

UNITED NATIONS



OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

**Cyclone Nargis
OCHA Situation Report No. 25
30 May 2008**

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Permission for procurement of another 10,000 tons of rice was granted from Ministry of Commerce on May 29.** This is in addition to the previously permitted 10,000 tons of which 1,200 tons have been delivered to the delta. Furthermore, permission for procurement of 3,000 tons pulses (chick peas) was granted from Ministry of Commerce on May 29 (in addition to 1,000 tons being delivered at the moment).
- **As of 28 May, the Red Cross has reached over 153,000 beneficiaries,** out which roughly 32,000 are located in Yangon Division, almost 120,000 in Ayeyarwady Division, and over 1,500 in Mon State.
- MOH informed the Health Cluster that access to field for expatriate staff follows the normal procedure in place before the cyclone, namely application to MOFA and MOH. This system has been speeded up so that a response will be given to each application within days.
- **The WASH, Food, Health and PCW clusters have identified cluster focal points at Sub-Office level.**

This situation report is based on information received by the clusters, whose partners include UN Agencies, national and international NGOs, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and IOM.

NATIONAL RESPONSE

Myanmar Red Cross Society

As of 28 May, the Red Cross has reached over 153,000 beneficiaries, out which roughly 32,000 are located in Yangon Division, almost 120,000 in Ayeyarwady Division, and over 1,500 in Mon State.

STRATEGIC PLANNING, COORDINATION

The Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. Dan Baker, met with the Minister of Social Welfare, relief and Resettlement to discuss questions of access. The planned joint assessment was also raised.

Flash Appeal /Other Appeals

For updated information on financial contributions, please refer to the OCHA Financial Tracking System website: <http://reliefweb.int/fts/>. Donors are encouraged to verify contributions and inform OCHA

Financial Tracking System (FTS) of corrections/additions/values to this table. The direct email address is: fts@reliefweb.int.

As of 30 May 2008, a total of USD 144,657,161 has been committed to relief operations in Myanmar, with a further USD 109,160,730 pledged. Out of these total contributions, \$ 81.4 million has been committed to projects and activities outlined in the UN Flash Appeal. An additional \$ 48.9 million has been pledged. The UN Flash Appeal for Myanmar currently requests \$201 million and is covered at 40.4%. More than 20 UN Agencies and NGOs have requested funding through the Appeal. USD 22.4 million were received from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

IFRC

The revised Emergency Appeal launched by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 16 May 2008 to assist 100,000 families for three years is now about 65% covered.

RESPONSE PER SECTOR

For more detailed Situation Reports for each cluster please check the HIC website: <http://myanmar.humanitarianinfo.org/>

FOOD

Overall Achievements:

- Permission for procurement of another 10,000 tons of rice was granted from Ministry of Commerce on May 29. This is in addition to the previously permitted 10,000 tons of which 1,200 tons have been delivered to the delta. Furthermore, permission for procurement of 3,000 tons pulses (chick peas) was granted from Ministry of Commerce on May 29 (in addition to 1,000 tons being delivered at the moment).
- Field Level Agreement with WFP partners for food distribution with caseload and geographical coverage has been finalized and now in the signing stage.
- To date WFP and partners distributed approximately 3,000 tons of food to the cyclone affected areas

Challenges:

- No response was received regarding requested rice import permit.
- WFP expects pipeline break in the end of July if the import permit is not granted.

Gaps and Future Planning:

- 1,600 tonnes of vegetable oil from the US in-kind contribution will be imported beginning next week.
- Total caseload and tonnage for the 6 month operation are as follows: Total caseload: 663,000. Total Tonnage: 62,242 (with complete food basket of rice, pulses, oil, salt).
- Distribution with four partners is planned to start by June 1 Monday for a total of 220,000 beneficiaries.
- WFP will continue to coordinate food cluster activities in Bogale and Labutta where its sub-offices are on the ground. Key partners have been asked to nominate food cluster coordinators in the other locations by the next cluster meeting.

HEALTH

Overall Achievements:

- The Health Cluster meeting was well attended and 3 senior MOH officials participated in the meeting, Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein, Deputy Director General (Disease Control), Dr Saw Lwin, Director Disease Control, Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Director Epidemiology from Ministry of Health.

- MOH informed that there are 9 international medical teams from the Asia region currently operating in the affected areas and that disease surveillance is working. Current disease reports are within normal limits and there are no outbreaks.
- MOH is working closely with WHO and UNICEF to strengthen the surveillance system and response. TMOs are working to ensure effective delivery of maternal and child health services.
- International medical teams have been deployed as follows: China-Kungyangon; Laos –Kyauktan; Thailand – Mawlamyinegyun; Bangladesh – Wakema; India – Bogale and Pyapon; Singapore-Twantay; Phillipines- Pathein; Japan- Labutta.

Gaps and Future Planning:

- MOH informed that access to field for expatriate staff follows the normal procedure in place before the cyclone, namely application to MOFA and MOH. This system has been speeded up so that a response will be given to each application within days. NGOs with MOUs are granted permission to work in the affected areas. All NGOs should share information with MOH on where they are working, their activities and available supplies.
- The government is currently developing the health response plan.
- The first priority in the affected areas is to restore the normal functioning of the health system and ensure services in every area. Before full reconstruction can take place, this will involve tents to provide temporary clinics and shelter for health staff.
- There is a need to mobilize additional manpower and local organizations such as the Myanmar Nurses and Midwives Association have been contacted to see how additional health workers can be assigned to affected areas. At township level partners are encouraged to coordinate with TMOs so that there is effective coverage and duplication is avoided.
- The Health Cluster has developed several working groups that focus on specific issues including Disease surveillance, Early Recovery systems, HIV and AIDS/Reproductive health, psychosocial support and mental health, Tuberculosis and Health Cluster Joint plan of Action.
- Efforts in place to ensure that there be a health focal point in each sub-national hub so that information could be fed back to the Cluster meeting. UNICEF has focal persons in Labutta and Bogale, but could also ensure focal points in other townships. NGOs were also invited to nominate focal points.

WASH

Overall Achievements:

- The final draft version of the household water treatment guidelines has been revised by adding information for rain water storage, water purification and a summary table on household water treatment options that Samaritan's Purse adapted from a WHO document. The document will be finalized during the next meeting.

Challenges:

- Approximately 10 water purification units are available now but only 3 or 4 units are functioning at the moment. MSF-H has been operating 2 water purification units in Labutta Township.

Gaps and Future Planning:

- Cluster Focal Points have been identified for three sub-operational centres in Labutta, Bogale and Pyapon, as follows: Merlin (Labutta), GAA (Bogale), CDA (Pyapon) and SC in Mawlamyinegyun. A focal point is being identified for Pathein.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Needs Assessment and Analysis:

- Teams from PCW agencies are currently in the field carrying out assessments.

Overall Achievements:

- *Registration of Separated & Unaccompanied Children:* Teams in the Ayeyarwady are currently registering separated and unaccompanied children, and collecting data so that family tracing can begin.
- *Safe Environments:* In Ayeyarwady Division a total of 22 child-friendly spaces (CFS) have been set up, and in Yangon Division a total of 49 child-friendly spaces are functioning. Information is being disseminated at the CFS about basic health and hygiene issues, and the prevention of sexual abuse, exploitation and human trafficking.
- *Community Watch Groups* involving community members, leaders, women and youth are being established so as to raise awareness on the prevention of sexual abuse, exploitation and human trafficking. The MRCS continues to transmit messages on the prevention of violence, sexual abuse and the exploitation of children and women.
- *Child Protection Systems & Social Protection:* Cluster members are discussing reporting, referral and response mechanisms.

Challenges:

- Child Protection agencies continue to advocate for family-based care within the community in preference to residential care

Gaps and Future Planning:

- UNICEF, Save the Children, World Vision and other partners met with the Department of Social Welfare Friday 30 May to brief the Director General on child protection interventions and to prepare for the next PCW Cluster meeting.
- PCW Cluster members have identified agencies able to assume PCW Cluster Focal point responsibilities at the sub-operational centres, the details of contact staff are being finalised: Laputta (UNICEF); Bogale & Piyapon (World Vision); Pathein & Mawlamyinegyun (Save the Children).

LOGISTICS

Overall Achievements:

- Trucks left yesterday for Pyapon, Mawlamyinegyun and Bogale.
- 6 flights arrived yesterday in Yangon, for UNICEF, WFP, Care and Merlin.
- 2 boats left today for Pyapon/Bogale and for Setsan, carrying medical and other relief supplies.
- One additional boat of 350mt capacity has been leased by the Cluster for inter-agency use.
- During the period of 20 to 29 May, the Cluster dispatched a total of 1'218mt of relief supplies and support equipment.

EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Overall Achievements:

- WFP and UNICEF continue to provide technical support to the humanitarian community in Yangon, Laputta, Bogale and Bangkok.
- CDMA handphones have been received and issued for the Labutta Sub-Office.

TEMPORARY SETTLEMENTS WORKING GROUP

Overall Achievements:

- The Temporary Settlements Working Group has now finalised its terms of reference. The work of the working group focuses at the moment on devising guidelines and drawing up assessment forms.

Gaps and Future Planning:

- Focal Points are being identified in all townships by the working group.

OTHER

Security: The UN is still in Security Phase 1, and no change to this is foreseen.

According to the food cluster, the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) informed that it will commence distribution of food to cattle and wild animals in the delta under collaboration with FAO as a part of Early Recovery assistance. They will, however, not be part of the food cluster activities.

MAPS

For additional maps on cyclone Nargis and Myanmar:
<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.nsf/doc404?OpenForm&emid=TC-2008-000057-MMR>

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