

Kenya Situation Report #8

28 January 2008

General situation

- The general deterioration of security over the weekend has worsened the humanitarian situation
- The deployment of soldiers and the curfew has brought about an uneasy calm in Nakuru. Last night gun shots were heard after midnight, but the general hospital reported only 2 casualties. Nakuru town has been without major incidents today so far.
- The ethnic attacks and counter attacks are further complicating the security situation making it fluid and unpredictable.

Journey from Nakuru to Nairobi

Part of the Nakuru Team arrived safely in Nairobi this morning. The team was accompanied by the DSA of UNDSS.

On the way, from Nakuru, there was about three hundred metres long road block with bullocks in Gilgil. The Kenyan military condoned the area and cleared the road for the team and other road users to proceed.

In Naivasha, the situation was very tense and chaotic. There was visible apprehension on the faces of many. There was present military army but very little control including frequent gunshots. About 1500 internally displaced persons seek refuge at the police station. There was no sign of any support for basic social services. The humanitarian situation at the site cannot be sustained for more than a few hours there.

Humanitarian Situation:

- The humanitarian situation has worsened as a result of the clashes in Nakuru town. A new camp has just been set up at Afraha stadium. A visit to the camp this morning showed that over 6000 displaced persons, most of them women and children, have been registered. The rotary club of Nakuru is setting up 200 tents and 12 tanks of 500 litres each. Major concerns were disorganization, lack of health services, shortage of food, lack of toilets, lack of fuel, lack of school for children and mosquito bites. The district and provincial health offices were contacted and are organizing provision of health services. An interagency meeting is also planned for this afternoon.
- Hundreds of persons on transit with their vehicles are also stranded at Nakuru police station. Many of them require safe passage to the centre or to the west depending on ethnicity.
- There are 64 other recorded camps in the province with a total population of about 81 180.
- There are other camps and areas for which there is no information due to lack of access from security concerns

Public health situation:

- More health workers were displaced over the weekend resulting in the closure of more health facilities. The Molo district hospital is under the threat of closure as more staffs were to be evacuated this morning.
- The threat of outbreaks and nutritional emergencies is still real as a result of poor sanitation and lack of food.
- Public health surveillance is not optimal as reporting is affected by health workers displacement.
- Mobile health services are being threatened due to security concerns
- The casualty department and mortuary of the regional hospital are able to cope so far. Today, there were 98 casualties on admission with wounds. The lowest staff reporting

was recorded on Friday 25th January 2008, where only 10% of the nursing staff reported for duty. The largest number of corpses (12) was brought on Friday for the 24 space capacity mortuary.

Coordination:

- Continued coordination of health partners by the Ministry of Health in the province is also being threatened

Immediate actions required:

- Immediate implementation of the draft WHO 3 months plan of action which aims to achieve the following:
 - Strengthened coordination among partners
 - Improved information management and sharing
 - Primary health care provided to displaced populations
 - Strengthened disease, nutrition, mortality and water quality surveillance
 - Strengthened secondary care and referral services

Three WHO sub offices established in Nakuru, Eldoret and Kisumu

For further information

<http://www.afro.who.int/>

<http://www.who.int/hac/>