

Cabo Delgado Famine Reaches 'Critical' Stage

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[Text] Maputo, 22 June (AIM/PANA) — Famine in Mozambique's northern province of Cabo Delgado has reached a critical stage, the daily NOTICIAS, quoting the World Food Programme [WFP], said on Wednesday. NOTICIAS said the WFP assessment had been made after its team had visited the area at the request of the provincial authorities. It said the famine had been caused largely by a prolonged drought and locust invasions that had devastated the meagre harvests in 1987 and 1988.

Peasants in the area said they had been forced to eat part of the crop reserved for seed for the next farming season to avoid starvation. Shortages of both grain and seed grain will thus be heavy, the paper reporter.