

1. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Findings	Recommendations
Emergency Response	
Disaster Prevention and Preparedness	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Countries with viable governments were well prepared to scale up commodity-based responses, depending on pre-existing mechanisms; responses to health and nutrition, water and sanitation and livelihood-based needs were largely ad hoc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant United Nations agencies, NGOs and donors should work with governments in the region to promote existing initiatives toward the establishment of contingency plans and related funding. This includes tabling of the Kenya National Disaster Management Policy and a review of the Ethiopia National Disaster Prevention & Preparedness Fund. [ALL]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparedness for rapid onset disasters was very patchy in the region. Local Red Cross Societies played a critical role as ‘first responders’ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of national Red Cross societies in DPP should be supported by other agencies and national governments in the Region as well as by the Red Cross movement; this will include training and full government support to the dissemination of IHL and humanitarian principles. [ALL STAKEHOLDERS]
Early Warning Systems	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systems in the region are effectively collecting and disseminating a wide range of EW data, but there is still inadequate information exchange between systems and across the region on population and livestock movements as well as trade and commodity flows. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A more institutionalized approach to EWS between countries and adoption of a classification system within the region that draws on a common set of indicators and methodologies and flags humanitarian emergencies and livelihood threats as they develop/happen. [DONORS, GOV'TS AND UN]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs assessment data in EWS still focus considerably on agricultural variables, exclude settled destitute communities and are not gender sensitive nor are they gender disaggregated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EWS should be modified to include pastoralist, urban and relevant gender-based indicators. [DONORS, GOV'TS AND UN]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutritional assessment of children in pastoral societies is recognized as problematic and collection and analysis of evidence from the Region is underway to improve the use of this information in needs assessments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutritional assessment systems should be reviewed and, if necessary, modified in light of results from the current meta-analyses. UNICEF should extend its support of this work to include dissemination of these results among all countries of the Horn via national offices in Kenya and Somalia and the ENCU in Ethiopia. [UNICEF & MOHs].
Resource Mobilization	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource mobilization in all recent emergencies has been weighted toward food aid rather than non-food responses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cash based responses to food insecurity should be piloted in dry areas to determine their relevance and effectiveness in the Horn before the next drought emergency. [DONORS, NGOS]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil society/ the private sector are now playing a critical role in resource mobilization during emergency responses, particularly in Somalia and Kenya. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN and civil society organizations, including the media, should expand their fund raising strategies to target key civil society elements in affected countries and among their overseas populations. Their role should be explicitly acknowledged and methods sought to include it in the larger appeal framework. [UN, NGOs, media, government]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donors are recognizing early and flexible funding needs as well as the primary importance of contingency funding mechanisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donors should consider and pilot alternatives to appeal-based funding including block grants, funding of a national contingency fund (when established), and flexible drought

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The appeal process risks becoming institutionalized as a funding mechanism for a broad range of needs, limiting its usefulness in emergency response 	<p>mitigation funding [DONORS]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Options for CERF like proactive funding mechanisms for NGO should be explored and donors should ensure that their support to the UN CERF would not dry up funds required for non UN humanitarian action.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The CERF has been most effective as a gap filling funding mechanism in situations where recipients had either contingency funds or pre-positioned resources which could be replenished when CERF funding became available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Approval and allocation processes for CERF funding should be expedited. [UN Humanitarian Coordinator]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The HRF has been a highly effective funding mechanism for NGOs, both local and international. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The HRF should be established in Kenya [UN OCHA]
Coordination	
<p>The cluster approach had some limited value in Somalia (particularly mobilizing resources) but placed considerable demands on participating organizations; it was not implemented in other countries of the region, where established government driven coordination mechanisms existed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The cluster approach should be extended with care and full cognizance of the guidance to leave in place existing mechanisms and integrate as appropriate. [UN Humanitarian Coordinator.]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ National level coordination mechanisms were critical to the responses in Kenya and Ethiopia, where these functioned at all levels, from central government to the districts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ National and UN-based coordination mechanisms should define a role for community-based local level coordination mechanisms and actors. The livelihoods approach being developed in Ethiopia may provide a local mechanism for this. [GOV'T, NGOS]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Coordination continued to be a 'top-down' process, with information flows largely from periphery to centre. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ OCHA filled gaps in the information gathering and coordination functions at different levels in Ethiopia and Somalia. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Inter-agency coordination in the fields of health and nutrition among UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA should be strengthened. [UN]
Quality of the Response	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Humanitarian access is in many areas still a problem due to logistical and security issues. The UN agencies are specially paralyzed by DSS procedures and decisions, which tend to bunkerized the UN agencies in the field 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Revision of DSS way of work and the development of inter-agency and agency specific strategies for acceptance is essential.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Response was led by food aid; other responses were patchy in quality, timeliness and coverage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Internal advocacy should be undertaken by donors on the funding balance, particularly with regard to non-food mitigation and vulnerability reduction. [DONORS]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ More emphasis was placed on livelihood support (in the agriculture and livestock sectors) through the FAO regional Plan of Action, although resource constraints and timing limited its effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Other sectoral strategies for relief and recovery which include the participation of a wide range of actors should be developed at regional level in consultation with donors in preparedness for future interventions [UN, NGOS, DONORS]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Nutrition responses were largely reactive, dealing with symptoms of a broad failure of health services for women and children as much as lack of food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Funding for nutrition responses should always include accompanying support for health services and closely targeted food aid; implementing agencies should ensure that their protocols for nutritional programmes include collaboration with the MOH, UNICEF and WHO. [DONORS, UN, NGOS]

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Water and sanitation responses were ad hoc, more sustainable in better resourced situations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ National DPP plans should follow locally developed standards by adapting international standards to local situations. In the wat/san sector, programming should go beyond fulfilling minimum needs to focus on sustainability and community participation. [GOV'T]
<p>Reducing Vulnerability: Longer Term Responses</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p>	
<p>Where national plans exist, these should be adopted and funded, including the National Policy for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands in Kenya and the accelerated extension of the PSNP to vulnerable areas in Ethiopia, with an emphasis on the long term goal of sustainable livelihoods. Enhanced health and education services should be included in any long term plan. These plans will address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock marketing and access to income sources for agro-pastoral populations • Infrastructural development • Essential services, especially health care and education • Alternative livelihoods for settled populations in dry areas • Environ preservation and management of natural resources 	