Prices: Prices of food and non-food items exhibited mixed trends in most states compared to a week ago. Exceptions are Galgaduud, Jubaland and Mogadishu, where prices of most food and non-food items remained relatively stable.

Compared to previous week, prices of local cereals (white maize and red sorghum) mostly remained relatively stable or changed at mild rates (1-4%). Specifically, slight increase (1%) in red sorghum and white maize was recorded in Puntland and Hirshabelle (for white maize) attributable to slight decline in supply. Similarly, prices of imported food commodities (rice, wheat flour, pasta and sugar) exhibited mild increases (1-4%) in Hirshabelle, Puntland and Mogadishu (for wheat flour and sugar) due to decrease in supply. On contrary, white maize, rice, wheat flour and sugar prices declined (1-4%) in Southwest due to increased supply due to increased goods movement after normalcy returned in Bay and Bakool routes.

Across the country, milk price remained relatively stable except a percent decline in Hirshabelle and slight increase (1%) in Somaliland and Southwest due to slight seasonal decrease in milk availability. Compared to a week ago, diesel prices slightly decreased by 1% in Southwest and Hirshabelle due to increased supply as a result of arrival of new stocks in the market and improved transportation of commodities due to opening of the roads to Bay and Bakool markets. Daily labour wage rates mildly declined (1-3%) in Hirshabelle and Southwest due to slight seasonal decline in agricultural activities.

Availability: Countrywide markets saw sufficient stocks. The exceptions were Jariban, Xudun and Qansahdhere towns, which encountered some insufficient inventories in basic commodities like rice and wheat flour. Part of the ongoing availability issues linked to insecurity and seasonal monsoon, which continued to impact communities living in these districts.

Assortment: Assortment remained strong in almost all markets, with the exception of some markets in Southwest and Puntland that saw diminished variety on shelves due to new taxes on goods and the transporters who carry them.

Quality: There was no significant quality issues reported during this week.

Resilience: Shops continued to experience a dependable flow of products through distribution networks, with lead-times over the network stable week-over-week.

Logistics: Over major and minor corridors, movement was consistent. Every port is at least partially accessible. The awaited reopening of the border with Kenya and Ethiopia remains postponed. Most roads were passable, however, roads through Laas Caanood continued to experience restricted flow resulting from the social conflict. There is armed conflict going on in the suburbs of Baidoa town affecting commercial movements to other districts in Bay and Bakol regions.

IMPLICATIONS ON FOOD SECURITY

♦ Market dependent households in Hirshabelle and Puntland must have experienced economic food access difficulties owing to the recorded increases of local cereals and imported food commodities.

♦ In Southwest, market dependent households have experienced some improved economic access to food following the reduced prices recorded after the roads were opened. However, the situation is still volatile due to armed conflict in the region.