41
of which: Delivered	2	-	21	23
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**22**	**16**	**48**	**86**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				43
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				221
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				100

SOUTH AFRICA

Area: 1.22 million sq.km
Climate: Sub-tropical with rains concentrated in the summer months (November-April); occasional snow in winter over higher parts of plateau and Cape ranges; an average of 120 days frost in the interior plateau
Population: 45.28 million (1999 estimate); GNP per caput US$ 2 880 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Normally net food exporter, notably maize
Logistics: Adequate port, rail and road facilities
Major foodcrops: Maize, wheat
Marketing year: May/April; Lean season: February-April
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 54 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Abundant rains and floods in the second dekad of March have resulted in loss of life and isolated several areas in the KwaZulu-Natal province. Heavy precipitation also affected parts of Northern and Mpumalnga provinces, already hit by severe flooding in February. Torrential rains and floods in these provinces in February severely damaged housing and infrastructure. Crop losses in the Northern Province were estimated at some R70 million (US$11 million), mainly pulses, maize and vegetables. Serious damage to the irrigation infrastructure included destruction of 16 dams. The Government has provided emergency assistance in the affected areas and has announced special credit facilities for the rehabilitation of the agricultural and tourism sectors.

In the major maize growing areas, however, good rains in the past two months improved growing conditions for the crop, now at the maturing stage. Despite serious crop losses in the Northern Province, the maize belt was only marginally affected by the floods. The overall outlook for this year's maize harvest is favourable reflecting an increase of 10 percent in the area planted and generally adequate weather conditions. Latest official forecasts indicate a bumper maize crop of 9.5 million tonnes compared to 7.1 million tonnes last year. At this level, production will be sufficient to replenish stocks and cover import requirements of other countries in the sub-region.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	2 084	2	8 603	10 689
Normal Exports	185	-	1 893	2 078
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**1 915**	**2**	**8 448**	**10 365**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*1 568*	*3*	*8 050*	*9 621*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	1 568	2	8 050	9 620
Possible stock drawdown	347	-	398	745
1999/2000 Utilization	**2 715**	**449**	**9 125**	**12 289**
Food Use	2 445	399	4 471	7 315
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	220	50	4 054	4 324
Exports or Re-exports	50	-	600	650
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**800**	**447**	**677**	**1 924**
Anticipated commercial imports	800	447	677	1 924
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	100	100
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	100	100
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**61**	**10**	**112**	**183**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				90

SUDAN

Area: 2.4 million sq.km
Climate: From north to south, arid, semi-arid and tropical wet-dry. Rainy season: May-October
Population: 30.29 million (1999 estimate); GNP per caput: n.a.
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; cereal production mainly in eastern and central areas.
Logistics: Roads, railway and river transport inadequate
Major foodcrops: Sorghum, millet, wheat, roots and tubers, oils
Marketing year: November/October; Lean season: September-October
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 51 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

The outlook for the 2000 irrigated wheat crop, to be harvested from next month, remains favourable, reflecting abundant irrigation water supplies. Total cereal production in 1999 is estimated at about 3.8 million tonnes comprising 3.05 million tonnes of sorghum, 499 000 tonnes of millet and 167 000 tonnes of wheat and 65 000 tonnes of maize (mainly produced in the south). At this level, cereal production is about 37 percent below the 1998 bumper crop.

Despite generally favourable weather, low sorghum prices for most of 1999, which in some cases have fallen below production costs, have prompted large-scale mechanized farmers, accounting for more than 60 percent of the total sorghum production, to reduce sorghum planting by some 50 percent. Many farmers have shifted to producing sesame, which gave much better returns last year, while others have simply reduced planted area. Lack of credit for agricultural inputs has also reinforced the farmers' decision to opt out of producing cereals.

In the Southern States, however, a relative improvement in security coupled with favourable growing conditions have yielded a 12 percent increase in cereal production from the traditional sector. Western Equatoria, which usually is a surplus area, has produced twice its local need this year due to favourable conditions and increased marketing opportunities offered by NGOs based in the State. By contrast, Unity State has suffered greatly from internecine fighting and Government/rebel clashes. Major cereal deficits are also estimated in Lakes and Bahr el Jebel due mainly to floods, and in specific localities throughout Jonglei, Upper Nile and Eastern Equatoria where conditions were not so favourable.

Expectations of lower harvests (sorghum and millet) in 1999 and the depletion of stocks due mainly to a surge in exports, have led to an increase in cereal prices which will have an adverse effect on poorer segments of the population. Overall, with the estimated cereal production and imports of wheat and rice estimated at 680 000 tonnes and 38 000 tonnes respectively, the country's cereal requirement of about 5.2 million tonnes in 1999/2000 is expected to be met by a drawdown of stocks. For the various interventions in southern Sudan, war affected and food deficit regions in the northern states, it is estimated that a total of 103 453 tonnes of food aid will be required during 2000. An Emergency Operation was jointly approved in January 2000 by FAO and WFP for food assistance to 2.4 million people affected by war, drought and floods, worth US$ 58.14 million.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	460	1	3 189	3 650
Normal Imports	450	10	130	590
of which: Structural food aid	250	-	-	250
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**177**	**4**	**3 994**	**4 175**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	167	5	3 609	3 781
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	167	3	3 609	3 779
Possible stock drawdown	10	1	385	396
1999/2000 Utilization	**857**	**42**	**4 099**	**4 998**
Food Use	837	41	3 502	4 380
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*103*	*103*
Non-food use	20	1	597	618
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	-	-
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**680**	**38**	**105**	**823**
Anticipated commercial imports	680	38	-	718
Food aid needs	-	-	105	105
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	32	-	24	56
of which: Delivered	32	-	24	56
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	7	7
of which: for local use	-	-	7	7
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**27**	**1**	**110**	**138**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				104
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				122
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

SWAZILAND

Area: 17 000 sq.km
Climate: Highland rainy climate. Rainy season: October-April; cool temperatures in May- September
Population: 0.96 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 1 170 (1995)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked country
Logistics: Good road network; imports through Mozambique or South Africa
Major foodcrops: Maize
Marketing year: May/April; Lean season: February-April
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 55 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Prospects for the 2000 cereal crops are poor. This mainly reflects excessive rains in December and severe flooding in early February, which also resulted in extensive damage to infrastructure and housing. Preliminary official forecast indicate a decline of 37 percent in this year's maize production to a below average level of 72 000 tonnes. Other crops that have been seriously affected by the heavy rains are beans and sweet potatoes.

The overall food supply position remains satisfactory. Cereal import requirement of 72 000 tonnes for the marketing year 1999/2000 (May/April) have already been covered by commercial imports.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	1	3	116	120
Normal Imports	25	2	20	47
of which: Structural food aid	8	-	1	9
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**2**	**113**	**115**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*3*	*113*	*116*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	2	113	115
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Utilization	**40**	**10**	**137**	**187**
Food Use	40	10	110	160
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	-	-	20	20
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	2	2
Possible stock build up	-	-	5	5
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**40**	**8**	**24**	**72**
Anticipated commercial imports	40	8	24	72
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**42**	**11**	**115**	**167**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				97
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				153
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

TANZANIA

Area: 886 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry climate with two rainy seasons in north (November-December and March-May) and one in south (November-April)
Population: 32.30 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 210 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; cereal surplus production in south and south-west; cereal deficit in central and north-west. Distribution difficulties
Logistics: Serious shortage of rolling stock, fuel and spare parts
Major foodcrops: Maize, roots, tubers, sorghum, pulses, plantains, rice
Marketing year: June/May; Lean season: February-April
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 60 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Harvesting of the 1999/2000 short "Vuli" season crops is well advanced in the bi-modal rainfall areas of the northern coastal belt and north-eastern, where the crop accounts for some 40 percent of the annual food supplies. Poor rains during the growing season have prompted farmers to drastically reduce plantings and have affected yields. Recent official reports suggest that the current Vuli crop is expected to be particularly poor in Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Tanga Regions.

The 1999/2000 cereal crop, mainly maize, is estimated at 4 million tonnes, about 8 percent below last year's output due to erratic rains, reduced use of inputs and an outbreak of armyworms. By contrast, production of other food crops, including beans, potatoes, cassava and plantains have increased by nearly 13 percent to 3.3 million tonnes.

Overall, the food supply situation is stable reflecting large maize imports in the latter half of 1999 and the maize export ban imposed by the Government. In January 2000, maize prices in several markets of the country were up to 56 percent lower than at the same period a year earlier and bean prices were up to 41 percent lower. However, food assistance is required for nearly 800 000 people identified as food insecure, mainly in the regions of Dodoma, Mara, Shinyanga, Singida, Tabora, Tanga and southern Mwanza, all of which have now suffered their third consecutive poor harvest. WFP school-feeding programme began in January 2000 in 128 primary schools in Dodoma region and is expected to expand to Arusha and Singida regions.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	85	607	3 230	3 922
Normal Imports	60	25	-	85
of which: Structural food aid	15	15	-	30
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**103**	**525**	**3 415**	**4 043**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*73*	*800*	*3 415*	*4 288*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	73	520	3 415	4 008
Possible stock drawdown	30	5	-	35
1999/2000 Utilization	**143**	**565**	**3 785**	**4 493**
Food Use	138	460	3 179	3 777
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*1*	*1*
Non-food use	5	105	526	636
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	80	80
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**40**	**40**	**370**	**450**
Anticipated commercial imports	30	35	300	365
Food aid needs	10	5	70	85
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	8	8
of which: Delivered	-	-	8	8
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	1	1
of which: for local use	-	-	1	1
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**4**	**14**	**98**	**117**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				109
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				482
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				117

TOGO

Area:	54 000 sq.km
Climate:	Tropical wet-dry; two rainy seasons in south (March-June and October) and one in North (May-October)
Population:	4.63 million (2000 estimate) G.N.P. per caput: US$ 330 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country:	Low-income food-deficit country; coastal country
Logistics:	Ports and roads adequate; gateway to Burkina Faso and Niger
Major foodcrops:	Roots and tubers, coarse grains, fruit
Marketing year:	January/December; Lean season: April-July
Share of cereals in total calorie intake:	40 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

First seasonal rains were received in the south and the centre during the second dekad of March, allowing land preparation and planting of the first maize crop. Reflecting widespread and above-normal rains during the 1999 growing season, the aggregate output of cereals in 1999 is estimated at a record 748 000 tonnes (with rice in paddy equivalent) which is 27 percent above 1998 level. Maize production increased sharply, notably in Savanes, Plateaux and Kara regions. Production of tubers and beans also increased.

Following this record crop, the overall food supply situation is satisfactory. However, floods affected the regions of Kara (in the north), Plateaux (in the west), Maritime (in the south) and Savanes (in the extreme north). However, the worst affected regions is Savanes where at least 1 000 hectares of arable land have been inundated, isolating villages and affecting an estimated 42 000 people.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	-	53	511	564
Normal Imports	45	100	25	170
of which: Structural food aid	-	2	1	3
2000 Domestic Availability	**-**	**58**	**663**	**721**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	-	*85*	*663*	*748*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	-	58	663	721
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**50**	**138**	**663**	**851**
Food Use	46	65	407	518
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	2	13	221	236
Exports or Re-exports	2	60	10	72
Possible stock build up	-	-	25	25
2000 Import Requirement	**50**	**80**	**-**	**130**[1/]
Anticipated commercial imports	50	78	-	128
Food aid needs	-	2	-	2
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**10**	**14**	**88**	**112**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				133
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				76
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				67

1/ Including 60 000 tonnes for re-export.

UGANDA

Area: 200 000 sq.km
Climate: North-east is semi-arid, rest of the country is tropical wet-dry; main rainy period is March-October
Population: 21.69 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 320 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country
Logistics: Ports: Mombasa (Kenya) and Dar es Salaam (Tanzania); roads and railways inadequate
Major foodcrops: Roots, tubers, plantains, pulses, maize, millet, sorghum
Marketing year: January/December; Lean season: April-May
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 35 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Harvesting of the 1999/2000 second season cereal crops is completed. The output is anticipated to be average to above average reflecting well distributed rains during the season. However, in Gulu and Kitgum Districts, despite reported large increases in area cultivated due to earlier improved security and favourable rainfall, the escalation of conflict since December 1999 has displaced many farmers and hindered the timely harvesting of crops.

The output of the main season crop, harvested from late last summer, was below average due to a prolonged drought experienced in various parts of the country. Cereal production in 1999 is estimated to be about 9 percent below average at 1.7 million tonnes.

The food supply situation is adequate in most parts of the country. Prices of maize and beans in January and February were below the last three years average as supplies from last season's harvest continue to arrive in the markets. Nevertheless, the food supply situation has deteriorated in Kotido and Morito districts, with nearly 215 000 people needing urgent food assistance, mainly due to last season's poor harvest and loss of cattle due to raids. Also, the food supply situation in Gulu and Kitgum gives cause for serious concern due to renewed civil conflict. Furthermore, food assistance continues to be needed for nearly 112 000 people in Bundibugyo District displaced by civil unrest.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	9	78	1 810	1 897
Normal Imports	18	5	10	33
of which: Structural food aid	15	-	10	25
2000 Domestic Availability	**9**	**51**	**1 630**	**1 690**
2000 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*9*	*77*	*1 630*	*1 716*
2000 Production (rice in milled terms)	9	51	1 630	1 690
Possible stock drawdown	-	-	-	-
2000 Utilization	**79**	**57**	**1 710**	**1 846**
Food Use	78	57	1 285	1 420
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	1	-	325	326
Exports or Re-exports	-	-	100	100
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
2000 Import Requirement	**70**	**6**	**80**	**156**
Anticipated commercial imports	61	4	-	65
Food aid needs	9	2	80	91
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	10	-	2	12
of which: Delivered	2	-	2	4
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	-	-
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	-	-
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**4**	**3**	**57**	**63**
Indexes				
2000 production as % of normal:				90
2000 import requirement as % of normal:				427
2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				268

ZAMBIA

Area: 741 000 sq.km
Climate: Tropical wet-dry; rainy season: November-April
Population: 10.44 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 330 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Low-income food-deficit country; land-locked country
Logistics: Imports through Dar es Salaam (Tanzania); inadequate rail and road connections
Major foodcrops: Maize, roots, tubers
Marketing year: May/April; Lean season: March-May
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 70 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Heavy flooding due to the overflow of the Zambezi River in early March made nearly 10,000 people homeless and resulted in the closure of roads in the river basin. Serious losses to maize and other crops, as well as to livestock are reported in the Lower Zambezi Valley, bordering Mozambique. Worst affected area is the Luangwa district. Emergency food assistance is being distributed to the affected population.

Despite the localized crop losses, the abundant rains since mid-February have benefited the main maize crop, affected by erratic precipitation earlier in the season. As a result, overall prospects for this year's cereal crop remain satisfactory.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	53	14	1 348	1 415
Normal Imports	35	4	65	104
of which: Structural food aid	25	-	45	70
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**100**	**13**	**951**	**1 064**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*90*	*19*	*951*	*1 060*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	90	13	951	1 054
Possible stock drawdown	10	-	-	10
1999/2000 Utilization	**141**	**36**	**1 321**	**1 498**
Food Use	135	34	1 095	1 264
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	*6*	*6*
Non-food use	4	2	176	182
Exports or Re-exports	2	-	50	52
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**41**	**23**	**370**	**434**
Anticipated commercial imports	41	22	370	433
Food aid needs	-	1	-	1
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	4	4
of which: Delivered	-	-	4	4
Donor-financed purchases	2	-	56	58
of which: for local use	-	-	6	6
for export	2	-	50	52
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**13**	**3**	**105**	**121**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				75
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				417
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				1

ZIMBABWE

Area: 387 000 sq.km
Climate: Centre and north-east tropical wet-dry; south and west semi-arid; rainy season: November-March
Population: 12.25 million (1999 estimate); G.N.P. per caput: US$ 610 (1998)
Specific characteristics of the country: Land-locked country; exporter and importer of grain
Logistics: Exports and imports through Mozambique or South Africa
Major foodcrops: Maize, wheat, millet, sorghum
Marketing year: April/March; Lean season: February-April
Share of cereals in total calorie intake: 66 percent

CURRENT SITUATION

Heavy rains in the second dekad of March aggravated the situation in southern and eastern provinces severely affected by floods in late February, following Cyclone Eline. Latest estimates of the Cyclone damage indicate that 100 persons have died, 96 000 have been directly affected, including 20 000 displaced people sheltered in camps, and some 500 000 people who have been indirectly affected. Floods also resulted in serious damage to infrastructure. Worst affected areas are the lowlands along the Save and Tanganda rivers, particularly the district of Chipinge, in the province of Manicaland, where 90 000 persons, or one quarter of the population is in need of food assistance. Flooding has extensively damaged crops along river valleys and water channels in the affected provinces. In particular, in the semi-arid southern Matabeleland province, production in irrigated areas will be reduced by the damage to infrastructure, including farm dams. However, a detailed assessment of the crop losses is not yet available

Although floods have not affected the main maize growing areas of the northeast, where the bulk of cereal crops are produced, this year's maize production is forecast to decrease due to a reduction in the area planted. Heavy rains since mid-February may also result in yield reductions.

CEREAL SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE FOR THE 1999/2000 MARKETING YEAR (in thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Coarse grains	Total
Normal Production	240	4	1 880	2 124
Normal Imports	55	20	-	75
of which: Structural food aid	5	-	-	5
1999/2000 Domestic Availability	**330**	**-**	**1 718**	**2 048**
1999 Production (rice in paddy terms)	*320*	-	*1 688*	*2 008*
1999 Production (rice in milled terms)	320	-	1 688	2 008
Possible stock drawdown	10	-	30	40
1999/2000 Utilization	**400**	**25**	**2 168**	**2 593**
Food Use	356	25	1 649	2 030
of which: local purchase requirement	-	-	-	-
Non-food use	15	-	501	516
Exports or Re-exports	29	-	18	47
Possible stock build up	-	-	-	-
1999/2000 Import Requirement	**70**	**25**	**450**	**545**
Anticipated commercial imports	70	25	450	545
Food aid needs	-	-	-	-
Current Aid Position				
Food aid pledges	-	-	-	-
of which: Delivered	-	-	-	-
Donor-financed purchases	-	-	18	18
of which: for local use	-	-	-	-
for export	-	-	18	18
Estimated Per Caput Consumption (kg/year)	**29**	**2**	**135**	**166**
Indexes				
1999 production as % of normal:				95
1999/2000 import requirement as % of normal:				727
1999/2000 food aid requirement as % of normal:				-

TERMINOLOGY

"Normal" production: "Normal" production of cereals is defined as that level of production which would be harvested in the current year assuming no abnormal climatic conditions and no reductions in area planted or supply of inputs caused by civil disorders or other man-made causes. A substantial deviation of current production from "normal" is one of the main signals used to indicate the need for exceptional food assistance.

Two main methods have been utilised in this report to estimate the level of "normal" production for the current year. One is based on the calculation of linear trends of production for each cereal for the previous ten years. For countries where no statistically significant trends could be established, the level of "normal" production has been established on the basis of the average for a recent period of years when growing conditions were normal.

"Normal" imports: "Normal" imports of cereals are defined as those quantities needed to meet domestic requirements in a year of "normal" production, including both commercial imports and food aid.

For countries which are self-sufficient in domestically grown cereals in a normal year the estimate of "normal" cereal imports for those cereals not produced domestically (mainly wheat and rice) has been calculated on the basis of trends which have been fitted to historical import data for these cereals. In general these imports have grown in line with increases in urban population numbers. For other countries, an average of imports during recent "normal" production years, brought forward by applying a trend factor, has been used. If the sum of anticipated commercial imports and structural food aid in the current year falls below estimated "normal" imports because of balance of payments difficulties, the country is considered to need exceptional food assistance.

"Utilisation": All elements of utilisation for wheat and coarse grains are expressed in grain equivalent. For rice, all elements are expressed in milled form. Non-food use includes post-harvest losses, seed use, feed use, industrial use for all cereals.

"Unfavourable Crop Prospects": Refer to prospects of a shortfall in production of current crops as a result of a reduction of the area planted and/or adverse weather conditions, plant pests, diseases and other calamities which indicate a need for close monitoring of the crops for the remainder of the growing season.

"Shortfalls in Food Supplies Requiring Exceptional External Assistance": Refer to an exceptional shortfall in aggregate supplies or a localised deficit as a result of crop failures, natural disasters, interruption of imports, disruption of distribution, excessive post-harvest losses, other supply bottlenecks and/or an increased demand for food arising from population movements within the country or an influx of refugees. In the case of an exceptional shortfall in aggregate food supplies, exceptional and/or emergency food aid may be required to cover all or part of the deficit.

"Local and/or Exportable Surpluses Requiring External Assistance": Refers to a situation of an exceptional surplus existing in a particular area of a country which needs to be transported to deficit areas in the same country or the neighbouring countries for which purpose external assistance is required.

"Low-income food deficit countries" (LIFDCs): Includes all food deficit countries with per caput income below the level used by the World Bank to determine eligibility for IDA assistance (i.e. US$1 505 in 1996), which in accordance with guidelines and criteria agreed to by the CFA should be given priority in the allocation of food aid.