

**No. 2**

**6 February 1996**

**CHINA : EARTHQUAKE IN YUNNAN PROVINCE**

The Federation Secretariat has been discussing today with the Red Cross Society of China (RCSC) the possibility of sending a planeload of relief goods to China for victims of the Yunnan earthquake. The relief goods -- blankets, plastic sheeting, tents and jerrycans -- would be drawn from emergency stocks held by the Secretariat in Switzerland and supplies elsewhere in Europe. The initial response of the RCSC to the offer was positive, but it must first obtain clearance for the arrival of the goods and information on whether the plane can land at Kunming, close to the earthquake area, or must use Beijing airport. It expects to have clarification on both matters on Wednesday morning (Geneva Time).

Meanwhile, Dr. Sun Baiqiu, Vice President RCSC, and a delegation of senior Headquarters staff are expected to arrive in the affected area tomorrow.

The RCSC hopes to be able to send the Secretariat a written progress report on the situation and relief efforts in the earthquake area some time tomorrow. We will share this news with you and also keep you informed about the proposed relief airlift.

Jerry Talbot  
Director,  
Asia & Pacific Department