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ACRONYMS:

CHD: Child Health Day

CPI: Consumer Price Index

CSA: Central Statistical Agency

DRMFSS: Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector

EGTE: Ethiopian Grain Trade Enterprise

EHNRI: Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute

ENCU: Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization

FMOH: Federal Ministry of Health

GAM: Global Acute Malnutrition

HRF: Humanitarian Response Fund

IDDR: International Day for Disaster Reduction

IMC: International Medical Corps

ITCZ: Inter Tropical Convergent Zone

MAM: Moderate Acute Malnutrition

NMA: National Meteorological Agency

OTP: Outpatient Therapeutic Program

PLW: Pregnant and Lactating Women

SAM: Severe Acute Malnutrition

TFU: Therapeutic Feeding Unit

TSF: Targeted Supplementary Food

TSFP: Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program

WFP: World Food Programme
EARLY WARNING AND RESPONSE SUMMARY

- The anticipated near normal rainfall during the month of April 2017 over Oromiya (East and West Walea, Jima Ilu Ababora, North and West Shewa, West and East Harargie, Arsi Bale Borena and Guji), Benishangul Gumuz, Amara(North and South Wello, West and East Gojam, the surrounding areas of Bahir Dar, Agewawi, North and South Gonder), Afar (Zone 3, 4 and 5), Most zones of Tigray, SNNPR(Hadiya, Guragie, Sidama, Kefa, Bench Maji, Wolayta, South Omo and Segen Peoples) and Somali Region would have positive contribution for the existing Belg season's agricultural activities. Moreover it would ease the persisted dry condition and have also positive contribution for the improvement of pasture and drinking water in the pastoral areas. Therefore, the concerned personnel should take proper measure ahead of time to utilize the expected favorable moisture condition efficiently.

- The expected flash flood in relation to the strength of weather systems might have negative impact in some localities. Thus the concerned personnel should take appropriate measures ahead of time in order to avoid damages due to flash flood particularly over the low-lying areas and in areas where the soils have low peculation capacity.

- In accordance with the ENCU report nationally; 30, 156 admitted with 89% reporting rate in March 2017. This is the highest admission since April 2016 and similar with that of March 2016. This increased admission is reported from Somali, Oromia and SNNPR. However, the admission in Afar, Amhara and Tigray is declined in March compared with February.

- In accordance with the FEWS NET Ethiopia market analysis (April 2017) even though Western surplus maize producing areas of the country received near normal production during Meher 2016, below average production in most parts of SNNPR and central Oromia and persistent increased in demand for maize as staple food constrained market supply in most parts of the country, in particular in areas where maize is the major staple food. On the other hand, sorghum supply in the northeastern parts of the country rated as normal following normal to above normal harvest obtained in Meher 2016.
1. **Weather Condition**

   1. **Past Weather assessment (April 2017)**

   Some areas reported heavy falls in a rainy day like Maji(37.7 mm) Algie(40.2 mm), Dolo Mana (46.6 mm), Jinka(42.6 mm), Masha(42.4 mm and 44.0 mm), Chercher (45.2 mm), Dugda(46.2 mm), Hawasa(47.3 mm), Nekemte(49.8 mm), Limu Genet(55.5 mm), Gudo Meskel (54.0 mm), Debresina(59.4 mm), Arba Minch(61.3 mm), Kibre Mengist(62.0 mm) and Mirab Abaya(70.2 mm) during the month of April 2017.

   **Map 1: Rainfall distribution in mm for the month of April 2017**

   **Source: NMA**

   During the month of April 2017, a few areas of northwestern parts of SNNPR and pocket areas of western Oromiya exhibited falls greater than 300 mm. A few areas of northwestern and western parts of SNNPR received falls ranging from 200 – 300 mm. Some areas of western Amhara, parts of western and eastern Oromiya, southeastern tip of Benishangul Gumuz, eastern half of Gambela and most parts of SNNPR experienced falls ranging from 100 – 200 mm. Parts of central, northwestern and western Amhara, parts of western, eastern and central Oromiya, parts of eastern Benishangul Gumuz, western half of Gambula, parts of western Afar and most parts of Somali experienced falls ranging from 50 – 100 mm. Most parts of Tigray, most parts of Amhara, parts of central and eastern of Oromiya, parts of Benishangul Gumuz and parts of northern Afar, experienced falls ranging from 25 - 50 mm. Western and northeastern parts of Tigray, northwestern margin of Amhara, most parts of Afar, northwestern Benishangul Gumuz, parts of northern and southern Somali received falls ranging from 5 - 25 mm. There was little or no rainfall over northern Somali and eastern Afar.

**Map 2: Percent of normal rainfall distribution for April 2017**

**Source: NMA**

As indicated in map 2, most parts of western half of Ethiopia experienced normal to above normal rainfall. Below normal rainfall has been observed over eastern parts of Tigray, most parts of Afar, eastern half of Amhara, southern, central and eastern Oromiya, eastern half of SNNPR and most parts of Somali.
2. Weather outlook and possible impact for the coming month/May 1-31, 2017

Under normal circumstance the Belg rain producing systems will relatively lose their strength over Belg producing areas of the country towards the second half of the month of May. However, in accordance with the National Meteorological Agency weather/climate outlook during the upcoming May 2017 the weather systems will have relatively better strength during the first half of the month while a gradual decrease in rainfall amount and distribution towards the second half of the month over the southeastern, eastern and northeastern parts of the country.

In general during the coming month/May 2017 near normal rainfall with a chance of heavy falls at places is anticipated over Oromiya (East and West Welega, Jima Ilu Ababora, North and West Shewa, West and East Harargie, Arsi Bale Borena and Guji), Benishangul Gumuz, Amara(North and South Wello, West and East Gojam, the surrounding areas of Bahir Dar, Agewawi, North and South Gonder), Afar (Zone 3,4 and 5), Most zones of Tigray, SNNPR(Hadiya, Guragie, Sidama, Kefa, Bench Maji, Wolayta, South Omo and Segen Peoples) and Somali Region. Moreover, in relation to the strength of weather systems flash flood is likely in some areas of the above mention areas. Thus the concerned personnel should take appropriate measures ahead of time in order to avoid damages due to flash flood particularly over the low-lying areas and in areas where the soils have low peculiation capacity.
II. Crop and Livestock condition based on the weekly Regional Situation Report

1. Crop condition

1.1 Season’s Agricultural Activities and Phenological Stages of the crop by Region

SNNPR
The late sown long cycle crops are at early vegetative stage while the timely sown crops were at late vegetative stage in Belg growing areas of SNNPR. From the planned Belg crop land coverage about 40% of land covered by different types of crops in the same region.

Oromiya
Crops are at emergency to early vegetative stage in West Arsi and Arsi Zones. Land preparation for the long cycle crops was underway in most parts of the region.

Amhara
Belg crops are at early vegetative stage in Belg growing areas of the Region. From the planned Belg crop land coverage 82% of the land covered by different types of crops.

Afar
Land preparation for Meher season has been started in Zone 2 (Abala, Qoneba, Dalol, Berhale and some areas of Megale) by using moisture comes from the highlands of neighboring Tigray Region.

Harari
Land Preparation started for Meher crops in the region.

Dire Dawa
Land preparation for Meher crops has been going on in most parts of the administrative region and some areas covered by Meher crops in some localities.

Benishangul Gumuz
Land preparation for long cycle crops has been started in the region during the month of April 2017.

Tigray
Land preparation has been started in Belg growing areas.

1.2 Crop Pest and Diseases conditions

SNNPR
Out break and spread of Fall Armyworm in the whole of Kembata Tenbaro Zone (51 Kebeles), Bench Maji (216 Kebeles), Gamo Gofa (Melkoza, Ayida, Kamba, Oubadebretshay, Zala, Denba Gofa, Bonke, Daramalo and Arba Minch), Dawuro (77 Kebeles), Sheka (3 Weredas), Dmot Pulusa (23 Kebeles), Bloso Sore (11 Kebes), Dugna Fango (9 Kebeles), Humbo (4 Kebeles), Damot Gale (18 Kebeles), Hadia (East Bedewaco 26 Kebeles, West Bedewaco 22 Kebeles and Shone 6 rural Kebeles), South Omo (North Ari, South Ari, Selamago and Male 37 Kebeles in total), Segen Peoples (Ale Weredas 7 Kebeles, Konta Wereda 43 Kebeles) and Basketo Wereda (31 Kebeles). However the spread of pest was under control by effective protection measures.

Oromiya
Outbreak of Armyworm has been reported from Jima zone (14 Woredas) and infestation of American Bollworm was reported in East Wellega Zone Kenba Woreda.
2. Livestock Situation

2.1 Livestock body condition

According to the Regional Bureau report a decrease in livestock body condition has been observed in some parts of Oromiya (lowlands of Guji and Bale, West Shewa, most parts of Borena, North Shewa Zone (Degem and Debre Libanos), West Harargie (9 Weredas) and West Arsi (Shala, Sirao, Shashemene and Arsi Negele) SNNPR (Lokabaya, Boricha, lowlands of Gamo Gofa, Mierab Abaya, Boreda, Kucha Daramalo and lowlands of Amaro, Burji, Konso and Derashe special Woredas), most parts of Afar, Somali (in nine zones) and lowlands of Harari.

On the other hand the livestock body condition was reported in a good shape still in Tigray, Gambela, Benishangul Gumuz and Dire Dawa.

2.2 Shortage of Pasture and Drinking Water

Shortage of pasture and drinking water has been reported in some areas of Oromiya (lowlands of Guji and Bale, West Shewa, most parts of Borena, North Shewa Zone (Degem and Debre Libanos), West Harargie (9 Weredas) and West Arsi (Shala, Sirao, Shashemene and Arsi Negele); SNNPR (lowlands of South Omo (Male, Benatsemai and Hamer), Segen Peoples (all Weredas), Gamo Gofa (Kemba, Zala, Oubadebretshay, Boreda, Daramalo, Bonke and Kucha), Wolayita Zone (Kindo Koyisha, Ofa Humbo and Damote Sore), Sidama Zone (Loka Abaya and Borcha), Guragie Zone (Mareko, Mihur, Aklil, Gumer and Eiza Wereda/7 Kebeles) and Silte Zone; Amhara (Oromiya Zone/Bati and Artuma Fursi, North Wollo/Raya Kobo, Lasta and Dawunt/lowlands of Waghemra and South Wollo) Gambela (Nuwer Zone) Afar (In most Weredas); Harari/lowlands of 8 Kebeles/ and Benishangul Gumuz (lowlands of Kurmuk, Sherkole and Guba Wereda). As a result water and animal feed rationing was going on in the above mentioned areas.

2.3 Livestock pest and Disease

The outbreak of CBPP and CCPP has been observed in Borena Zone (Iwayu, Das, Gomly, Yabelo, Dilo and Wochi Woredas. Moreover livestock skin disease, CBPP, CCPP, Blackleg, FMD and other opportunistic diseases has been observed Somali Region (Korah, Jarar and Dolo) due to the erratic nature of rainfall observed during the month.

3. Market Condition

Persistent Increase in Maize Price Reported in Many Markets

Although Western surplus maize producing areas of the country received near normal production during Meher 2016, below average production in most parts of SNNPR and central Oromia and persistent increased in demand for maize as staple food constrained market supply in most parts of the country, in particular in areas where maize is the major staple food. On the other hand, sorghum supply in the northeastern parts of the country rated as normal following normal to above normal harvest obtained in Meher 2016.

Staple food prices are substantially rising the markets in Somali Region and other southern pastoral areas where prevailing current drought stimulated exceedingly high demand. As per price data from zonal/ woreda offices of DPP, In Gode market sorghum and maize price in April 2017 has increased by 43 and 69 percent from last year (April 2016) respectively. Comparing with the last five-year average in the same market, recorded price increases are 49 percent for sorghum and 43 percent for maize.

Price of maize, which is one of the main staple in most parts of the country continue to display a continuous increase on a higher in almost all parts of the country. According to data from woreda DPP offices, the recorded price increase in April 2017 compared to last year (April 2016) is 31 percent in Shashemene and 20
percent in Wenago markets. Price of maize also exhibited substantial increase from last five-year average and similar data source revealed 34 and 23 percent increase in Shashemene and Wenago markets respectively. (See Graph) Source: Woreda DPP office

On the other hand, price of sorghum in the north-eastern markets is showing staple trend in the recent months and current prices are lower than last year and long-term averages. For instance, in Woldia market in North Wello zone (Amhara), local sorghum price in April 2017 is lower by 30 percent from both April 2016 and last five-year average for the month of April.

Livestock prices are on a significant rise in the north-eastern parts of the country for both cattle and shoats which is mainly linked with enhanced feed availability and thereby improved body condition and also increased in seasonal demand for ox following an extensive start of land preparation. Data from woreda DPP offices revealed that ox price in Sekota market in Waghimra zone in April 2017 showed 24 percent increase from April 2016. Likewise, goat price in Woldia market is higher by 44 percent from April 2016 and 66 percent from last five-year average. Subsequently, Terms of Trade (ToT) of shoat for sorghum is well in favor of the shoat sellers to improve the purchasing power and food access.

On the contrary, drought stricken parts of southern pastoral are suffering deteriorated livestock body condition and lower price. As per the data from the woreda DPP offices, shoat prices in Gode market in April 2017 is lower by 50 percent from last year and 35 percent from last five-year average.

4. Nutrition Condition

Nationally; 30, 156 admitted with 89% reporting rate in March 2017. This is the highest admission since April 2016 and similar with that of March 2016. This increased admission is reported from Somali, Oromia and SNNPR. However, the admission in Afar, Amhara and Tigrai is declined in March compared with February.
In Somali region, New admissions to TFP rose from 7096 in February to 7835,619 in March (10%). The February and March SAM admissions are the highest admission compared with past five years. Worst affected zones of Jarar, Doolo, Korahe, Errer, Liben and Shabelle.

**MAM update**

MAM response in 177 out of 192 P1 Woredas by WFP covering 177 Woredas with the remaining 15 Woredas being covered by USAID/OFDA. USAID/OFDA/FFP in total supports MAM treatment in 18 Woredas, 3 are P2 in Somali region (Somali – 10 Woredas, Tigray – 4 Woredas and Amhara – 4 Woredas) through NGOs. There is still a significant gap in terms of TSF coverage in P2 Woredas with 122 Woredas not having MAM treatment services. In Somali region, different modalities to improve access to MAM services continue. Super cereal plus distributed to 35% of population in 52 Woredas with distribution of relief food. WFP plans to target 338,000 individuals during this BSFP allocation. WFP has also signed Field Level Agreements with 3 NGOs (SCI, ACF and IRE) in Somali region to implement TSF.
Appendix 1

NDVI Picture

As can be seen from the recent NDIV picture (METEOSAT 21 – 30 April 2017) below to much below normal vegetation greenness has been observed over drought affected areas of the country like Oromiya (most parts of Borena, parts of Guji, most parts of Bale, parts of East and West Haragie, most parts of Arsi and West Arsi), SNNPR (most parts of South Omo, southern parts of Bench Maji, most parts of Gamo Gofa, Segen Peoples and Wolayita, eastern half of Dawuro, most parts of Kembata Tebaro, Silte and Guragie) and most parts of southern, southeastern and eastern parts of Somali.
Appendix 2

Ethiopia
Prioritization of Emergency Relief Beneficiary Woredas as of December 2016

Hotspot Woredas Status
- First Priority
- Second Priority
- Third Priority

192 priority one, 174 priority two and 88 priority three woredas

Early Warning and Emergency Response Directorate, NDRMC