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## Information Bulletin

### Caribbean: Tropical Storm Bret and Tropical Storm Cindy



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

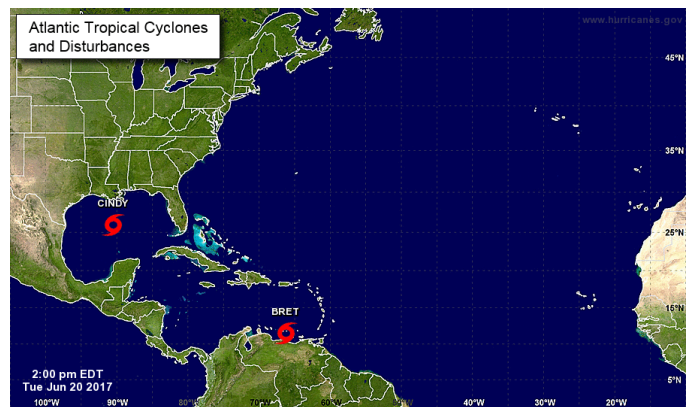
<b>Information Bulletin N° 2</b>	<b>Date of issue:</b> 20 June 2017
<b>Date of disaster:</b> 19 June 2017	<b>Point of contact:</b> Felipe Del Cid, Disaster and Crisis Department Operations Coordinator, email: <a href="mailto:Felipe.delcid@ifrc.org">Felipe.delcid@ifrc.org</a>
<b>N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation:</b> The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the French Red Cross-PIRAC (Regional Intervention Platform for the Americas and the Caribbean)	
<b>N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation:</b> Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)	

**This bulletin is being issued for information only; it reflects the current situation and details available at this time.**

## The Situation

### Tropical Storm Bret

According to the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Centre (NHC), Tropical Storm Bret's centre was estimated to be near latitude 11.6 North, longitude 66.2 West at 200 PM Atlantic Standard Time (AST) (1800 Coordinated Universal Time [UTC]); Bret has increased its forward speed, and it is now moving west and west-north-west at around 23 mph (37 km/h). This general motion is expected to continue through tomorrow, 21 June 2017. On the forecast track, Bret or its remnants will continue to move across the south-eastern Caribbean Sea for the next couple of days. Satellite images indicate that



**Locations of Tropical Storm Bret and Cindy as of 2 pm AST, 20 June 2017. Source: NOAA**

Bret is becoming disorganized while losing its closed circulation, and its maximum sustained winds are approximately 40 mph (65 km/h) with higher gusts; these winds are occurring well to the north-east and north of the storm's centre. Additional weakening should continue today, and Bret could degenerate into a tropical wave later by today or tomorrow. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 125 miles (205 km) to the north of the storm's centre, and the estimated minimum central pressure is 1009 mb (29.80 inches).

### Watches and Warnings

Changes with this information bulletin:

The government of Venezuela has discontinued the Tropical Storm Warning for Isla Margarita.

Summary of watches and warnings in effect:

A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect for:

- \* Bonaire
- \* Curacao
- \* Aruba

### **Tropical Storm Cindy**

According to the NHC, satellite imagery, aircraft data and surface observations indicate that the low-pressure system in the central Gulf of Mexico has acquired a well-defined centre, and it is third tropical storm of 2017.

At 100 PM Central Daylight Time (CDT) (1800 UTC), Tropical Storm Cindy's centre was centred near latitude 25.9 North, longitude 90.5 West. Cindy has been stationary for the past few hours, but the system is expected to resume a motion toward the north-west at around 10 mph (17 km/h) later today; this motion is expected to continue through tomorrow night. Furthermore, a turn toward the north-north-west is forecast early Thursday, 22 June 2017. On the forecast track, Cindy is expected to approach the coast of south-west Louisiana late tomorrow and move inland over western Louisiana and eastern Texas on Thursday. Maximum sustained winds are around 45 mph (75 km/h), with higher gusts. Little change in strength is forecast before the system reaches the coast on Thursday. Tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 205 miles (335 km), mainly to the north and east of the storm's centre, and the estimated minimum central pressure is 999 mb (29.50 inches).

### **Watches and Warnings**

Changes with this Information Bulletin:

None.

Summary of watches and warnings in effect:

A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect for:

- \* High Island on the upper Texas coast to the mouth of the Pearl River

A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect for:

- \* West of High Island to San Luis Pass, Texas

Interests elsewhere along the U.S. Gulf Coast from the central Texas coast to the western Florida Panhandle should monitor this system's progress.

### **Regional preliminary damage assessments**

#### **Grenada:**

- The situation in Grenada is currently calm, with cloudy skies and scattered rain showers.
- According to the National Society's preliminary reports, the country suffered no major damage
- Schools were closed starting at 12.00 noon AST yesterday, 19 June 2017
- The National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) partially activated its emergency operations centre (EOC) at 8 pm AST last night, 19 June 2017.
- The National Water and Sewerage Authority turned off the island's water at 8.00pm AST last night as a precautionary measure

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines:***In St. Vincent*

- The roofs of 2 homes were blown off and 1 home collapsed (the affected people are expected to receive immediate assistance from the government).
- Additional rainfall and winds are expected, prompting the school closings throughout the island

*In the Grenadines*

- Strongest winds and heaviest rainfall where reported in the Grenadines (Mainly Union Island and Canouan)

**Trinidad and Tobago:**

- All IFRC Country Cluster Staff are safe and accounted for; the office is closed today due to the flooding, loss of electricity and wind damage in some areas, but staff are working from home as best as possible, and they are ready to assist the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society (TTRCS) as needed.
- Rainfall continues throughout the island with some strong winds; the Meteorological Office has indicated that this is expected to continue for the next few hours.
- Tobago was not severely impacted, as only 6 homes were affected by the storm
- Trinidad was more heavily impacted, as 200 200 homes may have been impacted by Tropical Storm Bret, and about 40 of these homes may have been severely impacted
- 72 emergency collective centres were put on standby, but only 3 were activated
- There were no reported fatalities

**National Society actions****Grenada Red Cross Society (GRCS):**

- GRCS attended 2 meetings with NADMA and it is in continuous contact with the agency
- Two meetings were held with internal
- GRCS's staff and key volunteers are being kept abreast of the storm's latest developments
- GRCS's office is being kept open as its EOC is partially activated with staff and volunteers; all others not present in the EOC are on standby

Main emergency stock available:

- ✓ 6 generators
- ✓ 1,200 tarpaulins
- ✓ 200 kitchen sets
- ✓ 1,500 blankets
- ✓ 1,000 jerry cans

\*These supplies are stored at GRCS's headquarter (southern part of the Island) and Marli St Patricks (northern part of the island).

**Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society:**

- The TTRCS's Disaster Management Department and its branches will begin conducting initial impact assessments to determine a suitable plan of action; this information will be transmitted once it is compiled and approved.
- The TTRCS is coordinating relief items in three areas, distribution of relief, support to collective centres (it is anticipated that more collective centres will be opened today) and the provision of technical support.

**PIRAC actions**

- Monitoring and collection of information from Caribbean National Societies impacted by Tropical Storm Bret
- Close coordination and information sharing with the IFRC's disaster management coordinator for the region
- Sharing of information bulletins with French-speaking stakeholders in the
- Monitoring of Tropical Storm Cindy

**IFRC actions**

- Two Regional Intervention Team (RIT) members are supporting the Venezuelan Red Cross; a Situation Report has been issued, and no damages have been reported so far
- The IFRC's country cluster office in Trinidad is ready to support the TTRCS on any specific needs it may require assistance with as it assesses the damage from Tropical Storm Brett
- The IFRC will issue a Yellow Alert in respect to the developing situation
- The [Dashboard](#) will be updated over the next few days
- The IFRC has been in communication with the American Red Cross' regional office in Panama
- The IFRC's regional office for the America remains at Alert Level 2

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

### In the Caribbean:

- Kanner Peters, senior financial officer- IFRC country cluster office in Trinidad and Tobago; email: [Kanner.PETERS@ifrc.org](mailto:Kanner.PETERS@ifrc.org)
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## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
  2. Enable healthy and safe living.
- Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace