

OPERATIONS UPDATE



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA: MEASLES EPIDEMIC

Appeal No. MAA54001
21 March 2007

The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 185 countries.

In Brief

(This project is an integral part of the East Asia Appeal 2006-2007)

Operations Update no. 1 Period covered: 18 February to 20 March 2007; Appeal target: CHF 557,586 (USD 457,404 or EUR 346,112); Appeal coverage: 34.4% * ; Outstanding needs: CHF 365,252 *

*(*Figures based on the contributions list. For contributions yet to be published, please see Table 1 below.)*

Operational summary: A measles outbreak in November 2006 affected 3,600 people and caused the deaths of four people in the DPRK. The DPRK Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) confirmed the measles outbreak at a joint meeting attended by UNICEF, WHO, the DPRK and Federation representatives on 16 February. Further meetings resulted in a two phase measles immunization joint plan of action with UNICEF as the lead agency.

DPRK Red Cross volunteers have played an important role in community mobilization during the first phase of the nationwide measles immunization campaign to vaccinate six million children between six months to 15 years old. The DPRK Red Cross Society and the Federation are contributing 10.2 million doses of Vitamin A (Retinol, 200,000 i.u) in the second phase. The Federation is also contributing 262,000 doses of ampicillin to health facilities in four provinces for the treatment of measles-related complications.



A mother comforts her daughter receiving an injection during the measles immunization campaign.

Overview

Acute respiratory infections are high during the harsh winter months in the DPRK. To protect themselves from the severe cold, people tend to remain indoors or close together increasing the spread of viral and other respiratory infections. Since November 2006, 3,597 people in 35 of the country's 205 counties (all ten provinces of DPRK) were diagnosed with measles which led to the deaths of two children and two adults. A further 1,482 people have been hospitalized as a result of the outbreak.

Patients with the measles often suffer from skin rashes, high fever and flu-like symptoms. Local health facilities throughout the country provided treatment to patients with these symptoms. The DPRK Ministry of Public Health

(MoPH) confirmed the measles outbreak at a joint meeting attended by UNICEF, WHO, the DPRK and Federation representatives on 16 February.

A joint plan of action resulted in a two-phased nationwide measles vaccination campaign for March to April. The first phase took place in March 14-16 and was carried out by the MoPH and UNICEF. Six million children between six months -15 years old were immunized. The DPRK Red Cross volunteers were part of the vaccination teams as tally sheet recorders. The MoPH invited a team from the national society to monitor and coordinate the immunization campaign in one of the counties in South Pyongan province.

The second phase is scheduled for mid-April and the national society and the Federation is providing vitamin A and ampicillin injections. These were flown into the country to ensure pre-positioning of supplies well before the scheduled campaign.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The re-emergence of measles, a highly contagious but completely preventable infection, in the country is linked to the high risk of disease outbreaks especially among children and other vulnerable groups still recovering from prolonged malnutrition during the winter months. UNICEF is leading the immunization response in coordination with the MoPH. On the joint action plan, developed by UNICEF, MoPH, the national society and the Federation, all people between six months to 45 years of age will be immunized and administered with vitamin A.

The DPRK Red Cross and the Federation have in place a system for the supply of drugs and medical materials to 2,000 health institutions in more than 60 out of 160 (accessible) counties in DPRK as part of the national society's annual activities. This will complement the MoPH during this nationwide campaign. The national society has also mobilized its volunteers to support MoPH in community mobilization and as vaccination team members. All primary- and secondary-level health facilities are being supplied with ampicillin injections to treat secondary bacterial infections and other complications as a result of measles.



Older children being immunized during the first phase of the campaign which targeted children between the ages of six months to 15 years old.

Overall Goal: Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.

Programme Objective: Contribute to reducing and containing the measles outbreak.

Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)

The first phase of the nationwide measles campaign began on 14 March and successfully ended two days later. DPRK Red Cross volunteers cooperated with the MoPH's anti-epidemic centre (AEC) vaccination teams at county and *ri* level. The volunteers persuaded parents and children to be immunized at the vaccination centres by visiting houses in villages and small towns and explaining the reason for the vaccination and its benefits. Red Cross volunteers were also part of the vaccination teams and were involved in the recording of children, their ages and other particulars on standard tally sheets. MoPH invited the national society to coordinate and monitor the vaccination in Sukchan County in South Pyongan on 15 March.

Some 15,000 DPRK Red Cross volunteers participated alongside AEC and MoPH workers in 200 counties to ensure every child between 6 months to 15 years was vaccinated against measles. The national society is gearing up all its resources to repeat this success in the second phase of the campaign targeting 10.2 million people. Plans have been made to increase the number of volunteers for community mobilization during the second phase.

The procurement of vitamin A and ampicillin injections have completed and the consignment will arrive in Pyongyang during this week. It is expected that all supplies will be pre-positioned well before the start of second phase due to begin in mid-April.

As the leading agency, UNICEF is responsible for the procurement and supply of measles vaccines for both phases of the immunization campaign. The just concluded first phase was fully funded by UNICEF. Procurement for the second phase is underway, but during the recent inter-agency meeting, it was reported that currently, there is insufficient available vaccine in the world to meet this enormous need. As a result of this shortage, the suggestion now is to split the second phase into two rounds, covering 5-6 million people in first round and the balance of 4-5 million people in the second round. The first round of the second phase will be carried out as planned on 15 April while the date for the second round will be decided after the availability of vaccines has been ensured. UNICEF is mobilizing its measles vaccine stock from Pakistan as well to meet the needs in the DPRK.

Coordination

The implementation of the vaccination campaign is in the hands of the MoPH. UNICEF is lead agency in the coordination of the international support. UNICEF is responsible for the requisition and procurement of the vaccines. WHO has pledged expertise and financial support. Regular meetings with all stakeholders take place to ensure proper planning between all concerned. The Federation launched the request for assistance under its appeal and received pledges from the Red Cross Societies of Australia, China, Denmark, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

Table 1 showing confirmed pledges for the measles request for assistance.

Donors	Currency	Amount	CHF
Budget			557,486
Japanese Red Cross	CHF	27,800	27,938
Swedish Red Cross	SEK	500 000	87,250
Australian Red Cross	AUD	20,000	19,230
Chinese Red Cross	USD	30,000	36,600
Danish Red Cross	DKK	95,000	19,981
Hong Kong Red Cross	HKD	7,800	1,235
			192,234
<i>Confirmed contributions yet to be published in the contributions list</i>			
Norwegian Red Cross	NOK	1,000,000	199,000*
Netherlands Red Cross	EUR	40,000	64,666*
German Red Cross	EUR	30,000	48,600*
Total			504,500
Estimated coverage			90.4%
* Estimate in CHF (not included in the contributions list dated 16.3.07).			

[Contributions list below; click here to return to the title page.](#)

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out **four broad goals** to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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APPEAL No. MAA54001

PLEDGES RECEIVED

16/03/2007

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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CASH

REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				32,466,792	TOTAL COVERAGE 48.8%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				3,224,812		
AMERICAN - RC		183,966	USD	238,972	01.04.06	DPRK - WATSAN + GENERAL SUPPORT
AUSTRALIAN - RC		25,000	AUD	24,050	18.01.06	HEALTH & HIV DELEGATE
AUSTRALIAN - GOVT/RC		482,500	AUD	443,900	18.07.06	KOREA DPR - DM & WATSAN
AUSTRALIAN - RC		20,000	AUD	19,230	09.03.07	DPRK MEASLES EPIDEMIC
BRITISH - RC		80,000	GBP	180,720	15.12.05	REGIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT DELEGATE 2 YEARS
BRITISH - RC		5,000	GBP	11,355	06.05.06	REGIONAL HEALTH COMPONENT
BRITISH - RC		6,000	GBP	13,626	06.05.06	DISASTER MANAGEMENT
BRITISH - GOVT		2,000	GBP	4,710	13.11.06	EMERGENCY STOCK REPLENISHMENT
CANADIAN - GOVT/CIDA/HAPS		99,000	CAD	110,880	18.09.06	SPECIAL FOCUS ON DPRK
CARITAS		70,000	USD	85,974	12.09.06	DP STOCK REPLACEMENT
CHINA - RC		30,000	USD	36,600	12.03.07	DPRK MEASLES EPIDEMIC
CHINA - HONG KONG - RC BRANCH		7,800	HKD	1,235	15.03.07	DPRK MEASLES EPIDEMIC
DANISH - GOVT				795,945	28.06.06	DPR KOREA, HEALTH, CBFA, WATSAN, DISASTER MANAGEMENT
DANISH - RC/ECHO (01002)		460,488	EUR	724,348	28.08.06	DPR KOREA, HEALTH KITS DISTRIBUTION
DANISH - GOVT				19,981	13.03.07	DPRK MEASLES EPIDEMIC
FINNISH - RC				57,754	13.10.06	REGIONAL INFORMATION DELEGATE
FINNISH - RC				123,700	13.10.06	REGIONAL FINANCE DELEGATE
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		16,101	EUR	25,601	23.10.06	MONGOLIA, HEALTH REVIEW
GERMAN - RC		5,348	EUR	8,396	19.07.06	TRANSPORT COSTS #/INTENSIVE CARE KITS
GERMAN - RC		1,268	EUR	2,017	20.12.06	HEALTH PROGRAMME
JAPANESE - RC		8,000,000	JPY	84,800	13.10.06	DPR KOREA HEALTH & CARE
JAPANESE - RC		8,000,000	JPY	84,800	13.10.06	DPR KOREA DISASTER MANAGEMENT, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
JAPANESE - RC		5,000,000	JPY	53,000	13.10.06	DISASTER MANAGEMENT
JAPANESE - RC		22,900	USD	27,938	13.03.07	DPRK MEASLES EPIDEMIC
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		40,642	EUR	63,605	16.03.06	LOCAL STAFF

EAST ASIA

ANNEX 1

APPEAL No. MAA54001

PLEDGES RECEIVED

16/03/2007

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
NETHERLANDS - GOVT		500,000	EUR	787,775	07.09.06	WATER & SANITATION PROGRAMME
NEW ZEALAND - RC		60,000	NZD	51,600	02.02.07	ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
NORWEGIAN - RC		32,086	EUR	50,664	26.04.06	DPR KOREA WORKSHOP FOR VEHICLES
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		800,000	NOK	162,400	15.05.06	HEALTH, DISASTER MANAGEMENT , MONITORING/REPORTING, INTERNT. REPRESENTATION
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		6,500,000	NOK	1,295,450	12.06.06	DPRK: HEALTH, WATSAN, ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT , COAL
SINGAPORE - RC		43,300	SGD	33,557	29.06.06	DPRK: NON-FOOD EMERGENCY ITEMS
SPANISH - RC		72,000	EUR	116,640	02.02.07	3 BILATERAL PROJECTS
SWEDISH - GOVT		250,000	SEK	42,062	03.02.06	REGIONAL HEALTH DELEGATE
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		1,750,000	SEK	293,720	21.03.06	WATER & SANITATION
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		350,000	SEK	59,885	29.09.06	REGIONAL HEALTH
SWEDISH - GOVT		500,000	SEK	87,250	06.03.07	DPRK MEASLES EPIDEMIC
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				9,448,952	CHF	29.1%

KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
AUSTRALIA	DELEGATES			6,200		
DANISH - RC/ECHO (01002)		2,121,195	EUR	3,336,640	28.08.06	DPR KOREA, BASIC HEALTH KITS
FINNISH - RC		470,606	EUR	756,500	02.08.06	WATER PURIFICATION UNIT, 15000 BLANKETS, 6000 JERRYCANS, 60000 DELTAMETHRIN, 20000 NETS, 4000 TARPULINS,650 FIRST AID KITS DELEGATE, 20 CHOLERA KITS, 3000 FIRST AID KITS, TRANSPORT
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATES			69,600		
GERMANY		560,551	EUR	880,065	19.07.06	8000 INTENSIVE CARE KITS
FINLAND	DELEGATES			75,800		
NORWAY	DELEGATES			11,200		
SWEDEN	DELEGATES			82,400		
NETHERLANDS	DELEGATES			127,600		
NORWEGIAN GOVT/RC		5,453,634	NOK	1,037,281	20.11.06	2000 HOUSE HOLD DOCTOR KITS, 60 ORTHOPAEDIC KITS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				6,383,286	CHF	19.7%

ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT

EAST ASIA

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PLEDGES RECEIVED

16/03/2007

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	