

Humanitarian Coordination Group (HCG) Meeting Minutes

28 January 2026, 9:30 – 11:00AM, NADFOR meeting Hall, chaired by:
National Disaster Preparedness and Food Reserve Authority (NADFOR)
and co-chaired by OCHA, Hargeisa, Somaliland



OCHA

Participants:

Chair: NADFOR, UNOCHA

Sub-sectors present: WASH (Ministry of Water Resource Development (MoWRD)); CCCM (UNHCR); Health (WHO) and EiE (SCI).

Partners: UNICEF, FAO, CARE, Concern Worldwide, ADRA, ARC, SOYDAVO, AYODA, ADO, Al-Rahma Charity and Hargeysa local government.

1. Action points and recommendations

#	actions	Responsibility	Deadline	Status
1	OCHA to reshare the drought response matrix for partners to capture their ongoing and planned support to drought affected people during the first quarter of 2026.	OCHA	28 Jan	Done
2	Humanitarian partners to engage in robust advocacy to mobilize resources to scale up response to people affected by the escalating drought in Somaliland.	All partners	On going	-
3	Hargeysa municipality to share the humanitarian needs reported in villages incorporated under the Hargeysa local government such as Salahley, Sabawanag, Faraweyne, etc. to mobilize the necessary response.	Hargeysa municipality	January	-
4	Humanitarian partners shall share updates on the possible impacts of the ongoing inter-clan clashes in Awdal region on humanitarian operations.	All partners	January	-

2. Agenda and discussions:

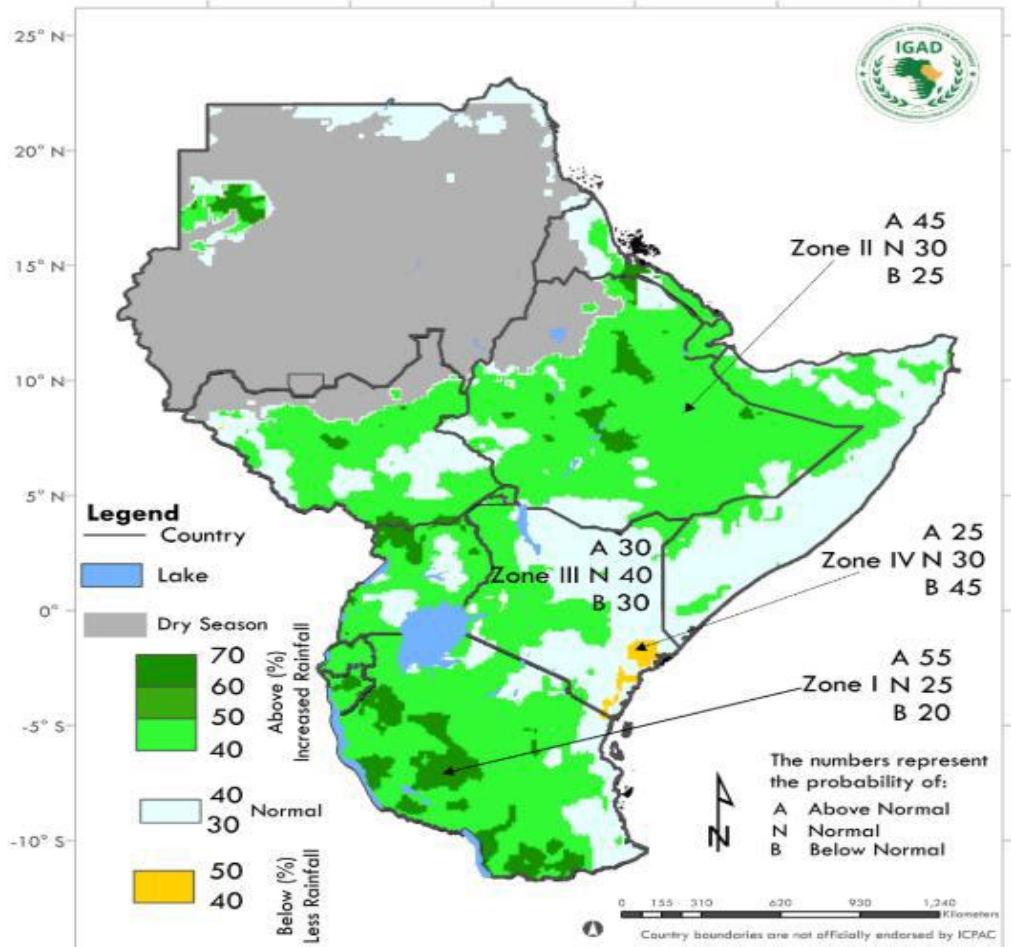
Agenda/ Issues	Discussions
1. Welcome and Introduction	<p style="text-align: center;">Opening Remarks</p> <p>The meeting was officially opened by the Deputy Chairman, Mr. Abdirahman Xandulle, who welcomed participants and provided an overview of drought response interventions implemented during the period December - January.</p> <p>Drought Response Update Water Trucking</p> <p>The Deputy Chairman informed the meeting that the Drought Committee successfully implemented water trucking interventions in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sanaag Region: 100 water trucks○ Saraar Region: 100 water trucks○ Daadmadheedh Region: 100 water trucks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sahil Region: 100 water trucks ○ Alleybadey District: 30 water trucks ○ Faro-weyne District: 30 water trucks <p>These interventions aimed to address critical water shortages affecting drought-impacted communities.</p> <p>Borehole Rehabilitation Activities</p> <p>The meeting was informed of completed borehole rehabilitation works in the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dhagax-Cade Borehole, Sahil Region ○ Dhagax-Dheer Borehole, Togdheer Region <p>These rehabilitations have improved access to sustainable water sources for the surrounding communities.</p> <p>Food Assistance by Qadar Charity</p> <p>The Deputy Chairman reported that Qadar Charity provided one-month food assistance in January to drought-affected populations, distributed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sanaag Region: 4,000 food packages ○ Saraar Region: 2,500 food packages ○ Daadmadheedh Region: 2,000 food packages ○ Bohol, Sool Region: 500 food packages <p>Way Forward</p> <p>The meeting was informed that the Drought Committee will continue its response efforts to support communities affected by drought, in collaboration with humanitarian partners and UN agencies.</p>
<p>2. Update on the humanitarian situation and drought</p>	<p><u>NADFOR update: Situation Overview – NADFOR</u></p> <p>NADFOR presented key findings from the Monthly Drought Early Warning Bulletin (Issue Date: 28 January 2026) covering Awdal, Marodijeh, Sahil, Togdheer, Sool, and Sanaag regions.</p> <p>Major Highlights</p> <p>Pasture & Browse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 71.9% Poor, 18.0% Normal, 10.1% Good ✓ Livestock body conditions deteriorating; increased migration reported <p>Water Availability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 60.2% of water points insufficient ✓ 30.6% marginal ✓ Only 9.2% adequate ✓ Rising water costs and public health risks <p>Agriculture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 75.3% of monitored agricultural areas in Poor condition ✓ Reduced planting and localized crop failure expected to result in below-average harvests <p>Markets & Terms of Trade:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staple food prices remain elevated

- ✓ Goat-to-cereal ToT (Terms of Trade) classified as Poor to Stressed, significantly constraining food access for poor households

Seasonal Forecast:

- ✓ March - May 2026 Gu rains likely normal to above normal, with potential flood risks in vulnerable locations



Cluster Updates and Discussions

WASH Cluster

- ✓ Severe water shortages reported across rural and peri-urban areas
- ✓ Increased reliance on unsafe water sources observed
- ✓ Priority needs: Emergency water trucking, borehole rehabilitation, water quality monitoring

Food Security & Livelihoods (FSL) Cluster

- ✓ Declining household purchasing power due to poor ToT
- ✓ Livestock stress increasing risk of distress sales
- ✓ Priority needs: Food assistance, emergency cash transfers, livestock feed support

Health & Nutrition Clusters

- ✓ Heightened risk of waterborne diseases due to water scarcity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reduced milk availability impacting child nutrition ✓ Priority needs: Integrated WASH–Nutrition interventions, disease surveillance <p>Protection Cluster</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increased protection risks linked to water collection distances and migration ✓ Concerns for women, children, and displaced pastoral households <p>Shelter/NFI & Education Clusters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Potential displacement due to worsening drought conditions ✓ Disruptions to education as households migrate with livestock <p>Gaps and Challenges Identified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Insufficient funding for early action and anticipatory interventions ✓ Limited coverage of emergency water supply in hard-to-reach areas ✓ Risk of delayed response despite early warning signals ✓ Need for stronger linkage between early warning and early action <p>Priority Actions (Inter-Cluster)</p> <p>Immediate (0–1 Month)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Scale up emergency water trucking in critically affected districts ✓ Initiate life-saving food and cash assistance for the most vulnerable households ✓ Enhance health and nutrition surveillance in high-risk areas <p>Short-Term (1–3 Months)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rehabilitate strategic water points and boreholes ✓ Roll out livestock feed and fodder support to protect core breeding animals ✓ Strengthen Community Early Warning Committees (CEWCs) <p>Anticipatory Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pre-position response supplies ahead of the Gu season ✓ Integrate flood risk preparedness alongside drought response ✓ Increase frequency of monitoring of water, pasture, prices, and disease indicators
<p>3. Update on Hargeisa Municipality (DHH)</p>	<p><u>DHH update: Situation Overview Hargeisa Municipality</u></p> <p>Hargeisa Municipality presented findings from a rapid assessment conducted across multiple communities within Hargeisa District and formerly administered areas. The assessment confirms a worsening drought situation, resulting in acute shortages of water, food, and animal fodder, and significant livelihood losses.</p> <p>Several communities and IDP-adjacent settlements are experiencing deteriorating living conditions, limited access to basic services, and heightened vulnerability.</p> <p>Affected Locations</p> <p>The following locations were identified as affected by the drought:</p> <p>Former Salaxley Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Galoole ✓ Sharmaake ✓ Maadhyaal <p>Former Baligubadle Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Habaaswayn

- Darafacle
- Cunaqabad

Former Farawayne Administration

- Fahda
- Xagal
- Garabis

Former Sabawanag Administration

- Maygaagta Yar
- Bali Axmed
- Laba Afle

Former Darasalaam Administration

- Ilimaha to Baliga Cas

Hargeisa City

- Baderwanaag
- Jaq Dhurwaa
- Diiqaal
- Maygaagta

Affected Population

- ✓ Estimated affected population: 3,000 - 4,000 people, including host communities and vulnerable households.

Major Impacts

- ✓ Closure of some schools; others at high risk of closure
- ✓ Increased vulnerability of households and livestock
- ✓ Reduced access to safe water and basic services
- ✓ Heightened protection risks due to resource scarcity

Priority Humanitarian Needs

- ✓ Emergency water supply (WASH)
- ✓ Food assistance and animal fodder
- ✓ School feeding support
- ✓ Essential medical services for people and livestock

Coordination and Recommendations

- ✓ Partners are requested to prioritize the above listed locations in response planning.
- ✓ All actors should share intervention coverage and gaps through NADFOR led coordination platforms.
- ✓ Immediate multi-sectoral scale-up is recommended to prevent further deterioration, particularly in WASH, Food Security, Health, and Education sectors.

<p>4. Update sectors by sub-and partners</p>	<p><u>Drought Response Activities</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">ALIGHT</p> <p>Areas of Operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hargeisa ○ Ainaba ○ Berbera ○ Saylac ○ Erigavo <p>Key Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Rehabilitation of boreholes and shallow wells ✓ Water trucking for IDPs ✓ WASH services in health facilities ✓ Hygiene promotion, sanitation, and WASH NFIs <p>Key Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hargeisa: Sayla Bari, Cadaroosh, Bali Kaliil, Wado Makahil, Fawayne, Dacarta, Salahley IDP, Bandar Wanaag ○ Ainaba: Badwayn, Higlo ○ Berbera: Lasciidle ○ Saylac: Casha Caddo, Lawya Caddo ○ Erigavo: Laso Surad <p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Multiple boreholes and shallow wells rehabilitated ✓ 2 shallow wells rehabilitated in Ainaba ✓ 2 shallow wells rehabilitated in Saylac ✓ 1 shallow well rehabilitated in Erigavo ✓ WASH support provided to health facilities and IDP sites <p>Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ongoing <p style="text-align: right;">Oxfam</p> <p>Areas of Operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Hargeisa and surrounding districts <p>Major Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Borehole rehabilitation and solarisation ✓ Pipeline extension and water kiosks ✓ Construction of new boreholes ✓ Emergency water trucking <p>Major Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bali Matan, Cadaadley, Bander Wanaag, Sabawanaag, Agabar, Darsalaam, Salahley, Farawayne <p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 3 boreholes rehabilitated ✓ 1 new borehole equipped ✓ 2 sites identified for potential drilling
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- ✓ Water trucking conducted in 4 IDP sites

Status

- ✓ Ongoing

Candlelight

Areas of Operation

- Saylac
- Duruqsi
- Balidhiig
- Baki District

Major Activities

- ✓ Shallow well and borehole rehabilitation
- ✓ Operation and maintenance (O&M) support
- ✓ Water trucking
- ✓ Berket rehabilitation and construction
- ✓ VIP latrine construction
- ✓ Market construction with solar systems
- ✓ Dam rehabilitation

Major Sites & Outputs

- Saylac:
 - ✓ 3 shallow wells rehabilitated
 - ✓ 1 borehole rehabilitated
- Duruqsi:
 - ✓ 1 berket rehabilitated
 - ✓ 1 new berket constructed
- Balidhiig:
 - ✓ VIP latrines constructed
 - ✓ 1 solar-powered market facility constructed
- Baki District:
 - ✓ 4 berkets rehabilitated
 - ✓ 85 new berkets constructed
 - ✓ 1 dam rehabilitated

Status

- Ongoing

WHH (Welt hunger hilfe)

Areas of Operation

- Awdal
- Selaal
- Saraar (Sool)
- Sanaag

Major Activities

- Borehole rehabilitation

Major Sites

- Awdal: Fiqi Adan
- Selaal: Waraboodka

- Saraar (Sool): Bali Caraale
- Sanaag: Goof

Status

- Activities under implementation / in process

Taakulo

Area of Operation

- Ainabo

Major Activity

- Borehole rehabilitation

Major Site

- Farmaraa

Status

- Planned

Ministry of Water Resources Development (MOWRD)

Area of Operation

- Sallaxlay

Major Activity

- Rehabilitation of Borehole No. 2

Funding

- Government-funded

Status

- Under process

Drought Committees

Area of Operation

- Togdheer Region

Major Activity

- ✓ Construction of water yard

Major Site

- Dhaqaxdheer

Status

- ✓ Under construction

Major Coordination Issues

- ✓ Need for strengthened information sharing on ongoing and planned borehole rehabilitation
- ✓ Risk of duplication in water trucking activities
- ✓ Funding gaps for completion of ongoing infrastructure works

Care International

- ✓ **Water Trucking:**

	<p>CARE supported 16,010 households through water trucking activities. A total of 222 water trucks were distributed across Erigavo, El Afwen, and Garadag districts, contributing to improved access to safe water for drought-affected populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cash Assistance: <p>In Erigavo and El Afwen districts, 450 households received two months of Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCT). An additional one-month cash assistance cycle is planned and pending implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Non-Food Items (NFIs): <p>CARE distributed 200 NFI kits to vulnerable households in Erigavo district, addressing urgent household needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Borehole Fuel Support: <p>To sustain water supply services, six fuel tanks were provided to support borehole operations across Togdher, Erigavo, and Sool regions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Child Foster Care Support: <p>Under Ainabo district, 25 households were supported through child foster care assistance, strengthening community-based child protection mechanisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Food Assistance (Under Registration and Processing): <p>CARE is currently registering and processing beneficiaries for food distribution targeting 2,540 households in Erigavo and El Afwen districts, planned to cover two months of assistance.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">UNHCR: Planned Interventions</p> <p>UNHCR informed the meeting of its upcoming activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Non-Food Item Distribution: <p>UNHCR is planning to distribute NFIs to 1,000 households in Hargeysa, Garadag, and Ceel Afweyn districts during February - March.</p> <p>Coordination and Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Partners were encouraged to continue information sharing through the coordination platform to avoid duplication and ensure effective coverage. ✓ Agencies were requested to align planned interventions with cluster priorities and geographical gaps. ✓ Continued collaboration with local authorities was emphasized to enhance targeting and implementation efficiency.
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A.O.B. No A.O.B. was raised, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.