This bulletin is being issued for information only. Hurricane Bertha, currently a Category one hurricane, is located approximately 485 miles south east of Bermuda. The Bermuda Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross is closely monitoring the storm for potential impact.

The Bermuda Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross, in consultation with the British Red Cross and the International Federation, has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

<click here for detailed contact information>

The Situation
Hurricane Bertha, the first hurricane of the Atlantic 2008 season, is currently located about 485 miles (785 km) south east of Bermuda. Bertha is a category one hurricane; however, according to the National Hurricane Centre, Bertha could re-intensify within the next 24 hours. At this point, maximum sustained winds are near 90 MPH (150 km/hr).

Large swells and high surf have started to affect Bermuda, and are expected to continue within the next few days but it is still too early to determine if Bertha will cause damages and loss in Bermuda. Forecasters recommend close monitoring of the storm during the next several days.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action
The Bermuda Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross is on alert and continues to monitor the project path of Hurricane Bertha. It is in contact with the British Red Cross overseas branch desk officer, the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU), and is also in constant contact with the Bermuda Office of Emergency Management.

The Bermuda Overseas Branch of the British Red Cross will post changes regarding this developing situation on DMIS as the situation warrants. These reports will be available upon request.
In addition, the British Red Cross overseas branch desk officer and the International Federation through its Pan American Disaster Risk Reduction Unit are on standby.

**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 International Federation’s activities are aligned with its 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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- In London: Clive Evans, Operations Director-Overseas Branches; email: CEvans@redcross.org.uk; phone: (0207) 877 7207.
- In Panama: Jono Anzalone, Disaster Management Delegate, Pan American Disaster Response Unit; email: jono.anzalone@ifrc.org; phone (507) 316 1001; fax: (507) 316 1082.
- In Trinidad and Tobago: Tanya Wood, Caribbean Regional Representative; email: Tanya.wood@ifrc.org; phone: (868) 624 1557; fax: (868) 627 9627.
- In Panama: Maria Alcazar, Resource Mobilization Coordinator, Americas; email: maria.alcazar@ifrc.org; phone: (507) 380 0254; fax: (507) 317 1304.
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