

SOMALIA AID COORDINATION BODY STANDING COMMITTEE

Nairobi, Kenya

16 June 1994

Regional Profile: Middle Shabelle

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE FOR SOMALIA SACB(SC) 8.ii

Education

35. The provision of education in the region is mixed, with most districts having at least one primary school and all having Koranic schools. In Jowhar, although there are a number of schools run by local women's organizations, the two main schools are not functioning. The two schools, on either side of the Shabelle river, were completely rehabilitated by WFP/ MSF-Spain and local NGOs but lack furniture and equipment. The reason given by the District Council for the schools not operating is that although there are qualified teachers in the district, there are no resources available to pay salaries. The District Council appeared to be waiting for outside assistance to pay salaries before restarting the schools .

36. The school in Aden-Yabal appears to be functioning well. There are 211 elementary and 212 intermediate students registered at the school. The pre-war school building is intact although only two classrooms have so far been rehabilitated. Equipment has been provided by parents and the business community and teachers work on a voluntary basis. The pre-war curriculum is used as the basis for teaching. The school also caters to some 60 adults who attend adult education classes in the evenings; learning basic literacy and numeracy.

37. Adale district is comparatively well served, with three private schools and one public elementary school. The public school has 500 students and 25 teachers who teach a general curriculum using the pre-war materials. The school was re-started in March 1993 at the initiative of community elders with assistance from ADRA and a local NGO. The primary school in Balad is reportedly functioning well, although the students were on vacation at the time of the mission. Neither Run-Nirgod nor Washeikh has a functioning primary school at present, although both are well served by Koranic schools. Mahaddey has an "orphanage school", supported by the community and MSF- Spain. The school teaches a general curriculum and has 504 pupils and 24 volunteer teachers. It also provides adult education for 40 adults.

SOURCE: UNDOS. DATE: JUNE 1994.