Joint Market and Supply Chain Update  

Key messages

Livestock exports to UAE and Saudi Arabia will resume immediately.

Panic buying, caused by Ramadan starting this week and COVID-19, has increased demand and hence prices of food items in certain locations.

The onset of the GU rains has resulted in extremely muddy roads and delayed transport services in some areas (South Central regions).

**Banadir and Hirshabelle**

- Saudi Arabia lifted a ban on livestock exports from Somalia hence livestock exports will resume and increased activities expected in the Mogadishu port.
- In the Mogadishu (Bakara) Market, both retail and wholesale prices remain stable as last week, however, wholesale prices of both white maize and white sorghum increased by 9.1%.
- Despite roadblocks by insurgents (AS) in Buloburte, commodities arrived in the market and currently prices remain the same as last week. However there was slight increased in the wholesale price of white maize (3.8%).
- In Beletweyne, both retail and wholesale prices of most food commodities (local and imported) remain the same as last week with the exception of wheat flour wholesale prices which increased by (11.1%).
- In Jowhar, both retail and wholesale prices of local food items remain unchanged from last week, except slight increases of imported food items pasta and sugar (wholesale) which both increased by 12.5% and 7.1% respectively.
- In addition, rainfall has affected transport of the main road between Jowhar and Mogadishu which is muddy delaying transportation of food and other commodities. This could lead to shortage of food supplies in Jowhar if rains continue and the road is cut off.
- While liquidity remains normal in higher tier banks, limited liquidity is reported in lower tier banks.

**Galmudug**

- Puntland government issued a letter restricting movement of local transport vehicles operating within Puntland regions due to COVID-19; this may lead to increased prices of food commodities especially imported food items in the coming weeks.
- Retail prices of local cereals (white maize, red white sorghum) are stable compared to last week except in Adado market where local cereals (red sorghum and white maize) increased by 5%.
- In Dhuusamarreb, both wholesale and retail prices of imported food items (rice, sugar, wheat flour and vegetable oil) increased by (3 - 10%).
- In Adado and Gurel, retail prices of wheat flour and pasta are increasing. Wheat flour increased by 50% in adado and pasta increased by 20% in Gurel.
- Livestock prices are increasing in Abudwaq; for instance the price of a mature male camel (export quality) increased by 6.0% from $830 to $880 and mature male camel (local quality) increased by 6.3% from $800 - $850.
- The exchange rate of local currency versus USD remained the same as last week in Dhuusamarreb and Hobyo markets.
Puntland

- The prices of imported food (rice, pasta and sugar) are stable after price increases in the last six weeks. In addition, the price of wheat flour (50 kg bag) price reduced by 14% in Bossaso market. However, due to onset of the holy month of Ramadan later this week, food prices may increase again.
- The wholesale prices of local cereals of (white maize and red sorghum), increased by (10-12%), however, retail prices remain stable.
- Supply of imported food items from the international markets to the main supply markets is normal and the Puntland authorities has postponed the new taxation measures introduced last month.
- Normal port operations are ongoing in Bossaso, and the government has increased working hours to respond to resumption of livestock exports to UAE and Oman markets.
- According to the food importing companies, commercial vessels from India, Oman and UAE carrying food and other essential items are en route to Bossaso.
- Despite decreased remittance from the diaspora, banks are working normally and cash is available.
- There are reports of GU rainfall in most regions of Puntland and the transport corridors are still operational.

Somaliland

- The authorities in Somaliland have confirmed an agreement with UAE and Saudi Arabia to resume export of livestock starting this week.
- The Ministry of Commerce met with importers and port management and resolved standoff due to insurance charges and importers have agreed not to hike food prices during Ramadan period.
- Normal port operations are ongoing in Berbera; in addition, more activities are expected in the coming weeks due to resumption of livestock exports.
- There is a decrease in prices of fresh produce; for instance the price of one kg of tomatoes reduced by (~23.5%) from 8500 to 6500 (SLSH), while most imported food items and fuel prices remain the same as last week.
- Authorities in Somaliland have enhanced security patrols along the Djibouti border to enforce the border closure initiated because of increased COVID-19 cases in Djibouti.
- The GU rains have started in most livelihoods in North West, including Guban pastoral but the transport corridors are still operating normally.

South Somalia

- In Garbaharey, the prices of imported food items (rice, wheat flour, vegetable oil and dates) are increasing, (8.1-12%) compared to the current week, with the exception of pasta which remained the same.
- In Baidoa, the prices of imported food items (vegetable oil, sugar and pasta) are stable with the exception of rice which increased by 25% compared to last week.
- Local cereals prices (white maize and red sorghum) prices are increasing in Baidoa by 10.7% and 14.0% respectively compared to last week.
- In Waajid and Huddur markets retail prices of both local and imported food items remain the same as last week.
- In Kismayo, both retail and wholesale prices of imported food items (rice, wheat flour and dates) increased moderately (11-25%) but prices of pasta and vegetable oil remained the same as last week.
- In Gedo markets (Doolow, Beletxaawo and Luuq) both wholesale and retail prices of imported food items (rice, wheat flour and dates) increased moderately (9.1-25%) compared to last week with the exception of vegetable oil and pasta which remained the same as last week.
- The exchange rate of local currency vs USD remain the same as last week in most markets of Gedo region; Doolow, Luuq and Belexaawo.
- Depreciation of local currency in Kismayo, the exchange rate of local currency (So.SH) vs USD increased from 24,000 to 27,000.
- Less activities are reported in Kismayo port but normal operations are ongoing.
- The GU rains have started in most regions and have delayed transport services between Baidoa and Luuq.

For further information contact the Somalia VAM ME and Logistics:
Raul Cumba, raul.cumba@wfp.org
Julie Vanderwiel, julie.vanderwiel@wfp.org