

PROGRAMME 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

CARIBBEAN

19 August 2002

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 178 countries. For more information: www.ifrc.org

Appeal No. 01.23/2002

Appeal Target: CHF 3,322,922 (USD 2.1 million; EUR 2.3 million)

Beneficiaries/target groups (if available): N/A

Programme Update No. 2; Period covered: 1 April - 30 June 2002; Last Programme Update (no.1) issued 21 May 2002

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: 74.2%

Related Appeals: 01.18/2002 Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU)

Outstanding needs: CHF 857,295

Summary: The Caribbean delegation continued to provide support to the Belize Red Cross Society, the Cuban Red Cross and the Jamaican Red Cross in the implementation of relief operations in the wake of hurricanes Iris and Michelle. DIPECHO-funded micro projects in reforestation were successfully initiated in Grenada and St. Kitts whilst in Jamaica, torrential rains in late May prompted the re-design of the original mitigation project to avert flooding. Planning continued for the implementation of flood mitigation projects in the Dominican Republic. In cooperation with the Guatemala regional delegation, the Caribbean web site was launched on 8 May, promoting the global HIV/AIDS anti-stigma campaign. During a conference organized in April by the regional delegation in cooperation with UNAIDS, the Caribbean Red Cross Regional AIDS Network (CARAN) was selected to play a wider role in activities undertaken by the Caribbean youth network for the prevention of HIV/AIDS. In May and June, the Cuban Red Cross national development plan was finalized and approved by the national committee. The Caribbean delegation's sub regional office in Trinidad is being established and the new regional disaster preparedness delegate was assigned to this office as of early June.

Operational Developments w

There were few significant political or economic developments in the Caribbean region during the second quarter of 2002. Tourism, the region's main revenue-earner, remained depressed following the 11 September 2001 terrorist incidents in the United States. The international market for natural products such as sugar and bananas was also constrained, with a negative impact on the economies of the region. Tensions between government and opposition in Cuba remained high, with pressure for a change in the Constitution. In Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago, political deadlock continued. In the Dominican Republic, elections in May resulted in a landslide victory for the governing party, whilst preparations for elections in Jamaica in the second part of the

year raised fears of political violence. The HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region continued unabated, and the Caribbean prepared itself for the annual hurricane season, which started on 1 June; however, recent forecasts predict a milder season than that of 2001.

Disaster Response

The regional delegation continued to provide assistance to three National Societies (NS): those of Cuba, Jamaica, and Belize, in implementing relief operations stemming from the impact of two hurricanes in 2001: Iris (Belize, October 2001) and Michelle (Jamaica and Cuba, November 2001).

In Belize, where hurricane Iris caused extensive damage on 8 October 2001, a Federation-supported food relief programme in Toledo district ended in January 2002; water and sanitation and reconstruction work continued until the end of May, by which time all activities had been completed.

In Cuba, where hurricane Michelle, a Category 4 storm, hit the central provinces on 4 November 2001, the Federation channelled funds to the Cuban Red Cross to carry out a house-repair and reconstruction programme. During the reporting period, 28,000 zinc roofing sheets and other building materials were procured by the regional delegation through the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) and shipped to Cuba for the reconstruction of up to 600 houses in the three worst-affected provinces; a fourth province, originally scheduled for participation in the programme, was covered by bilateral donations. In addition, as verified through a visit by a regional delegate in May, the Cuban Red Cross is procuring other materials and equipment locally with funds provided through the Federation. Further purchases of first aid and rescue equipment by the regional delegation, funded under this project, will be made in the second half of the year. All activities under this programme should be completed by the end of August 2002.

In Jamaica, a relief operation for 87 families affected by floods associated with hurricane Michelle was completed in early May. Haiti and Jamaica were also hit by heavy rain and landslides in late May 2002, and the Haiti-based Federation delegate took part with the Haitian National Red Cross Society in a damage and needs assessment in the southwest of the country; it was eventually agreed that assistance to the NS would be provided through a relief programme managed in conjunction with the Netherlands Red Cross, which is running a bilateral, ECHO-funded community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) programme in the affected area.

Disaster Preparedness

Objective 1: By mid-2002, to develop a fifteen person regional intervention team (RIT) capable of responding to disasters throughout the Caribbean, and to sustain a regional disaster management training module at a Caribbean academic institution.

In April, the regional delegation facilitated the attendance of two candidates from the Dominican Republic at a regional intervention team training course in the Spanish language in Bolivia. In late May, a RIT training course took place in Antigua in English. Course participants consisted of 18 members of Caribbean national societies, four from British Red Cross branches, three from Netherlands Red Cross branches and one from PADRU: 26 participants. The workshop was organized by delegates and staff from the regional delegation and PADRU, who worked together to define the curriculum, develop training manuals and select facilitators. The participants are now entered into the PADRU database, and will be deployed in future disasters in the region under protocols which are under development. Several participants were subsequently selected for refresher RITs training at a course organized by PADRU in Panama in mid July 2002.

Also in May, representatives and leaders from hurricane-prone English-speaking National Societies and from the six British Red Cross overseas branches (OSB)s in the Caribbean participated in a planning meeting which focused on the drafting of a regional response plan. This draft plan is being circulated for feedback and should be completed by the end of August.

The Clarence Fitzroy Bryan College in St. Kitts, in collaboration with the St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society, officially launched its disaster management training programme in April. Since then, a consortium arrangement has been developed with the Red Cross and the Ministry of Social Development. Under this

agreement, the College will implement a series of community disaster preparedness workshops in six communities during 2002. Training has already been integrated into the school's nursing programme. The programme was started at the initiative of the Federation's St.Kitts-based disaster preparedness delegate.

Objective 2: Throughout the period covered by this appeal, to enhance the response capacity of national societies and overseas branches through the provision and secure stockage of basic relief items and equipment.

In April, the major donor for this activity, the Japanese Red Cross Society, notified the regional delegation that due to the change in exchange rate between the yen and the dollar, the funding amount would be reduced by almost 10%. The budget was adjusted at that time, and logistics requisitions were completed and sent to PADRU for quotations. Subsequently, the donor notified the delegation that this project would be on hold until mid July. In the meantime, Cuba and Haiti, the recipients of relief items under this year's programme, in coordination with the regional delegation, determined the quantity and type of items needed. The locations for the containers were also identified: Santa Clara and Holguin in Cuba, and Gonaives and Jeremie in Haiti. Procurement of relief goods should take place in July and logistics training for personnel of both National Societies involved in this programme will take place after the arrival of the containers in-country.

Objective 3: By the end of 2002, to have maintained support for community-based disaster preparedness (CBDP) activities in at least six countries, including Cuba and Haiti; by the same period, to have assisted four national societies to develop and implement cost-effective, community-level disaster mitigation projects.

Planning activities and implementation of the DIPECHO-funded project began during this period. Work on micro-projects has begun successfully in two of the four target countries: Grenada and St. Kitts. The Grenada and St. Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Societies are involved in two reforestation micro-projects in the Champfleure and Monklands communities respectively. Land ownership surveys have been carried out by the Saint Kitts and Nevis Red Cross Society. In addition, the Grenada Red Cross has successfully completed socio-economic and vulnerability surveys. The planting of trees is tentatively scheduled to commence in July in both countries, together with a second micro-project based on drainage construction in Grenada.

In the Dominican Republic, a meeting was held with National Society personnel to establish a detailed timeline for implementation, signing of the memorandum of understanding and definition of technical issues in relation to project activities. By the end of the reporting period, the planning had not been completed and, as a result, no funds have yet been disbursed to the Dominican Red Cross. In Jamaica, flooding affected the start up of activities and the original mitigation project is now being redesigned. This involves increasing the capacity of the proposed drainage canal to accommodate a greater volume of water than had been previously planned for.

In Haiti, the regional delegation has finalized the procurement of radio equipment to improve coverage and quality of communications between the headquarters and branches of the Haitian National Red Cross Society (HNRCS) As part of the regional delegation's support to HRCNS for disaster preparedness, a "Preparedness Review" has been finalized by the National Society in collaboration with the PNS present in the country. This document has been circulated to the ICRC and to partners outside the Red Cross Movement, to serve as a basis for future response.

Humanitarian Values

Objective 1: By mid-2002, to revitalise region-wide communications tools, and utilize them to raise the profile of the Red Cross in the Caribbean, and to promote basic humanitarian values and the Fundamental Principles of the Movement, with active inputs from national societies and overseas branches.

During the reporting period, in cooperation with the Guatemalan regional delegation and in order to celebrate World Red Cross day, the regional website for the Caribbean was launched on 8 May, replacing the previous website which collapsed in 2000. The Caribbean website was used to initiate the Federation's global campaign against HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination. The regional delegation received reports and news stories about activities carried out in Anguilla, Belize, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica Montserrat and St.Lucia to mark

the day. Many of these articles were posted on the Federation's main website, the Spanish-language website maintained by the Guatemala regional delegation, and the Caribbean website.

In addition, two news updates were sent by e-mail from the regional delegation to all National Societies in the region, overseas branches, PNSs and partner organizations, with information on the latest developments in regional programmes.

Objective 2: By the end of 2002, to ensure the utilization by the Red Cross in the Caribbean of standardized basic materials on the Fundamental Principles and basic humanitarian values, and to facilitate the effective propagation region-wide of a common Movement message.

Standardized material on the Fundamental Principles was provided to Caribbean national societies and overseas branches on request for use in dissemination activities. Technical advice was also provided in this respect.

Objective 3: By the end of 2002, to ensure that all Red Cross entities in the region are aware of the Federation's commitment to advocacy on behalf of vulnerable groups and are capable of incorporating such activities in their ongoing plans and programmes.

In preparation for the launch of the global HIV/AIDS-related anti-stigma campaign on 8 May, a presentation on this activity was made to all national societies attending the Caribbean Red Cross AIDS/HIV Network (CARAN) meeting (see below), and further notifications and information on potential activities on Red Cross Day were sent by the regional delegation to all national societies and overseas branches.

The regional information and reporting delegate participated in the sixth Inter American Communication and Resource Development Forum in Bolivia. Red Cross communicators from all of the Americas gathered to exchange information and experiences, and to agree on a communications strategy for the region for the next twelve months. During this Forum, HIV/AIDS related issues were major subjects of discussion. The communications director of the Cuban Red Cross participated in the Forum representing Caribbean national societies. Conclusions from this meeting will be shared and discussed during a joint Federation/ICRC workshop on dissemination and promotion of humanitarian values for the English-speaking Caribbean, to be held in Trinidad and Tobago in the latter part of 2002.

At the request of the Haitian National Red Cross Society, the Federation, through its delegate based in Haiti, will train 25 disseminators (two per region) in humanitarian values, in compliance with Strategy 2010.

Objective 4: By the end of 2003, to have provided training, technical advice, and other inputs to at least four National Societies in the region with a view to creating or enhancing sustainable and well-functioning specialized information or communications departments in these national societies.

The regional information and reporting delegate conducted a two-day training of trainers' workshop on information and disasters for the Haitian National Red Cross Society, and was a facilitator at the regional intervention team (RIT) training workshop held in Antigua and Barbuda in late May.

Health and Care

Objective 1: Throughout the two-year period covered by the present appeal to develop and enhance Red Cross involvement in activities related to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the realms of prevention, care and support and advocacy.

In April 2002, sixty-four youth organizations working in HIV/AIDS-related issues gathered in the Dominican Republic to share experiences and draft regional strategies at a conference organized by the regional delegation in cooperation with UNAIDS. One of the results of this gathering was the selection of the Federation-sponsored Caribbean Red Cross Regional AIDS Network (CARAN) to be the platform for a broader regional Caribbean HIV/AIDS Youth Network (CHAYN).

Objective 2: To integrate five additional national societies, including British and Netherlands Red Cross branches into the Red Cross Caribbean AIDS Network (CARAN), and increase cooperation between the Red Cross and other major organizations within the region, thereby strengthening the overall capacity of the network.

Following the regional conference on HIV/AIDS in the Dominican Republic, a meeting of the Caribbean Red Cross Regional AIDS Network was held, organized by the regional delegation. Twenty Caribbean national societies and overseas branches were represented and made short presentations of their activities, which indicated increased standardization of approach. Further modification of the CARAN budget was discussed, and a core group of National Societies was created to ensure CARAN support during the coming months. Steps have also been taken to hire a staff-on-loan from one of the Caribbean national societies to provide permanent management support to CARAN over the next twelve months, from a base in the Federation's newly-opened sub-regional office in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

Objective 3: To increase the capacity of the regional delegation and national societies, at the regional and country levels, to implement community-based first aid (CBFA) and water and sanitation activities in target countries and in line with Strategy 2010.

Little funding was available for the achievement of this objective. During the reporting period, the regional delegation prepared ten emergency health kits, each sufficient to assist 1,000 persons for three months, for priority use in the event of an emergency in Haiti.

Institutional and Resource Development

Objective 1 - By the end of 2003, 10 among 16 NS and 4 overseas branches will develop and implement quality programmes and projects according to their National Development Plan.

In the Dominican Red Cross, implementation of the national development plan (NDP) 2001-2005 is ongoing. Institutional reorganization with a new organigram and job descriptions for each department of the National Society are being drafted with technical advice from the regional organizational development (OD) delegate. The Federation also facilitated work on NDPs in Haiti and Cuba (see Objectives 5 and 6 below).

Prior to embarking on NDP formulation, several national societies in the Caribbean are being assisted to undertake the self-assessment process initiated by the Secretariat.

Objective 2: Before the end of 2003, to contribute to the maintenance of the integrity and smooth functioning of the Caribbean National Societies by increasing the level of knowledge of at least 30% of the governing board members of each national society about the Movement as a whole and their own specific responsibilities.

In the Dominican Republic, the regional OD delegate participated in meetings of the electoral commission responsible for preparing future elections in the NS which has been under the management of an interim commission since 2000. Following a second meeting of the electoral commission in June 2002, it was decided to proceed with elections in eight already-recognized Red Cross branches; an additional 32 new branches have applied for recognition. These will be examined and monitored throughout the year by the electoral commission to ensure that they meet the necessary requirements.

Advice on statutory and constitutional issues was also provided to both the Dominican and Cuban Red Cross Societies in relation to revision of the Statutes.

The Federation and the ICRC are planning a meeting in order to discuss the harmonization process and proposed joint activities for 2003 for the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Haiti Red Cross Societies to be held in the Dominican Republic in July. After the meeting, a joint training session for 15 presidents of Dominican Red Cross committees from the western part of the country will be carried out, focusing on background to the Movement, Strategy 2010 and governance issues.

In addition, a joint Federation/ICRC training session on governance for members of the Central Committee of the National Society will be organized in Haiti between July and September 2002. The content and agenda has already been agreed among participants.

The regional delegation continued to provide input on governance issues and Movement principles in one-to-one interaction with Barbados, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, Surinam and Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Societies.

In coordination with the Secretariat, a further four national societies are now involved in the process of self assessment, as follows: Barbados, Guyana, Haiti and Suriname. They received continued support and guidance from the regional delegation to comply with the requests according to the timelines. During the reporting period, the regional delegation followed up to obtain data under this process from the National Societies in Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti and Surinam.

Objective 3: To revitalise and build the sustainable capacity of the youth departments of nine National Societies and of three British Red Cross Overseas Branches by the end of 2003.

In Haiti, where the Federation has had an in-country organizational development delegate since mid-March 2002, activities and funding for the revitalization of the National Society's youth department were included in a proposal submitted to the Federation's Capacity Building Fund (CBF), which received a positive response in June 2002. To further promote youth work in Haiti, the draft Caribbean youth policy will be translated into French and submitted to the National Society for review and consultation. Modalities of integrating this policy into the National Society's volunteer recruitment practices, and translating it into practical activities will be reviewed.

Three British Red Cross overseas branches: Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI), Montserrat, and the British Virgin Islands (BVI), have secured funding to start and/or continue the youth programme, mainly by introducing peer education activities on the islands. In August BVI peer educators will pay a youth exchange visit to their peers in Guyana.

Objective 4: To promote, by the end of 2003, the capacity of selected national societies to raise funds at national level.

In June 2002, the Dominican Red Cross requested the participation of the regional OD delegate in a commission designed to elaborate the curricular, technical and administrative details for a training school for Red Cross volunteers and the public in general. The aim of this school is to provide quality professional skills training in various areas and to raise funds for the National Society.

The BVI has expressed interest in implementing the hotel and tourism safety programme (H&TSP) as a pilot project. Materials for this programme are still under development by the regional delegation.

Objective 5: To reinforce, by the end of 2003, the capacity of the Cuban Red Cross provincial and municipal branches to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in Cuba, and to enhance the Cuban Red Cross's public image as an independent institution.

In May and June, the Cuban Red Cross NDP was approved by the national committee and was presented in several meetings to all the General Secretaries of the western, central, and eastern regions of the country in order to explain to them the purpose of the NDP and to enable them to set this up at a provincial level. The NDP is closely aligned to the Federation's *Strategy 2010*.

In the area of branch development, several provincial and municipal branches of the Cuban Red Cross received specific assistance in building maintenance and refurbishment. Several branches such as Florida, Las Tunas, Sancti Spiritus and the national headquarters also received some computer equipment. To strengthen the overall capacity of the National Society, technical skills training for volunteers at branch level and headquarters staff has also taken place under this programme. A total of 67 persons were involved in these

training courses such as water safety, communication, dissemination and procedures in the re-establishment of family links in emergency situations.

In April, the organizational development delegate attended a youth workshop and presented Strategy 2010, the regional youth policy for the Caribbean and South America and the international youth policy. 15 youth leaders attended this training session representing the 15 provincial committees. The purpose of the workshop was to draw up and approve a youth strategy for this year and plan several activities linked with these proposals.

Objective 6: To strengthen the capacity of the Haitian National Red Cross Society to assist the vulnerable in Haiti.

Members of the central committee of the HRCNS will undertake the Federation's self-assessment standard evaluation. By July 2002, the results of the evaluation will be available. The analysis of this document will be carried out by the Federation and members of the NDP steering committee, as well as by the management. This committee will be in charge of drafting the NDP which is scheduled to be completed by November 2002. The NDP is scheduled for review by the HNRCS General Assembly in November 2002. A series of branch-level workshops to further this process commenced in late 2001 and continued into 2002.

The Federation's organizational development delegate in Haiti provided technical and logistical assistance for various events organized by the HNRCS, as well as for response to small scale disasters. He also established coordination between the HNRCS and government agencies, the UNDP, relevant NGOs and PNS bilateral programmes in preparation for the 2002 hurricane season.

Additional funding for capacity building activities in Haiti - including support for strategic planning, coordination, and strengthening youth- was secured from the Federation's Capacity Building Fund (CBF) for the period July 2002 - Dec 2003.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement -- Fundamental Principles and Initiatives

- Standardized material on the Fundamental Principles was provided to Caribbean national societies and overseas branches for use in dissemination activities which form part of training courses organized region wide.
- Given that levels of HIV/AIDS infection in the Caribbean are second only to those in Sub Saharan Africa, work in HIV/AIDS is a major priority for the region. In April, sixty-four youth organizations working in HIV/AIDS-related issues gathered in the Dominican Republic to share experiences and draft regional strategies at a conference organized by the regional delegation in cooperation with UNAIDS. One of the results of this gathering was the selection of the Federation-sponsored Caribbean Red Cross Regional AIDS Network (CARAN) to be the platform for a broader regional Caribbean HIV/AIDS Youth Network (CHAYN).
- The regional intervention team training now includes a gender component introduced during the course held in Antigua, in May.

Regional Cooperation

Objective 1: To maintain the momentum established by the process of Regional Assistance Strategy (RAS) development during 2001, and to ensure that all Movement stakeholders in the region are involved in the review and further refinement of Federation strategies.

Due to the indisposition of the chairman of the Caribbean Cooperation of the Red Cross (CCORC) during much of the reporting period, and the conflicting schedules of other CCORC leaders, it proved impossible to convene the RD/CCORC/ICRC working group designed to monitor the implementation of the RAS, as planned, during the first half of 2002. It is now hoped that the meeting can take place in August 2002.

Objective 2: By the end of 2002, to have achieved a perceptible strengthening of the CCORC, to permit it to play a more proactive role in fostering regional cooperation among the various elements of the Movement.

Working from the newly-established Federation office in Trinidad, regional delegation staff remained in close contact with the CCORC leadership during the quarter. The regional delegation also consulted the leadership on such issues as the implementation of the Secretariat change process in the regions, and on planning for the Inter-American Regional Conference to be held in April 2003. The regional delegation facilitated the attendance of a CCORC executive member at the partnership meeting in Quito, Ecuador, in May 2002, where this issue was discussed.

Objective 3: Throughout the period to the end of 2003, to further promote the integration of Red Cross Overseas Branches (OSBs) in the Caribbean into regional consultative mechanisms and programmes.

The regional delegation continued to include all OSBs in its mailing and information network, and to encourage OSB participation in activities supported by the Federation. In April, OSB representatives were among the twenty Red Cross participants at a meeting of the Caribbean Red Cross HIV/AIDS Network (CARAN) held in the Dominican Republic. In May, the regional delegation's branch development and organizational development delegate organized a meeting of all British Red Cross OSBs in Antigua, which was attended by the leadership of the branches, and at which planning for the coming year was discussed. The branch representatives then went on to attend a pre-hurricane season meeting of national society Directors General at the same venue, where contingency plans were drafted. Four personnel from three British Red Cross OSBs took part in the regional intervention teams (RITs) training organized by the regional delegation and PADRU in Antigua. In June, the regional delegation facilitated contacts between the British OSBs and the local representative of DFID with a view to identifying funding for CBDP programmes in the overseas territories. Finally, initial contacts were made by the regional delegation with the French Red Cross overseas branches in the Caribbean with a view to future collaboration.

Objective 4: By the end of 2002, to have revitalized the programme for the regional recruitment of delegates; by the end of 2003, to have identified and trained up to ten delegates from the region for deployment in Federation missions, in the region and elsewhere.

Unfortunately, funding for activities to achieve this objective has not been available; the regional delegation is now seeking another source of funds, but it is unlikely that a regional basic training course (BTC) will be held in 2002. Meanwhile, the regional delegation is encouraging the identification of potential delegates by promoting the participation of national society and OSB personnel in such activities as RITs training.

Coordination and Management

Objective 1: By mid-2002, to ensure that the RAS process is established as the guiding principle of Federation programming in the region, and that steady progress is being made in carrying the strategic planning mechanism down to country level.

Regional delegation planning and programming continued to be based on the RAS during the second quarter of 2002. At the country level, as mentioned in the section on organizational development, above, the process of producing national development plans was furthered with Federation support in Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. During the quarter, the CAS concept was discussed by the regional delegation with the leadership of the Cuban and Haitian National Societies, and a meeting of Federation personnel to coordinate CAS production throughout the region was scheduled to take place in Santo Domingo in August 2002.

Objective 2: To strengthen coordination between the RD and other Movement agencies in the region, including the Central America RD, PADRU, bilateral programmes, and the ICRC.

The regional delegation continued to work closely with PADRU, whose regional logistics unit was, throughout the reporting period, engaged in procurement of relief goods on behalf of the regional delegation for programmes in Cuba and Haiti. The regional delegation and PADRU also collaborated closely in planning and carrying out the Caribbean RITs training in Antigua in late May 2002, with personnel from both serving as facilitators. With the onset of the hurricane season, the regional delegation and PADRU, working with hurricane-prone national societies, are jointly formulating a contingency plan. The Caribbean regional delegation continues to collaborate with the regional finance unit (RFU) and the regional reporting unit in

Guatemala. Relations between the regional delegation and the ICRC are excellent, and the Federation will participate in the ICRC's regional planning sessions for 2003, scheduled to be held in Trinidad and Santo Domingo in July 2002. During June 2002, the regional delegation held meetings with a high-level Spanish Red Cross delegation which was visiting the region, and welcomed an American Red Cross bilateral regional delegate to base himself in the delegation. American Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross, and Netherlands Red Cross bilateral delegates continue to receive all regional information bulletins, and to attend regional coordination meetings. In Haiti, liaison between the Federation delegate and bilateral delegates was close, as evidenced during the joint assessment mission carried out by the National Society, the Federation, and the bilateral Red Cross Societies during the heavy rains of late May.

Objective 3: By mid-2002, reduction and rationalisation of the Regional Delegation to ensure efficient and effective support to National Societies and Overseas Branches, wherever located in the Caribbean region.

The head of the regional delegation was, during the reporting period, an active participant in the Secretariat working group preparing the implementation of the change strategy in the regions; he attended a meeting of the group in Geneva in late April, and was in touch with national society leaders on the subject during May. The Federation's newly-established delegate presence in Haiti continued to function efficiently, and during the quarter, the physical arrangements for the set-up of a sub-regional office in Trinidad were completed, and a new regional disaster preparedness delegate was recruited to join the organizational development delegate stationed there. Simultaneously, the reduction in size of the Federation's presence in Santo Domingo began, with one local staff member being made redundant and one delegate post - regional health delegate - shared between Central America and the Caribbean. Discussions also took place in June between the HoRDs of the Caribbean and Central America concerning the mechanisms for the merger of these two delegations, with a base in Panama, by the end of 2002.

Objective 4: By the end of 2002 at the latest, implementation of efficient and transparent planning, management, and reporting systems at the Regional Delegation, in conformity with standard Federation procedures.

Tightening of financial procedures continued at the regional delegation, particularly following the arrival of a new finance/administration delegate (FAD) in April 2002. Reporting during the quarter was more timely than previously, and it was confirmed that the delegation would have the services of both the FAD and the regional information and reporting delegate throughout the remainder of 2002; this should enable the delegation to reach its target of at least 90% compliance with Federation reporting norms by the end of the year. Plans were developed to expose all regional delegates to refresher financial management training in early July 2002.

Advocacy/Public Information w

A major achievement during the reporting period was the launch of the Caribbean website which took place on 8 May, Red Cross Day. The Caribbean website was used to initiate the Federation's global campaign against HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination in the region.

The CARAN meeting held in the Dominican Republic in April 2002, served to focus national society attention on advocacy issues related to HIV/AIDS.

Outstanding needs

In spite of an encouraging response to the appeal for 2002-2003, major shortfalls remain in funding for key areas such as organizational development and the promotion of humanitarian values. This is severely restricting the regional delegation's ability to sustain its presence in the newly-established Trinidad office, which is vital if the Federation is to offer support and assistance to English-speaking national societies and overseas branches.

For further details please contact: Leon Prop, Phone : 41 22 730 42 58; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: prop@ifrc.org

All International Federation Operations seek to adhere to the Code of Conduct and are committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at <http://www.ifrc.org>.

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Caribbean regional						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.23/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			19.08.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				3'322'922		TOTAL COVERAGE 74.2%
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				467'190		
Programme support				271'600		
AUSTRALIAN - RC		6'280	AUD	5'522	04.06.2002	TRAINING REGIONAL INTERVENTION TEAMS
BRITISH - RC		35'000	GBP	84'000	31.01.2002	BRANCH & OD DELEGATE
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				140'000	19.02.2002	ORGANISATION DEV, D P, COMMUNITY HEALTH
BRITISH - GOVT/DFID				140'000	07.08.2002	ORGANISATION DEV, D P, COMMUNITY HEALTH
BRITISH - RC		12'000	GBP	28'010	29.05.2002	RIT WORKSHOP IN ANTIGUA
BRITISH - RC		28'000	GBP	64'291	01.08.2002	
ECHO (02007)		350'000	EUR	518'770	18.02.2002	
FRENCH - RC				135'421	22.02.2002	OD DELEGATE 24 MONTHS
JAPANESE - RC				159'532	02.07.2002	DP CONTAINER PROJECT
NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC		86'500	NOK	16'333	26.03.2002	CARAN WSHOP HIV/AIDS, YOUTH
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				110'000		P49002
CAPACITY BUILDING FUND				185'000		PHT006
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				2'325'669	CHF	70.0%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
FRANCE	DELEGATE(S)			98'726		
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATE(S)			41'232		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				139'958	CHF	4.2%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	