

OPERATIONS 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

SOUTHERN AFRICA: FOOD AID AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

12 September, 2002

This Ops Update is intended for reporting on emergency appeals.

Appeal No. 12/02

Launched on 2 May 2002 for CHF 6,803,000 for 12 months revised 22 July to CHF 89,285,274 (USD 61.6 m/EUR 60.9m) in cash, kind and services to assist a minimum of 1.3 million beneficiaries for 12 months. Disaster Relief Emergency Funds (DREF) allocated: CHF 50,000

Operations Update No. 8; Period covered: 2 - 11 September 2002

IN BRIEF

Appeal coverage: 19.9%

Related Appeals: Southern Africa 2002 Annual Regional Appeal no. 01.16/2002

Outstanding needs: CHF 71,853,651

Summary: Much of the appeal coverage received to date has been earmarked towards the TSP, and additional funding is required to purchase food and non-food items and to provide the operating national societies with light vehicles and essential office equipment. Decisions on ECHO support and funding, as well as other funding opportunities, are forthcoming.

Operational Developments w

The Secretary General of the Norwegian Red Cross, on behalf of the Federation, met with the Executive Director of the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) and UN Special Envoy for Humanitarian Needs in Southern Africa on 10 September in Malawi. The meeting took place in the Nkhotakota district where the Malawi Red Cross Society has ongoing distributions of WFP food at nine distributions points.

The meeting follows the signing of an Operational Partnership Agreement in Johannesburg between the Federation and the WFP on 30 August, and the receipt of a Pledge Management Note (PMN), on 4 September from the WFP for CHF 11.8m, which will cover the total projected operating costs of the Transport Support Package (TSP).

On 6 September the President of Zimbabwe, following meetings with the Executive Director of the WFP announced that Zimbabwe would accept food assistance of genetically modified (GM) food. On 3 September, the President of



Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federation and the WFP (pictured are the Director of the World Food Programme and the Secretary General of the Norwegian Red Cross).

Zambia affirmed his stance that the Zambian government would not allow donations of genetically modified food to be distributed to the country's citizens. Given the effect that the Zambian president's announcement had in regard to planned distributions of WFP food in Zambia, 129 trucks from the TSP originally scheduled to be sent to Zambia remain in Durban until further notice.

Twenty five trucks from the TSP are now in Lesotho and sixty are still in transit on the way to Malawi.

During his recent visit in the region for the World Summit in Johannesburg, the Federation's President, accompanied by the Federation's Head of Regional Delegation (Harare), observed a seeds and tools distribution in Malawi carried out by the Malawi Red Cross, supported by the Spanish Red Cross, as part of the Federation's appeal.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action w

- ***MALAWI***

OBJECTIVE 1: TARGETED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

To ensure secure transportation of food from main warehouse to distribution points, and to ensure the timely and fair distribution to targeted households, namely child-headed and female-headed households, as well as the elderly and people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) with technical support from the American Red Cross is distributing WFP/USAID donated maize and pulses at distribution points in five districts. The Society conducts distributions to the various distribution points every other day. The MRCS distributions are going well with the Society transporting food to distribution points where the only available access is by steep gravel roads dotted with bridges.

- ***ZAMBIA***

OBJECTIVE 1: GENERAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION

To ensure secure transportation of food from main warehouse to designated distribution points and ensure the timely and fair distribution to targeted households.

The Zambia Red Cross Society with assistance from the Federation is preparing to distribute some 352 MT of mixed dried beans in Choma to some 24, 000 beneficiaries. Beneficiaries are being selected based on the degree which they and their families have been affected by HIV/AIDS. Each family will receive a ration of one 44kg bag of beans from the Zambian Red Cross once every two months.

Following receipt of the request for the beans from the Federation's country manager in Zambia, the Federation's procurement delegate in Johannesburg conducted a tendering during the last week of August. Nine South African companies were invited to submit their bids to the Federation's logistic unit in Johannesburg. A company was then selected following the local committee on contract's review of a competitive bid analysis. Companies from Zambia will also be considered for future purchases.

The Federation is working with the Zambian Red Cross Society to identify warehouse space in Choma and distributions are expected to begin by early October.

- ***ZIMBABWE***

OBJECTIVE 1: TARGETED FOOD DISTRIBUTION

To ensure that HIV/AIDS infected and affected people and malnourished children under 5 years have access to nutritious food supplements.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society (ZimCross) with support from the Federation had reached an agreement with the WFP in Zimbabwe for the provision of food. Under the HIV AIDS component of the WFP's EMOP, the WFP will supply food to all of ZimCross' intended project sites. ZimCross, as a result of this agreement will no longer need to purchase food items except for sugar outside of Zimbabwe. In addition, as a result of this agreement the procurement of food items in Johannesburg for distributions by ZimCross was cancelled as

most of the Society's food needs will be covered by the WFP. ZimCross and the Federation, however, will continue to address the issue of Zimbabwe's requirements for importing food items.

TRANSPORT SUPPORT PACKAGE (TSP) FOR WFP

Preparation of TSP for deployment w

Following the Zambian President's decision not to allow distributions of genetically modified WFP food donations, the WFP requested that decisions regarding how the trucks will be used be postponed until the end of the WFP Executive Director's visit to Southern Africa on 16 September. The loading of 118 trucks scheduled to go to Zambia via railway wagons has been suspended, and the trucks will remain in Durban until further notice. From an operational point of view, the delay will ease the process of preparing and transporting the vehicles. Although the Federation was prepared to deploy all the vehicles at once it will be easier to prepare and deploy the vehicles in phases. Representatives of the Federation and WFP met in Johannesburg on Sunday 8 September to review the current status of the fleet and the operation.

Three Toyota Land cruisers were delivered from Durban to Lesotho on 5 September. A TSP technical supervisor, convoyer and driving instructor went to Lesotho to assist with the off loading of 25 trucks which were transported to Lesotho via rail. The train to Lusaka transporting 60 trucks, which are destined for Malawi is on course and five trucks transported by the WFP by road have arrived in Malawi. Railway loading was slow, with an average maximum of 20 railway wagons per day. Never the less twenty five trucks have arrived in Lesotho according to schedule and sixty trucks are on their way to Malawi.

The South African authorities conducted a technical inspection and a brake test on the ten long-haul trucks ("long hauls") which are headed for Zimbabwe. The long-hauls passed the inspection and, have been authorised for transit in South Africa. The long-hauls will be driven in convoys, in compliance with South Africa's regulations, which limits the maximum number of trucks allowed in a convoy to six. Planning regarding the delivery of TSP items such as Rubb halls which had been loaded on the long hauls for delivery had to be adjusted due to events in Zambia. Work on the fleet's telecommunications system is completed and the IT team has returned to Austria and Spain.

Local drivers assigned to the TSP will receive two days of training. The first day of training will be technical training conducted by one of the TSP technical delegates to familiarise the drivers with the M6 trucks which are older vehicles and may not be familiar to local drivers. The Federation's HR coordinator will coordinate the second day of training which will comprise an overview of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement and basic humanitarian principles, a security briefing and a briefing in regard to the abuse of power. Further training of drivers including information about the transmission of HIV/AIDS will be made available once development of the training materials is complete.

The local British Petroleum (BP) in Durban provided the TSP with 15,000 litres of free petrol.

On Tuesday 3 September, the Federation's logistics coordinator met with the Secretary General of the Malawi Red Cross Society (MRCS) to address questions the Secretary General had regarding the TSP and the operation. Discussions were also held between the Operation's Coordinator and the Secretary Generals of the Zambian and Lesotho Red Cross during visits to those countries to clarify the National Societies' expectations of the TSP.

Programme Coordination and Management w

The Operational Management & Coordination Centre (OMCC) in Johannesburg, South Africa w

Two Federation relief delegates have gone to Zambia to work with the national society. The Federation's Country manager for Malawi arrived in Johannesburg during the second week of September and the operation's health coordinator is in Zimbabwe.

Ericsson has submitted a proposal for a telecommunications package for the Southern Africa operation. The package includes support with office space, agreements with local service providers and technical support from Ericsson's network of branch offices in Southern Africa.

A Security hand book has been developed for the OMCC by the Regional DP/DR Coordinator. The DP/DR coordinator presented a thirty minute security briefing to the OMCC. Key points are that regardless of whether a society is operating bilaterally or with the Federation all Red Cross/Red Crescent staff will be subject to the Federation's security rules.

Coordination w

Cooperation and constant communication among the various Red Cross/Red Crescent partners and external players in Southern Africa will be critical to enabling the operating national societies to effectively bring food assistance to vulnerable communities that they have identified in the appeal. Representatives from the OMCC, the Federation's Regional delegation and the operating national societies have been cooperating to address issues such as information, health and logistics. The Federation's operation's coordinator has scheduled the first of what will be bi-monthly meetings between the Federation and the Secretary Generals of the Southern African operating national societies at the OMCC in Johannesburg on 26 September. The Federation has worked closely with the WFP on disseminating information about the operational partnership and arranging the meeting between the Norwegian Red Cross Secretary General and the Executive Director of the WFP. Relations and the partnership between the WFP and the Federation are facilitated through a logistics delegate ("WFP liaison") who works with the WFP from the WFP's offices in Johannesburg.

On 10 September, the Federation's HR coordinator met with representatives of WFP, Save The Children and Unicef at the WFP offices in Johannesburg to discuss the contents of a training module which is being developed on the issue of HIV AIDS and the Abuse of Power. An agreement was made at the meeting to coordinate all action taken on the food security operation. WFP has requested input from all agencies to implement the training.

UNICEF has developed a module on the abuse of power and conducted a ToT workshop in Harare which was attended by a doctor from Zimcross. Following attendance of the workshop, the ZimCross representative contacted Secretary Generals in the region, encouraging them to contact their UNICEF office for information and details of in country training. The ZimCross representative, who will be the focal point on the issue at the regional level will work with the Federation's health delegate on disseminating information regarding prevention of the abuse of power.

Outstanding needs and the response to date w

The Norwegian Red Cross launched a fundraising campaign in Norway during the first week of September and the German Red Cross has indicated that the German government will approve an EUR 398,000 programme proposal for food and seeds for Lesotho. A teleconference was arranged in Geneva on 10 September between representatives from the European National Societies who have applied for ECHO funding and the ECHO representative in Brussels. The teleconference was a chance for both ECHO and the National Societies to address outstanding issues regarding their applications. Final decisions from ECHO regarding the allocation of funding originally expected during the second week of September are now expected at the end of September. Should funding be awarded then the proposed activities are expected to begin at the end of October. To date the majority of the coverage received has been earmarked towards the TSP, additional funding is required to purchase food and non-food items and to provide the operating national societies with light vehicles and essential office equipment.

For further details please contact:

- *Martin Zak, Federation Head of Operations, Phone: 41 22 730 49 84; Fax: 41 22 733 0395; email: Zak@ifrc.org*
- *Richard Hunlede, Desk Officer/Nat'l Society Liaison, Phone: 41 22 730 43 14; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: hunlede@ifrc.org*
- *Bernard Chomilier, Head of Logistics, Phone: 41 22 730 42 63; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: chomilie@ifrc.org*
- *Denis McClean, Head of Media, Phone: 41 22 730 44 28; Fax: 41 22 733 03 95; email: mclean@ifrc.org*
- *Liz Franklin or Sarah Canna, Human Resources, Phone: 41 22 730 44 82/ 42 22; Fax: 41 22 733 0395; email: franklin@ifrc.com and canna@ifrc.org*

Donors providing in-kind relief in response to large-scale emergencies are urged to contact the Federation's Logistics and Resource Mobilization Department to avoid any unnecessary delays in the clearance and delivery of emergency relief assistance.

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.

This operation seeks to administer to the immediate requirements of the victims of this disaster. Subsequent operations to promote sustainable development or longer-term capacity building will require additional support, and these programmes are outlined on the Federation's website.

For further information concerning Federation operations in Southern-Africa, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org> and the regional website at <http://www.southern-africa.ifrc.org>.

John Horekens
Director
External Relations Division

Martin Zak
Head of Operations for Africa
Disaster Management and
Coordination

Southern Africa - food aid and humanitarian assistance						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 12/2002		PLEDGES RECEIVED			12.09.2002	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				89'285'274		TOTAL COVERAGE 19.5%
AUSTRIA - RC		50'000	EUR	73'625	12.07.2002	
BRITISH - RC		172'500	GBP	396'077	31.07.2002	FOOD FOR ZIMBABWE
BRITISH - RC		25'000	GBP	57'403	01.08.2002	
BRITISH - RC		325'000	GBP	746'233	06.08.2002	FOOD
BRITISH - RC		50'000	GBP	114'805	01.08.2002	
CANADIAN - RC		100'000	CAD	96'130	31.07.2002	
CANADIAN - RC		495'000	CAD	475'200	22.08.2002	
CYPRUS - RC				5'014	22.05.2002	MALAWI RC SUPPORTING STARVING POPULATION
FINNISH - GOV/RC		1'000'000	EUR	1'464'600	27.08.2002	OF WHICH 100'000 EUR FOR TELECOM EQUIPMENT
GERMAN - RC		250'000	EUR	366'150	26.06.2002	BILATERAL
GERMAN - RC		450'000	EUR	659'070	26.06.2002	RELIEF DELEGATE, LOCAL STAFF, VOLUNTEERS
IRISH - GOVT		500'000	EUR	738'150	04.07.2002	
JAPANESE - RC		139'900	USD	206'213	14.08.2002	
KUWAIT - RC		5'000	USD	7'370	29.07.2002	
LIBYAN - RC				5'000	07.06.2002	
NORWEGIAN - RC				220'000	24.07.2002	
PRIVATE DONORS				1'963	05.08.2002	
PRIVATE DONORS		6'503	EUR	9'558	22.08.2002	
SWEDISH - GOVT/RC		3'000'000	SEK	483'600	16.05.2002	MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE
SWISS - RC				38'190	05.07.2002	
TURKISH - RC		5'000	EUR	7'314	07.06.2002	MALAWI RC SUPPORTING STARVING POPULATION
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				6'171'665	CHF	6.9%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SWISS - RC				65'000	05.07.2002	10000 BLANKETS, TRANSPORT/ INSURANCE
NORWAY - RC/GVT				10'984'036	24.07.2002	TRUCKS
AUSTRALIA	DELEGATE(S)			30'061		
FINLAND	DELEGATE(S)			33'511		
ICELAND	DELEGATE(S)			30'883		
GREAT BRITAIN	DELEGATE(S)			62'094		
NETHERLANDS	DELEGATE(S)			45'010		
NORWAY	DELEGATE(S)			9'363		
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				11'259'958	CHF	12.6%