

# 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

## COMOROS

03 December 2003

Appeal no. 01.02/2003

Appeal target: CHF 189,885 (USD 128,886 or EUR 128,911)

Programme Update No. 2

Period covered: July to November 2003

*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 180 countries. For more information: [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)*

### In Brief

**Appeal coverage:** 40.8%; [Click here to go to the attached Contributions List](#), or refer to the Federation website.

**Outstanding needs:** CHF 112,438 (USD 84,400 or EUR 72,400). See Footnote <sup>1</sup> below.

**Related Emergency or Annual Appeals:** None

**Programme Summary:** This Appeal includes programmes in the areas of Health and Care and Organizational Development. Funding for this Appeal comes primarily from the Federation Capacity Building Fund; a second allocation has been approved, conditioned on the spending of the funds from the first allocation.

The **Comoros Red Crescent** is one of two unrecognized national societies in Africa; the Federation has placed emphasis on assisting the national society to meet the requirement for recognition. The national society presented the final draft version of its revised Statutes to the Movement's Joint Commission in October. Political complexities prevailed during the reporting period culminating in a political demonstration on the Eid-ul-Fitr holiday. Union Forces attempted to shoot the President of the Regional administration of Grande Comore; fifteen people were injured in the incident, but no fatalities were reported. During the ensuing chaos, the Comoros Red Crescent volunteers provided essential backup to hospital staff, in treating the injured and taking blood donations.

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<sup>1</sup> Funding of CHF 78,754 requested for an integrated health care project was not received. The 2004 Annual Appeal (no. 01.09/2004 – Indian Ocean sub-regional programmes) also reflects a similar provision for this project.

## **Operational developments**

### **Health and care**

**Goal: The capacity of the Comoros Red Crescent in health programme delivery is strengthened.**

**Objective: A sustainable impact upon targeted communities' general health is achieved through community based health programming focusing on HIV/AIDS and water and sanitation.**

#### **Progress/Achievements (activities implemented within this objective)**

The national society has continued to implement its malaria and cholera prevention programmes on all the three islands as well as a school based health programme which ended in October 2003, supported by the French Red Cross/Government. In the Appeal, a provision had been made for the implementation of an integrated health pilot project (WatSan, HIV/AIDS and Health); however, no funding was realised during the year. Provision has been made for the same in the 2004 Appeal budget.

The Regional health and care advisor undertook a situation analysis of the current priority health needs in Comoros and the response of the national society during a mission to the Comoros Red Crescent from 6 to 11 October 2003. Under the auspices of WHO, UNICEF and the Federal Ministry of Social Welfare, a strategic planning workshop bringing together health and care coordinators from the three islands was organised to develop a three years integrated health strategic plan from 2004-2007.

#### **Impact**

In view of current achievements in improving the health of school children, an agreement was reached on the possibility for the Comoros Red Crescent to make a direct application to the regional cooperation funds of the neighbouring French island of Mayotte to support a one year programme extension.

A new cholera outbreak in mid November was efficiently contained through the deployment of a core group of trained and experienced volunteers of the Comoros Red Crescent to the capital town of Moroni on Grande Comore.

As a result of the strategic planning workshop, the national society produced a comprehensive health plan in line with Strategy 2010<sup>1</sup> focusing on: reproductive health, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and AIDS for in and out of school youth; prevention and community action against malaria and diarrhoea and integrated management of childhood illnesses at community level. WHO and UNICEF have committed themselves to fund part of the new plan. Meanwhile the French Red Cross /Government support to the cholera prevention programme is continuing until April 2004.

#### **Constraints**

With the development of the Comoros Red Crescent health programme within the next three years, the national society will have to develop its human resource base and health department at headquarters to ensure proper management, monitoring and evaluation of its health interventions. The unstable political situation and current restructuring of government ministries under a Federal entity, has slowed down the pace of health reforms and consequently the work of the Comoros Red Crescent as an auxiliary to the newly created and extremely under resourced Ministry of Health.

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<sup>1</sup> Strategy 2010 is the International Federation's guiding framework for the decade 2000 to 2010. This overall strategy identifies the following four CORE areas as the cornerstones upon which the International Federation will continue to build its collective expertise and reputation: humanitarian values; disaster preparedness; disaster response; and health and care in the community. Refer to <http://www.ifrc.org/who/strategy.asp>

## Organizational Development

**Goal: The Comoros Red Crescent meets the criteria for admittance to the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.**

**Objective: The Comoros Red Crescent governance and committees are trained in Federation Policies, Project Cycle Management and drafting of Volunteer Policy and Statutes**

### Progress

Following the production of the final draft of Statutes and the Internal Regulation, the national society governance has had a number of meetings to outline procedures to be put in place to implement them. The national society maintained dialogue with the Government regarding the possibility of having an employee seconded to fill the position of Secretary General. This position has been vacant for a while and there is little likelihood of finding other means of sustainable funding for it in the near future. The Regional Organizational Development Delegate facilitated a meeting of the National Board in October to draft a report of 2003 activities and a Plan of Action for 2004. The Plan makes provision for the design of a Volunteer Management Policy.

Programme funding in 2003 allowed the national society to produce a number of good quality brochures outlining its activities as well as its first ever membership cards. The new President is growing into his position and is beginning to see things from a national perspective. A direct contact he made with the Luxembourg Red Cross culminated into funding for one representative of the national society who will attend the International Conference in December.

### Impact

The submission of the Comoros Red Crescent Statutes to the Movement's Joint Commission is a major step in the recognition process. The printing of better quality brochures has enabled the national society to increase its profile in the community. Membership cards will ensure that proper records of volunteers can be kept. The preparation of 2004 Plans before the end of the year shows that the national society is beginning to appreciate the importance of systematic planning.

### Constraints

The fact that there has not yet been a successful solution to the appointment of a Secretary General means that a lot of pressure is being placed on two of the national society's Programme Officers. Governance members are also forced to take on roles which would normally be management functions. A small number of Board members tend to let inter-island politics influence their approach to national decision making. In an attempt to avoid conflict this sometimes leads to deferral of decisions.

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

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

*<Contributions List below – Click here to return to title page>*

APPEAL No. 01.02/2003

## PLEDGES RECEIVED

03/12/2003

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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## CASH

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				189,886		<b>TOTAL COVERAGE 40.8%</b>
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				77,448		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				77,448	CHF	40.8%

## KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)

DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				0	CHF	0.0%

## ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET

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