

# **GUINEA: HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

11 September 2000

*appeal no. 01.03/2000; Revised budget  
situation report no. 2  
period covered: 1 April - 30 June 2000*

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*The Red Cross Society of Guinea, with the support of the Federation, continues to assist both refugees and vulnerable native Guineans alike, with further emphasis on the social welfare projects in Guéckédou, Forécariah and N'Zérékoré. During the quarter, over 6,000 vulnerable refugees and Guineans received advice and guidance and/or complementary assistance through the National Society's teams of social workers. Given the cramped living conditions, emphasis is also placed on dissemination of messages in the refugee camps on health, hygiene and the environment. The budget for the programmes in Guinea has been revised in order to reflect more accurately the current needs.*

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## ***The context***

Instability in the region linked with unrest in Sierra Leone and tensions and armed skirmishes in northern Liberia, have resulted in Guinea playing host to the largest number of refugees in the West African region. Repatriation initiatives towards Liberia are on-going; however, a majority of Liberian refugees are not ready to return to the precarious conditions of their country of origin. Over the quarter, a small contingent of Guinea-Bissauan refugees were repatriated; however, today some 462,000 refugees remain in Guinea, impacting on the socio-economic and ecological situation of the country.

The objective of the Red Cross Society of Guinea and the Federation is to provide assistance to the refugee community in the following areas: distribution of food and non-food items, social welfare services, water and sanitation, and repatriation activities in co-operation with the UNHCR. The presence of large numbers of refugees in the country has dramatically increased levels of vulnerability, particularly in communities which have hosted a high percentage of refugees for some ten years. The Red Cross Society of Guinea/Federation is therefore increasing work in the field of social welfare on the basis of vulnerability criteria which are applied to refugees and the native population alike.

## ***Latest events***

As a result of the crisis in Sierra Leone in May and the dramatic internal humanitarian situation, Sierra Leonean refugees continue to flee towards Guinea. At the end of June, there were 5,000 new arrivals registered in Kalako camp in the Forécariah region (100 km. from Conakry), of whom some 3,000 were women. Repatriation to Sierra Leone has been halted and the Red Cross Society of Guinea/Federation relief and social programmes are being reinforced in Forécariah and Guéckédou. In the Guéckédou region, a further 20,000 refugees were transferred to camps further away from the border area with Sierra Leone as a result of rebel incursions and security problems. Between 15 and 25 June, Guinea-Bissauan refugees who had been accommodated in a camp in Boké were repatriated, following postponement by the Bissauan authorities on two previous occasions.

In Guinea itself, the trial of the jailed opposition leader, Alpha Condé, which began in April and the holding of local elections in late June provoked disturbances and violent clashes between the supporters of the opposition and the police.

## ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

### **Boké w**

#### ***Guinea-Bissauan refugees***

Repatriation of the Guinea-Bissauan refugees settled in Boké since the outbreak of hostilities in Guinea-Bissau in June 1998, took place at the request of the Bissauan authorities between 15th and 23rd June. 468 refugees were repatriated by plane. The Red Cross Society of Guinea and the Federation dealt with logistic arrangements, the medical screening, and the distribution of food and water.

Guinea-Bissauans who chose to remain in Guinea number around 1,700 and have settled in the Boké area. No further assistance is envisaged by the Red Cross Society of Guinea/Federation.

### **Forécariah w**

#### ***Sierra Leonean and Liberian refugees***

The UNHCR registered the most vulnerable cases in the Farmoriah area in March and the National Society/Federation carried out a follow-up exercise over the quarter. Recently-arrived refugees from Conakry made up of 19 heads of family and 63 family members were welcomed and helped to settle. In Kalako camp, construction of shelters and kitchens continued and the Red Cross Society of Guinea/Federation also continued the construction of shelters in the other camps in the Forécariah area. In Kalako camp, a total of 180 shelters were built in May and 360 shelters were built in June. Furthermore, 552 tents were set up for refugees who were transferred from the following camps on the border with Sierra Leone: Dakhagbé, Layah and Dianéyah. Distribution centres were set up in Kalako and re-built in Kaliah I and Kaliah II camps. Work on a community kitchen in Kaliah II was completed. Furthermore, in Kaliah II and Farmoriah camps, huts for social welfare activities have been built.

Distribution of food provided by WFP took place in Kalako camp in May and Red Cross volunteers distributed non-food items provided by the UNHCR to newly-arrived refugees in Kalako. A distribution of mangoes provided by an Islamic organisation (AIC) was carried out for refugees in

Kalako, Kaliah I and II Camps. Special distributions of food and non-food items are carried out each time there is a new influx of refugees in Kalako and Kaliah II Camps, whereas general distributions take place on a monthly basis to those refugees who have been registered and identified as vulnerable through the social project criteria.

Some problems arose over the quarter with the general distributions as a result of discrepancies between the lists of beneficiaries and those holding cards, and also in relation to the provision of rations of bulgur which were replaced by WFP, given an expiry date of the end of August. Beneficiaries targeted are as follows (lists include 52 orphans at the Nongo Orphanage in Conakry):

| <b>Camp</b>     | <b>Refugees Targeted</b> |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Moussaya        | 370.00                   |
| Sikhourou       | 1,178.00                 |
| Dianéyah        | 664.00                   |
| Layah           | 658.00                   |
| Dakhabgé        | 922.00                   |
| Farmoriah       | 2,656.00                 |
| Kaliah II       | 860.00                   |
| Kaliah I        | 5,235.00                 |
| Nongo / Conakry | 52.00                    |
| Kalako          | 4,476.00                 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>17,071.00</b>         |

### **Guéckédou w**

#### ***Sierra Leonean and Liberian refugees***

Beneficiaries in the Guéckédou region include a total of some 306,899 Sierra Leonean refugees including the inhabitants of Massakoundou camp, made up of around 35,000 Sierra Leoneans who arrived mostly in early 1999. There are also 9,380 recently-arrived Liberians housed in Kouankan camp and former Liberian refugees who have now settled in the town of Kissidougou.

In May, a Social Welfare Delegate was assigned to Guéckédou and this will help to advance the social welfare work which makes up an important component of the activities in the Guéckédou region. The social welfare teams are now working well with support from the National Society Co-ordinators and the Social Welfare Delegate.

In addition to the transit centre in Macenta for those awaiting hospitalisation, another centre for refugees who have been referred for hospitalisation has been opened in Kissidougou. The Red Cross Society of Guinea is responsible for the provision of meals at these two transit centres. In addition, as part of the medico-social assistance for refugees from the Kissidougou and Macenta area, the Red Cross Society of Guinea has taken on responsibility for the provision of meals to refugees who are prisoners in Guéckédou, Macenta and Kissidougou. Food is purchased by WFP and is cooked and distributed by the National Society's volunteers. In total, there are an average of approximately 125 beneficiaries each day.

Advice, guidance and follow-up work in relation to vulnerable refugees continued over the quarter. A total of 2,106 refugees received advice and guidance and 2,256 benefited from individual evaluations to determine levels of vulnerability and needs for complementary assistance. The social workers' daily contact with the refugee and local population is useful in providing both the Red Cross and the partner

organisations with information on new arrivals in the camps, and such occurrences as disappearances of minors or children having been taken prisoner.

Distribution of non-food items takes place to those identified as extremely vulnerable, as needs arise, and a total of 5,362 refugees received second-hand clothing, mats, soap and hygiene kits over the quarter, and 130 shrouds were also distributed to bereaved families.

At the beginning of the year, the team responsible for awareness-raising activities attended a training course and reviewed its composition, following which it recommenced activities in April 2000. Having acquired a microphone, the team began by disseminating messages on hygiene, the prevention of cholera, diarrhoea, of STDs/AIDS and malaria. Messages were also spread warning of the ills of drug-taking and sexual violence. Sessions took place both in towns and in the largest refugee camps and the timing was set to coincide with other activities such as the Day of the Refugee, official visits, collection of garbage and vaccination campaigns. Since mid-May, the awareness team has worked on a daily basis and is welcomed in each of the camps. A theatre group made up of refugees has also received training in health prevention and given two presentations. In June 2000, the Red Cross branch in Kissidougou began awareness work, encouraging free blood donation.

The launch of sanitation activities in the camps is planned following an evaluation of sanitation facilities including latrines, waste disposal and drainage. Awareness sessions will be held with the refugee committees in order to encourage uncompensated participation in various activities such as the sinking of wells, distribution of waste-bins, organisation of waste collection and cleaning of latrines. It is hoped to assemble three theatre groups who will undertake activities in the field of health.

The sanitation project in Guéckédou is proving successful; however, it is becoming increasingly necessary to provide equipment and also to ensure appropriate technical advice to ensure good management. The entire population of the town of Guéckédou is involved in the sanitation exercises: ie. 60,000 local Guineans and refugees. Over the second quarter, a total CHF 2,911 was raised from income-generation through the collection of rubbish, provision of latrine facilities and hospital cleaning fees.

### **N'Zérékoré w**

#### ***Liberian Refugees***

Of a total of 33,000 Liberian refugees in N'Zérékoré, 7,298 have registered for organised or semi-organised repatriation. Over the second quarter, 1,694 and 3,011 refugees were repatriated through organised and semi-organised repatriation respectively.

The UNHCR has discontinued its relief and rehabilitation programme and is now focusing on the rehabilitation of schools and health structures with a view to a phased take-over by the local authorities. The emphasis is on the integration of former Liberian refugees in N'Zérékoré through health, education and social welfare activities. Over the quarter, 1,626 refugees/local inhabitants benefited from advice and guidance, 14 people were evaluated in view of potential assistance, 196 people received medico-social assistance and 30 people were offered meals and individual assistance.

The team of social workers in N'Zérékoré will orient their work to reinforce assistance to non-accompanied children and to focus more on community health. The administrative structure of the Red Cross Branch will also be reviewed in order to take into account the changing nature of Red Cross responsibilities.

#### ***National Society Development w***

Capacity-building activities over the quarter were concentrated on assistance towards the organisation of the National Society's Executive Council meeting. Meetings were also held with the technical departments and representatives of National Society governance, and assistance provided particularly in connection with the revision of the Society's Statutes. The Red Cross Society of Guinea/Federation

took an active part in the celebration of World Health Day on 7th April 2000. 2,000 brochures were issued to raise awareness on the topic of safe blood and large numbers of volunteers took part in activities organised by the Red Cross Society of Guinea, the health authorities and the WHO.

## ***Outstanding needs***

There are considerable additional needs in order to provide assistance to Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees as well as to vulnerable former refugees and Guineans alike in the coming months. There are currently urgent needs in relation to the social project in Forécariah. A budget revision is attached as Annex 2.

## ***External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media***

Over the quarter, there was a visit by parliamentarians from Cameroon, France, Canada and Senegal to Forécariah in order to better understand the refugees' situation. Visits were also made by the Desk Officer of the British Red Cross and by the Senior Officer of the Secretariat's Africa Department. Regular meetings were held over the quarter with representatives of the UNHCR, and extensive national media coverage of the World Health Day took place.

## ***Contributions***

See Annex 1 for details.

## ***Conclusion***

Over the quarter, the situation in Sierra Leone resulted in further influxes of Sierra Leonean refugees and although there is a gradual return to stability, repatriation to Sierra Leone is currently on hold. The social projects in Guéckédou, Forécariah and N'Zérékoré are key to reducing vulnerability of both refugees and native Guineans, and funding is much needed to ensure the success of these initiatives. The Red Cross Society of Guinea has made significant efforts over the quarter to address governance issues.

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| <b>Guinea</b>  |          |                         |      |                  |          | ANNEX 1                             |
|--|----------|-------------------------|------|------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>APPEAL No. 01.03/2000</b>                                   |          | <b>PLEDGES RECEIVED</b> |      |                  | 09/18/00 |                                     |
| DONOR  | CATEGORY | QUANTITY                | UNIT | VALUE CHF        | DATE     | COMMENT                             |
| <b>CASH</b>  |          |                         |      |                  |          |                                     |
| REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->                                 |          |                         |      | <b>2,881,761</b> |          | <b>TOTAL COVERAGE<br/>73.4%</b>     |
| <b>Balance carried forward from 1999</b>                       |          |                         |      | <b>(285,910)</b> |          |                                     |
| Reallocation of income   |          |                         |      | 56,231           |          |                                     |
| BRITISH - RC   |          | 30,000                  | GBP  | 77,700           | 03/02/00 | RELIEF PROGRAMME                    |
| BRITISH - RC   |          | 30,000                  | GBP  | 77,700           | 03/02/00 | RELIEF ADMINISTRATOR DELEGATE       |
| BRITISH - RC   |          | 23,000                  | GBP  | 60,030           | 10.05.00 | GA & INST. DEVELOPMENT PROG.        |
| BRITISH - RC   |          | 22,491                  | GBP  | 56,677           | 24.07.00 | FORECARIAH RELIEF PROGR.            |
| ICELAND - RC   |          | 500,000                 | ISK  | 10,948           | 03/30/00 | CORE COSTS DELEGATION               |
| NORWEGIAN - GOVT/RC  |          | 1,000,000               | NOK  | 189,198          | 03.08.00 | SIERRA LEONAN REF. & DELG. MGT      |
| SWEDISH - RC   |          | 5,300                   | SEK  | 998              | 29.05.00 | PSB (CLOTHES DONATION)              |
| SWEDISH - GOVT/RC  |          |                         |      | 26,800           | 30.05.00 | ID DELEGATE COSTS                   |
| SWEDISH - GOVT/RC  |          |                         |      | 62,600           | 30.05.00 | FINANCE DELEGATE COSTS              |
| SWEDISH - GOVT/RC  |          |                         |      | 50,000           | 30.05.00 | SOCIAL WELFARE DELEGATE COSTS       |
| UNHCR  |          |                         |      | 55,645           | 05/08/00 | LIBERIAN REFUGEES                   |
| UNHCR  |          | 197,889                 | USD  | 334,132          | 04/17/00 | SIERRA LEONEAN REFUGEES             |
| UNHCR  |          | 15,000,000              | GNF  | 15,810           | 04/04/00 | GUINEA BISSAU REFUGEES              |
| UNHCR  |          |                         |      | 37,517           | 03/02/99 | GUINEA BISSAU REFUGEES              |
| UNHCR  |          |                         |      | 138,490          | 05/17/00 | LIBERIAN REFUGEES                   |
| UNHCR  |          |                         |      | 424,030          | 04/04/00 | LIBERIAN AND SIERRA LEONAN REFUGEES |
| UNITED STATES - GOVT. (PRM)                                    |          | 370,000                 | USD  | 616,050          | 04/25/00 |                                     |
| <b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>                              |          |                         |      | <b>2,004,646</b> | CHF      | <b>69.6%</b>                        |
| <b>KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)</b>                 |          |                         |      |                  |          |                                     |
| DONOR  | CATEGORY | QUANTITY                | UNIT | VALUE CHF        | DATE     | COMMENT                             |
| SWEDISH - RC   |          | 106,000                 | SEK  | 19,960           | 29.05.00 | 20 TONS USED CLOTHES                |
| SWISS - GOVT/RC  |          |                         |      | 30,000           | 07.08.00 | HEAD OF SUBDELEGATION               |
| SWISS - GOVT/RC  |          |                         |      | 60,000           | 15.08.00 | SOCIAL DELEGATE                     |
| <b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES</b>                     |          |                         |      | <b>109,960</b>   | CHF      | <b>3.8%</b>                         |
| <b>ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET</b>                             |          |                         |      |                  |          |                                     |
| DONOR  | CATEGORY | QUANTITY                | UNIT | VALUE CHF        | DATE     | COMMENT                             |
| <b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED</b>                                      |          |                         |      | <b>0</b>         | CHF      |                                     |
| <b>THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE LINKED TO THIS APPEAL:</b>       |          |                         |      |                  |          |                                     |
| PGN001, PGN501, PGN502, PGN503, PGN504, PGN505, PGN515, PGN516 |          |                         |      |                  |          |                                     |

| <b>Guinea</b>                                     |                  |                  |                  |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>BUDGET SUMMARY</u></b>                      |                  |                  |                  |
| Revised Budget - AP01.03/2000                     |                  |                  |                  |
| TYPE  | Initial budget   | Revised budget   | Variances        |
| <b>RELIEF NEEDS</b>                               |                  |                  |                  |
| Shelter & constructions                           | 93,279           | 178,381          | (85,102)         |
| Clothing & textiles                               | 31,760           | 50,067           | (18,307)         |
| Food & seeds                                      | 10,000           | 43,150           | (33,150)         |
| Water   |                  | 111              | (111)            |
| Medical & first aid                               | 40,508           | 65,041           | (24,533)         |
| Teaching materials                                | 64,522           | 10,956           | 53,566           |
| Utensils & tools                                  | 50,500           | 11,336           | 39,164           |
| Other relief supplies                             | 127,854          | 63,207           | 64,647           |
| <b>TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS</b>                         | <b>418,423</b>   | <b>422,249</b>   | <b>(3,826)</b>   |
| <b>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</b>                          |                  |                  |                  |
| Vehicles  | 39,878           | 14,028           | 25,850           |
| Computers & telecom                               | 16,874           | 32,343           | (15,469)         |
| Office furniture & equipment                      |                  |                  | 0                |
| Household furniture & equipment                   |                  |                  | 0                |
| Generators & lightning                            |                  |                  | 0                |
| Medical equipment                                 |                  |                  | 0                |
| Other equipment                                   | 46,264           | 23,420           | 22,844           |
|   |                  |                  | 0                |
| <b>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</b>                          |                  |                  | 0                |
| Programme management (automatic calculation)      | 229,760          | 223,651          | 6,109            |
| Technical support (automatic calculation)         | 68,778           | 15,257           | 53,521           |
| Professional services (automatic calculation)     | 76,274           | 16,918           | 59,356           |
|   |                  |                  | 0                |
| <b>TRANSPORT STORAGE &amp; VEHICLE CO</b>         | <b>418,604</b>   | <b>319,608</b>   | <b>98,996</b>    |
|   |                  |                  | 0                |
| <b>PERSONNEL</b>                                  |                  |                  | 0                |
| Expatriate staff                                  | 821,752          | 655,641          | 166,111          |
| National staff                                    | 718,694          | 793,752          | (75,058)         |
| Personnel (support costs)                         |                  |                  | 0                |
|   |                  |                  | 0                |
| <b>ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; GENERAL SERVICES</b>      |                  |                  | 0                |
| Travel & related expenses                         | 35,721           | 64,845           | (29,124)         |
| Information expenses                              | 199,321          | 28,205           | 171,116          |
| Administrative & general expenses                 | 317,041          | 271,844          | 45,197           |
| External workshops & seminars                     |                  |                  | 0                |
|   |                  |                  | 0                |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS</b>                    | <b>2,988,961</b> | <b>2,459,512</b> | <b>529,449</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SI</b>                | <b>3,407,384</b> | <b>2,881,761</b> | <b>525,623</b>   |
| <b>LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)</b>               |                  | <b>2,114,606</b> |                  |
| <b>NET REQUEST</b>                                |                  | <b>767,155</b>   |                  |
| <b>Base for calculation of operations support</b> |                  |                  |                  |
|   |                  |                  | <b>2,626,935</b> |
| <b>Total appeal</b>                               |                  |                  | <b>2,951,612</b> |
| <b>Total programme support</b>                    |                  |                  | <b>324,677</b>   |
| <b>Programme management</b>                       | <b>61.30%</b>    |                  | <b>199,027</b>   |
| <b>Technical support</b>                          | <b>18.35%</b>    |                  | <b>59,578</b>    |
| <b>Professional services</b>                      | <b>20.35%</b>    |                  | <b>66,072</b>    |