

**INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP**  
**20 June 1997**

**Item 2. Sudan**

Paper prepared by UNICEF

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**1. ACCESS**

GoS continuing denial of light clearance of C-130 to do food drops in northern Bahr al Ghazel. This happens every year. Many other problems of access caused by the Government even access by KRT based UN planes or movement of barges, etc. also as per % June, fro the second time in as many months, OLS is under flight suspension until June clearance are obtained, whereas before OLS has always flown on previous month's clearances. This could mean the rules of the game are being changed. At the same time, malnutrition rates being very high in e.g. Malakal (24% W/F/H), Wau (20%), Southern Kordofan ( over 25 %) and Juba (15 %). Warnings for looming starvation in Rumbek, El Buheytrat.

*Ideally some of these problems have been resolved by the time the IASC-WG meets, and some of the issues will typically be raised by the new Special Envoy, but there needs to be a discussion on how this critical issue of access can be dealt with on a more systematic basis.*

**2. FUNDING**

OLS Southern Sector continued funding crisis, particularly with regard to financing Lokichokio. OLS North, especially UNICEF, has also major funding problems (as per 29 May only 11 % of estimated requirements were received) and urgently needing immediate support to prevent humanitarian disaster. Prioritized list of needs already been prepared. IAC meeting of 27 June will make donors aware of seriousness of situation. Donor capital visits scheduled.

*How to ensure sending out similar message of the urgency from all ends, e.g. joint press release. Discuss how to approach donors on whether they indeed want OLS to continue and why they did insist upon a review and the implementation of its recommendation if, at the same time, they never had any intention of funding OLS.*

**3. SPREADING OF CONFLICT**

There is growing regionalisation of the conflict, with fighting now across borders of Ethiopia and Eritrea in addition to Uganda and likelihood of some major political and military changes in the not too distant future.

*What are the immediate and longer term implications for programming*