

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

WEST AFRICA

10 December 2001

Appeal No. 01.02/2001

Appeal Target: CHF 5,630,297; While the appeal budget has deliberately been maintained during the latter part of the year, in view of the level of contributions the regional delegation has de facto been implementing programmes within what is considered to be a more realistic operational budget of CHF 3.2 million.

Programme Update No. 3; Period covered: July - September, 2001; last Programme Update (No. 2) issued 31 July 2001

“At a Glance”

Appeal coverage: 60% (against the current Appeal budget); over 100% against the operational budget.

Related Appeals: 14/01 - West and Central Africa: Meningitis

Outstanding needs: The regional delegation has been implementing programmes against a reduced operational budget, and while there are no outstanding needs on this appeal donors are encouraged to provide timely support to the Federation’s 2002-2003 Annual Appeal for West Africa (no. 01.01/2002).

Operational Developments:

In the Sierra Leonean town of Bombali, disarmament started on 21 September, but according to the UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) only 12 Revolutionary United Front (RUF) fighters and two from the pro-government Civil Defence Forces (CDF) handed in their weapons by the end of the month. The RUF released more child soldiers to UN officials in Makeni, about 180 km northeast of Freetown. This release brings the number of children the RUF has handed over to UNAMSIL to 1,170.

In a three-day meeting of the joint security committee of the three Mano River Union countries, defence and security ministers from Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, agreed on the deployment of joint patrols along their borders. They also agreed on the modalities for the repatriation of refugees, a frequent exchange of visits and the sharing of intelligence on all security concerns. On 28 September, Liberian President Charles Taylor announced that he was reopening Liberia’s borders with Sierra Leone and Guinea.

Haute-Guinea, a remote part of West Africa bordering Mali, was hit by devastating floods at the end of September. Guinea Red Cross volunteers have been using ICRC and Federation stocks to assist 10,000 people with blankets, soap, sleeping mats and buckets. The Federation and ICRC have also stepped in with teaching materials and training in health education for Guinea Red Cross volunteers who will bring their new skills to local residents to help stop the spread of waterborne diseases. Crop damage is likely to be significant and UN agencies estimate that another 150,000 people need help.

As a result of heavy rainstorms, heavy floods hit the Northern Nigerian states of Kano and Jigawa, leaving 200 dead and 82,000 displaced. In the first days, Nigerian Red Cross volunteers helped to move 500 disabled and elderly people to safety and gave health education to those in displaced centres. Sanitation materials were provided and latrines constructed. British Red Cross provided money for emergency supplies of rice, beans and oil while other contributions came from Norwegian Red Cross, DFID and USAID.

In response to the increasing ethnic, religious and communal unrest in the country, Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo plans to set up a special security commission. In September, fighting in Nigeria's south-eastern State, Ebonyi, claimed at least 27 lives, according to IRIN; and the fighting between the neighbouring communities of Akaeze in Iro Local Government Area and Osso Edda in Afikpo South displaced more than 1,000 people, while several homes, two schools and a community health centre were destroyed. Many of the displaced have taken refuge in Afikpo town and neighbouring communities.

According to emergency relief officials, overcrowding remains a major problem at two camps in Benue State, Nigeria, which are still hosting people displaced by communal clashes in nearby Nasarawa State this past summer. The camps at Daudu and Ukpiam, on the outskirts of the Benue capital, Makurdi, are said to be holding at least 20,000 people each. The IDPs are being accommodated in primary schools in the two communities.

Since July, Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) has been running therapeutic feeding centres for malnourished children in two cities in the south of Niger that has been affected this year by severe drought and crop shortages. The centres have looked after hundreds of children, most of whom arrive in 'alarming' nutritional health, according to MSF.

Following newly released statistics for the second quarter of 2001 which show Malaria accounting for one-third of all patients, Sierra Leone's Government declared malaria a leading public health problem in the country and strategies are being mapped out to fight the disease. The most vulnerable groups are the under-five children and pregnant women.

On 15 September, the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross and the Federation launched an appeal for a campaign to mobilize almost 3 million inhabitants of Abidjan to get their vaccinations against yellow fever, which had at that time claimed the lives of 20 people countrywide - 7 in Abidjan alone. They also took this opportunity to raise awareness in the communities on cholera, which had claimed 175 lives countrywide - 51 in Abidjan. The campaign was conducted in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF and MSF, among others.

There have been clashes in The Gambia between security forces and opposition supporters since the start of the presidential campaign on 26 September. Several people have been reported injured. The presidential elections are to be held 18 October.

Fifteen political parties, including the ruling Democratic and Social Republican Party (PRDS-French acronym), started campaigning on Wednesday for Mauritania's legislative and municipal elections, to be held on 19 October. More than one million voters have registered for the polls.



Disaster Response

Population Movement

Objective 1 Create an informed and aware network of National Society staff able to assess and address the needs of refugees and the displaced through training and operational experience thereby enabling branches to respond to emergencies in their own right.

Objective 2 Encourage National Societies to develop a sound legal base for population movement activities enabling increased advocacy on behalf of displaced populations.

Objective 3 Assist National Societies to develop external relations in the field of population movement allowing them to enhance their contribution to the population movement forum and the wider marketing of their skills.

Objective 4 Exploratory discussions concerning the establishment of regional or sub-regional population working groups similar to PERCO (Platform for European Cooperation on Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migrants) constituting a regional network for the exchange of information and good practice. Encourage National Societies to make more interventions benefiting displaced populations which are of increasing quality in line with the SPHERE standards wherever possible.

The Population Movement delegate started his mission at the end of September with a presentation of the Population Movement project to the presidents of the 16 National Societies at their gathering in Abidjan at the same time. Next quarter, the delegate will focus on acquainting himself with the region and further prepare the National Societies for population movement programming next year.

Disaster Preparedness

The accomplishments of the West Africa Disaster Preparedness programme from 1999 through 2001 was reviewed this July and August. A full copy of the report is available from the Federation Secretariat. The Review made some recommendations for future direction of the programme. Among these changes were more synergy with other humanitarian organizations, emergency preparedness programmes and specialized institutes in the region; more coordination with the Organizational Development programme to ensure effective disaster management, job descriptions, national plans and training need to be clearly defined; and assisting National Societies to find alternate sources of sustainable funding than the Federation for the future sustainability of their Disaster Preparedness programming. The recommendations have been taken into consideration in designing the remaining activities for the year. The Review as a whole was considered in the preparation for the Appeal 2002-03.

At the beginning of September, the Regional Disaster Preparedness Delegate left his post to become the Head of Delegation for Congo. He was replaced at the end of the month with a new Disaster Preparedness Delegate.

Objective 1 To assist West African Societies to implement appropriate Food Security decisions (Ouagadougou Declaration and West Africa Food Security recommendations) and operations in a timely and effective manner.

A food security meeting was held in August to discuss the West Africa Disaster Preparedness Review findings and also to discuss the way forward in identifying and assisting 10 National Societies to develop food security plans by December 2001. In consultation with the CILSS and the Review Team, the Regional Delegation has modified its activities toward this objective for the remainder of the year. These changes include reducing the goal to have 10 National Societies complete food security plans by



the end of the year down to five National Societies with food security plans - the previous figure now being seen as unrealistic.

Objective 2 To support National Societies to complete and/or initiate Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment activities in order to enable them to define programmes aimed at meeting identified needs of the vulnerable.

The Senegal Red Cross successfully held its pilot VCA in Thiès at the end of July. A regional resource person from the Gambia Red Cross assisted the National Society in the process. The VCA report is available at the Regional Delegation.

After the pilot VCA conducted in Agboville last quarter, the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross is planning to undertake the national VCA in the forthcoming weeks. This eight-month exercise will start with a training session of 38 people followed by a field session to be done in each of the 19 country regions. Both the Côte d'Ivoire and Togo Red Crosses received new computers and software to facilitate their analysis of VCA results.

Publication of the West African Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment Guide has been put on hold for the time being as further input is now being brought from the Regional Delegation, the Secretariat and some National Societies.

Objective 3 To support National Societies to improve their disaster management capacities, taking into account the need for gender, to respond to man-made and natural disasters such as floods, fire, malnutrition, famine, population movements and other disasters.

Publication of the West African Disaster Contingency Planning Tool has been put on hold for the time being for the same reason as West African VCA guide.

In a follow up to the joint plan of action, the Disaster Preparedness Delegate discussed with ICRC the disaster contingency plans of the Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire (cross-border Disaster Preparedness cooperation) and Togo (contingency plan for the October elections). The final terms of reference for the Togo contingency plan for the country elections in October 2001 was prepared. However, the elections have been postponed indefinitely.

The Regional Delegation and the *Centre National de Télédétection et d'Information Géographique* (CNTIG) have been unable to agree on a terms of reference for a regional disaster response database. The Regional Delegation will rely on internal resources to begin implementing the database 2nd quarter 2001.

The resource person appointed to head up the Regional Emergency Response Team objective for next year, the Coordinator for DP & Response from the Ghana Red Cross, took part in a Secretariat-sponsored Team Leader & Counterpart workshop in Geneva this September, in order to learn the Federation's strategy to improve its rapid response capacity and to ensure National Society involvement.

Humanitarian Values

Objective 1 To prioritize support for information to National Societies in the region according to capacity and requirements.

Information capacities and needs of the National Societies in the region were assessed by the new Information Delegate, Reporting Delegate and Information Assistant. In light of the Regional Delegation priority - to get all National Societies online by the end of the year - a Communications Consultant has started travelling to the National Societies most in need to equip and provide IT support and training.

Objective 2 To support formulation of National Society Information Plans.

Until now, no National Society has conducted a public image survey. It is unlikely at this stage, that a survey or any regional information seminars will be conducted before the end of the year.

With the arrival of the Information Delegate, direct technical support to select National Societies in planning should pick up before the end of the year. Already, preliminary contact was made with some of the National Society information officers by the Information Delegate.

Objective 3 To support excellence amongst National Society information personnel and provide technical equipment.

While it is too late for the Regional Information Delegate to organize regional information seminars and workshops as planned for this year, he did have the opportunity to meet with the presidents of all 16 National Societies in Abidjan at the end of September to outline the plans and priorities for Information development leading into next year.

The month of September also provided the Regional Information Delegate the opportunity to provide direct technical support in information skills to the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross with international press during its Yellow Fever campaign.

Objective 4 To Encourage knowledge sharing within National Societies.

With the change of personnel in the Regional Delegation's Information/Reporting Department this August, the West African Activity Bulletin was temporarily postponed, as was the biweekly newsletter of current events in the region. However, during the month of September the formulation of a plan to increase general information flow was elaborated including the continuation of the West African Activity Bulletin and biweekly newsletter through an electronic distribution list to be launched next quarter.

The success of the electronic distribution list is dependent upon the activities of the Communications Consultant (see Objective 1) who has commenced with identification of communications focal points in each National Society, backed up by a communications survey.

Objective 5 To increase visibility of the work of the National Societies.

The Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross' Yellow Fever campaign, the response to floods by the Nigeria Red Cross, the Guinea Red Cross and the Mali Red Cross in each of their countries, as well as the UN World Conference against Racism, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held in Durban, South Africa from 31 August to 8 September, were covered by the Regional Delegation's Information/Reporting Department and posted on the Federation's website. The Programme Officer for the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross' Children in Difficult Situations programme and the Federation Information Department submitted an article on street children in Abidjan for publication in the Red Cross/Red Crescent magazine next quarter.

Health and Care

Primary Health Care

Objective 1 To continue to support the National Societies to facilitate environmental hygiene and reproductive health information and services.

The Regional Delegation continued its support to the National Societies of Ghana, Senegal, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso in distributing ARCHI 2010 tools to facilitate training concerning environmental hygiene and reproductive health issues in communities. Although progress has been slower than anticipated, the National Societies are making progress.

The National Societies of Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso received technical support (in the form of information documents) concerning integrating reproductive health issues. The Ghana Red Cross has incorporated reproductive health issues into their mothers' club activities.

The Senegal Red Cross is finishing up the first phase of its micro project on prevention against preventable diseases such as diarrhoea in the Rufisque area. The micro project involved creating awareness among roadside food vendors on hygiene and healthy preparation of food. Rufisque has more than 300,000 habitants, and many work in the plants of this industrial town. For lunch, many buy lunches from these vendors. A next phase of the project is being developed, which will provide reinforcement of the local committees' capacity to maintain hygiene awareness in the communities as well as to expand the awareness campaign to other cities in the country.

The Benin Red Cross has prepared a plan of action against preventable diseases focusing the ARCHI 2010 approach on one local community for better impact. IEC materials have been developed on hygiene and the National Society has been working with school children on maintaining a healthy environment. This quarter, school children have maintained clean school grounds and the surrounding areas. Red Cross volunteers had previously gone to door-to-door with their awareness campaign, and informed parents of the cleanup campaign in their children's schools. This ensured full support from the community.

Objective 2 To continue support for National Society primary health services.

This quarter the Regional Delegation Health Department focused on follow-up of ongoing activities in eight National Societies (Niger, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Senegal, Togo, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Nigeria) concerning potential epidemic diseases such as polio, meningitis and cholera, where the Red Cross has input in social mobilization activities. The Regional Delegation facilitated contact in Burkina Faso, Niger and Benin, between WHO country office and National Society health coordinators.

The Health Department travelled to Yamoussoukro to participate in a Global African Vaccine Initiative (GAVI) Regional Task Force meeting, held in July. The Regional Health Delegate, a member of the West and Central Africa GAVI Task Force gave a presentation on the importance of social mobilization and its role in ARCHI 2010. The Red Cross is part of a working group - including members such as ICP/PEV/OMS, UNICEF, BASICS, AMP-CVP - responsible for reinitiating social mobilization for NPI within the framework of GAVI in GAVI-selected countries. This partnership should increase the impact of the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies' activities with the support of WHO and the respective Ministries of Health.

Next quarter the Regional Health Surveillance Team will gather again in Abidjan for its 6th conference from 2-5 October to follow up on the meningitis campaign and to share best practices regarding epidemic surveillance and prevention, and to look at plans for next year, including a scale-up of activities on HIV/AIDS.

Objective 3 To continue technical support to the National Societies for Water Sanitation activities.

Water and Sanitation programming was incorporated in the Regional Delegation appeal for next year. The rest of this year will focus on preparing the regional working group that chooses to focus on Water and Sanitation for activities next year.

Objective 4 To strengthen the National Societies and Regional Delegation's preparedness in response to epidemics.

Meningitis:

For the Meningitis campaign, the first of three tranches of funding was released 11 June to the five West Africa National Societies - Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin, Niger and Burkina Faso. In the second half of June, four members of the Regional Health Surveillance Team (RHST) went to Benin, Niger and Burkina Faso to provide technical assistance and to take stock of the operation. Their findings were brought forward in an evaluation meeting on the meningitis operation held from 17-19 July in Abidjan at which the seven National Societies and

partners such as WHO, UNICEF and *Association pour la Médecine Préventive* (AMP) participated. A copy of this report is available at the Regional Delegation.

The meeting revealed that this operation helped to implement the ARCHI 2010 approach, and by the same token got communities more involved in health management. While the overall objectives were achieved, it appears that most of the National Societies involved in this operation need more time to finish. To date, only Benin Red Cross has finished its activities. All participants agreed that a final report would be more complete if compiled at the end of September instead of July. As of this reporting, the National Societies are continuing with their post-emergency plans of action and a final report is being prepared.

Polio:

The Niger Red Cross' polio eradication activities should finish by the end of this year with a National Immunization Day (NID) to be held in October-November. After 6 months (February-July) of activities, the Niger Red Cross volunteers have visited 42,704 families with preventive health messages on polio in Niamey. Among 58,956 (0-5 years old) visited, 3,175 had not yet been vaccinated. In the Maradi region, 14,439 families have been visited, and out of 24,458 children, 1,841 have not been vaccinated. In the Diffa region, volunteers visited 6,598 families where 8,767 children were checked and 296 were in need of vaccinations.

In order to guarantee the efficiency of the intervention of the Red Cross volunteers were sent to the pre-chosen communities as follows: Maradi (50) Diffa (20) Niamey (150). Social mobilization campaigns took place each three days of the month. The districts were identified taking into account the number of children to vaccinate compared to the number from the last campaign. The heads of the identified districts were well-advised the day before, and traditional messengers called 'town criers' announced the arrival of the first-aid workers. Radio spots were broadcast from the day before to the last day of activity (ORTN and Anfani). Banners were hung the day before the event at major intersections and/or where vaccinations would take place. On the National Immunization Days (NIDs), the first-aid workers were introduced to the head of the district, the latter with the supervisor traces their route. The days of activity and number of first-aid workers were decided as a result of the number of households needed to be reached. Day-end debriefings were held to inform and troubleshoot. Weekly meetings were held to share information. These activities are part of a Global Polio Eradication Campaign (Appeal 28/2000) and will be reported on in the Programme Update for that appeal.

Yellow Fever:

The Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross, with support from the Federation, launched and implemented an appeal for mobilizing almost 3 million people to get vaccinated against yellow fever during a 2-week national campaign. (See Operations Update: Côte d'Ivoire - Yellow Fever in Abidjan, 12 October 2001). At the end of the campaign, Red Cross volunteers continued awareness through cleanup operations at factories, market places and public places. The Red Cross volunteers also educated people in their awareness campaign on cholera. The campaign was very successful, thanks in part to coordination and cooperation with international and local partners and the government. At the end of the campaign, over 2.8 million inhabitants were vaccinated.

Measles:

The American Red Cross, in collaboration with the Federation, is setting up a project on measles in West Africa. Ghana, Togo, Mali, Benin and Burkina Faso have prepared plans of action for their measles campaigns. To assist the National Societies, the Regional Delegation has hired a Regional Measles Coordinator for the 4-month operation that is expected to start next quarter.

HIV/AIDS

Objective 1 To continue technical assistance on HIV/AIDS to all National Societies to increase their operational capacities in project preparation, resource mobilization and implementation.

Fourteen HIV/AIDS country plans were drafted by the West African National Societies (with the exception of Cape Verde and Liberia). While all the plans aim to reinforce the capacity of the National Society itself and to

increase AIDS education among young people, their specific objectives and indicators vary according to target populations, current capacity and other country-specific details.

Three of the 16 National Societies will receive direct assistance from the Federation Country Delegations in their country. As the remaining 13 National Societies are at different stages of developing an operational country plan, the Regional Delegation will provide its assistance in a phased approach, whereby countries will be grouped into three phases. The respective groupings are as follows:

PHASE	COUNTRY	EXPECTED START DATE OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION
I	Togo	1 October 2001
	Ghana	1 November 2001
	Benin	1 December 2001
	Côte d'Ivoire	1 December 2001
II	Burkina Faso	1 June 2002
	Gambia	1 June 2002
	Niger	1 June 2002
	Senegal	1 June 2002
	Mali	1 August 2002
III	Cape Verde	1 June 2003
	Guinea Bissau	1 June 2003
	Liberia	1 June 2003
	Mauritania	1 June 2003

Currently, there are two National Societies - Togo and Ghana - which are ready to start implementing their country plans at the start of next quarter, while two more - Benin and Côte d'Ivoire - should be ready at the end of the year.

Objective 2 To continue technical and logistic support to National Societies to implement and expand peer education activities on HIV/AIDS.

In an effort to provide effective technical and logistic support to National Societies' so they may for scale up local capacities to have a greater impact on programme and service delivery pertaining to HIV/AIDS programme activities, the Federation's HIV/AIDS programme will take into consideration some key messages and recommendations from the ARCHI 2010 conference on scaling up local capacities held in Harare, 17-19 September 2001.

It is necessary that National Societies act promptly, with a focus and sense of prioritization, building on successful experiences. National Societies should concretely define their own meaning of 'scaling up' which is to be respected by the Federation, and upon consultation with Geneva. National Societies should ensure that volunteers come from and work in the community striving to develop a sense of 'community ownership.' National Societies should play a greater advocacy role at the local, national, and international levels, reinforcing partnerships while facilitating a more integrated and coordinated approach in its activities. There is a need for National Societies to develop an overall health and HIV/AIDS policy and strategy. There is a need for National Societies to develop an appropriate volunteer policy and management system. There is a need for National Societies to devise a care and protection policy for their own staff, including HIV/AIDS. Scaling up should entail good baseline indicators, focused and targeted interventions, and a good monitoring and evaluation system. Finally, there is a need for good leadership and governance at the National Society level.

Objective 3 To continue to support National Societies to increase safe blood transfusions.

At the 8th International Colloquium on Blood Donor Recruitment in Johannesburg (South Africa) mid-September, the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross' Blood Programme Officer presented the National Society's programme which aims to:

- Increase the number of donors and win the loyalty of 70 percent of the donors (this will be achieved by door-to-door visits, thanks to the assistance of Red Cross volunteers);
- Develop the capacity of local committees of the Red Cross on blood donation; and
- Equip blood transfusion centres with clubs or committees to support blood donation programmes.

The lessons learned through this programme include the need to identify the various sections of the community by examining their socio-economic and cultural characteristics, degree of education and the accessibility to other sources of information in order to choose appropriate methods of communication which will best support the adoption of positive attitudes with regards to blood donation.

Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross blood programme local committees carried on their activities of social mobilization and sensitization of blood donors in the regions of Daloa (west), Korhogo (north) and Bouaké (centre). A monitoring mission to these regions was planned for October. But due to the unforeseen emergency activities the Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross had on yellow fever, the mission was postponed to November.

First Aid

Objective To support the National Societies in the implementation of First Aid programmes (volunteer networks, community capacity, preparedness and response capacity, services and activities).

By the end of the year, the Regional Delegation is anticipating having published first aid manuals for three National Societies: Mali, Côte d'Ivoire and Niger. For Niger, a team was in the field to work with the person in charge of the programme, the handbook was revised and is finished, and with the support of the Regional Delegation will be published next quarter. For Mali and Côte d'Ivoire, the first aid manuals were tested during workshops in July and August. Members of different local committees came to the workshop to test the manuals for simplicity, clarity and practicality. Photographs taken during the workshop scenarios were incorporated into the final editions of the manuals which will be printed next quarter. For Guinea Conakry and Cape Verde, technical support is scheduled for next quarter, and discussions on the finalization of their first aid manuals will be made in October.

Since 1997, the Federation has followed an eight-step methodology in teaching CBFA.

1. Introduction of the CBFA programme, setting up and training of the national technical commission.
2. Evaluation and harmonization of first aid programmes and development of the national curriculum to address specific needs of the country.
3. Training of trainers workshop, field-testing the curriculum and sensitizing the authorities and influential people in the country.
4. Supervision and follow-up of trainers and volunteers and using first aid as a fund raising activity.
5. Training of headquarters staff, branch officers and committee members.
6. Evaluation of the first aid programme and concrete arrangements to be reinforced so as to have government legislature on first aid programmes for the countries that took to the CBFA programme.
7. Regional resource persons network meetings to exchange ideas.
8. National and regional first aid training of trainers camps.

To date, few West African National Societies - such as Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo - have completed all eight steps. With regard to Côte d'Ivoire Red Cross, technical consultations continue to be given for the integration of the eight stages in harmony with ARCHI. To reinforce same, a training-of-trainers workshop was held at the end of August.

For next year, the plan is to refocus First Aid into an income generating activity. Until then, the Federation has been trying to prepare the National Societies for this change in mindset. Discussions with Mauritania are not progressing as well as hoped but they are continuing. The Gambia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone were advised to reinforce this aspect not only in the cities but also at the local branches level. Cape Verde was difficult to reach by phone these last months to consider this aspect.

The Burkina Faso Red Cross Health Coordinator on first aid activities has developed a plan of action based on the new orientation of the Federation concerning income generating first aid incorporating the ARCHI approach. Next quarter, the Burkina Faso Red Cross will run a training-of-trainers workshop to train 44 volunteers/instructors to become monitors, using the ARCHI 2010 approach.

Organizational Development

Objective 1 To strengthen human and institutional resources of National Societies giving attention to gender integration.

Objective 2 To reinforce the National Societies' capacities in relation to the planning cycle for improved plans and projects.

Objective 3 To strengthen sub-regional cooperation and information exchange between National Societies to share experiences and competencies.

Objective 4 To assist the National Societies of the region to set up efficient financial procedures and achieve better financial management.

Objective 5 To develop the resource development capacities of National Societies in order to increase their level of local funding and self-reliance.

Objective 6 To facilitate the 'development cooperation' between West African National Societies and sister societies, as well as other partners.

The Burkina Faso Red Cross Society held an Extraordinary General Assembly (EGA) in July. At the EGA, the revised Statutes were adopted and a new *Conseil de Direction* was elected providing much needed re-motivation to meet the considerable challenges which lie ahead.

The Ghana Red Cross Society and the Gambia Red Cross Society also held General Assemblies this month, resulting in changes of Governance in both cases.

The post of Organizational Development Delegate has been vacant this quarter. A new Organizational Development Delegate will begin next quarter..

Regional Cooperation

Objective 1 To assist West African National Societies in the implementation of the West African Regional Strategy.

The Head of the Regional Delegation presented the new role of the Federation Secretariat in supporting National Societies at a meeting of Lusophone National Societies in July. The Regional Delegation's new approach to supporting National Societies through well-functioning regional structures was incorporated into the Federation appeal for next year after having received approval by the presidents of the 16 National Societies at a gathering in Abidjan at the end of September.

Objective 2 To ensure a regular follow up of the Ouagadougou Pan-African Conference recommendations.

The Regional Delegation Annual Appeal 2002-3 took into account the Ouagadougou Declaration priorities.

Objective 3 To assist West African members of the statutory bodies.

This objective has been placed on hold because of habitual scheduling and travel constraints by statutory body members.

Objective 4 To develop partnerships in our core areas with ICRC, Participating National Societies, leading international organizations and embassies.

The Regional Delegation is continuing to work out a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNAIDS to strengthen partnership and cooperation between the Movement (through the National Societies) and the UN

(through its UNAIDS country offices in the region) on HIV/AIDS programming. A Memorandum of Understanding specifically on HIV/AIDS is in preparation with the African Development Bank.

Objective 5 To ensure access by all 16 West African National Societies to the most efficient electronic communication means available within budget.

A communications consultant started at the end of September with conducting a survey of National Societies' Internet capacities and needs. Next quarter, he will travel to the National Societies starting with those most in need, to ensure all National Societies are online by the end of 2001.

Objectives 6 and 7 To increase the number of delegates recruited from the West Africa region; and to contribute to the exchange of experience and competencies within the region, thereby reinforcing National Society capacity.

Sidou Mané (Senegalese Red Cross) is to attend Guinea Bissau Red Cross as a resource person for the second half of 2001 within a capacity building project.

Coordination and Management

Delegation Management

Objective 1 Improved services of Regional Delegation to align the work of the Regional Delegation more closely in the strategic directions of Strategy 2010, emphasizing cost efficiency and improving services to National Societies and country delegations in the region (Delegation Management).

Continued work to increase external communication, continued work on the RC/RC project matrix (although slow National Society response), dialogue and coordination with PNSs working in the region were strengthened, particularly during reporting period, with American Red Cross concerning social mobilization (measles). Physical steps to locate, equip and open an office in Dakar undertaken as part of the Regional Delegation decentralization and internal Regional Delegation reorganization. Progress was also made in programming with respect to the 2002-3 Annual Appeal. Discussion within the Africa Department and the Regional Delegation enabled a more focused outlook for 2002 based, to a great extent, on the Strategic Directions of the Secretariat.

Reporting

Objectives 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 To issue narrative reports on programmes and operations in West Africa in conformity with the Federation's minimum reporting standards; to provide training to National Societies on Federation reporting formats and report-writing techniques; to stimulate dialogue with the National Societies in the region on reporting issues, and to raise awareness as to the essential role of reporting; to liaise with the Country Delegations and to provide advice on reporting issues in cooperation with OFR; to provide advice to National Societies on internal reporting systems and procedures, as required; and to respond to queries from PNSs on reports on the regional programmes and operations in West Africa, as requested, and to ensure that their concerns on reporting issues are taken into account.

This quarter, the reporting function was diverted toward the preparation of the Appeal 2002-03 for the Regional Delegation and three Country Delegations. The Regional Delegation has been liaising with the Country Delegations and certain National Societies advising on reporting issues: including Programme Updates, Information Bulletins and an Emergency Appeal, in cooperation with OFR. In the course of addressing the reporting objectives, various National Societies have responded positively to dialogue regarding the role of reporting and reporting issues. Many are receptive to reporting assistance and advice. At the current time, however, more training for the delegations on report-writing techniques has become apparent and will be focused on next quarter.

Finance

Objectives 8, 9 and 10 To ensure the accuracy of financial records from the Country Delegations in the region; to improve financial management and accounting procedures of National Societies for projects funded

through the Regional Delegation; and to improve procedures and accountancy skills within the Regional Delegation and the Country Delegations in the region.

The West Africa Regional Finance Department and Regional Finance Unit (RFU) have been managed by the Head of Regional Delegation (HoRD) since departure of the Regional Finance Administration Delegate in June 2001. A new HoRFU arrived in Abidjan early August 2001 and is currently managing both the RFU and the Regional Delegation Finance Department.

The RFU has started to achieve some of its objectives. In particular, draft 2002/2003 Appeal Budgets for supported delegations in West Africa have been reviewed leading to enhanced budget quality and all August accounting data for the region was submitted on time, although timeliness of monthly financial reports and accuracy of accounting data remain issues. Clearly, it is too early (following appointment of new HoRFU) to establish any trends.

In August 2001, HoRFU opened communication channels with delegations in West Africa. During September, RFU has been increasingly establishing itself as a centre for communication on financial issues in the region.

Logistics

Objective 11, 12, 13 and 14 To standardize regional logistics systems; to establish a regional procurement centre; to standardize regional fleet management practices; and to develop and maintain a regional telecommunication network.

No progress was made toward these objectives this month and there no intention to do so in the last quarter of 2001 due to over-riding need to further develop systems within the Regional Delegation. A procurement database has been finalized within the Regional Delegation to streamline, accelerate and improve the accuracy of regional procurement.

Outstanding needs

The regional delegation has been implementing programmes against a reduced operational budget, and while there are no outstanding needs on this appeal donors are encouraged to focus their support on the Federation's 2002-2003 Annual Appeal for West Africa (no. 01.01/2002).

For further details please contact: Anne Kirsti Vartdal, Phone: 41 22 730 4485; Fax: 41 22 733 0395; e-mail: vartdal@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>.

Peter Rees-Gildea
Head a.i.
Relationship Management Department

Bekele Geleta
Head
Africa Department

Western Africa Regional Programmes						ANNEX 1
APPEAL No. 01.02/2001		PLEDGES RECEIVED			07.12.2001	
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
CASH						
REQUESTED IN APPEAL CHF ----->				5'630'297	TOTAL COVERAGE 60%	
CASH CARRIED FORWARD				243'344		
SECRETARIAT PROG SUPPORT				301'886		
AMERICAN - GOVT/PRM		170'000	USD	291'244	23.04.2001	3 PROJECTS
AMERICAN - RC		16'650	USD	27'772	30.11.2001	MEASLES COORDINATOR FOR 4 MONTHS
BRITISH GOVT (DFID GRANT)				985'000	03.02.01	PARTNERSHIP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2001
BRITISH - RC		30'000	GBP	73'800	23.04.01	DPP DELEGATE
BRITISH - RC		15'000	GBP	36'900	23.04.01	REGIONAL WORKING GROUP
DANISH - RC				4'440	31.10.2001	TRAINING WORKSHOP FEES
FINNISH - RC		25'228	EUR	38'811	29.03.01	REGIONAL COOPERATION
FINNISH - RC		2'523	EUR	3'833	20.04.2001	PARTNERSHIP MEETING SENEGAL
FINNISH - GOVT/RC		55'592	EUR	82'232	30.10.2001	OD PROGRAMME
FRENCH - RC		50'000	FRF	11'725	29.03.01	REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING
GERMAN - RC		12'150	DEM	9'150	27.11.2001	PARTNERSHIP MEETING DAKAR
KUWAIT - RC				6'222	01.05.2001	BURKINA FASO, DISTRIBUTION & HANDLING
NETHERLANDS - RC				275'040	01.01.01	HEALTH PROGRAMME
NORWEGIAN - RC		40'000	NOK	7'484	30.03.01	REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP MEETING
SWEDISH - RC		200'000	SEK	34'740	28.02.01	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
SWEDISH - RC		250'000	SEK	43'425	28.02.01	INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
SWEDISH - RC		250'000	SEK	43'425	28.02.01	HEALTH AND CARE
SWEDISH - RC		125'000	SEK	21'713	28.02.01	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
SWEDISH - RC		125'000	SEK	21'713	28.02.01	INFORMATION PROGRAMME
SWEDISH - GOVT		1'250'000	SEK	212'375	21.05.2001	HEALTH
SWEDISH - GOVT		250'000	SEK	42'475	21.05.2001	COOPERATION
SWEDISH - GOVT		800'000	SEK	135'920	21.05.2001	DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
SWEDISH - GOVT		375'000	SEK	63'713	21.05.2001	POPULATION MOVEMENT
SWEDISH - GOVT		250'000	SEK	42'475	21.05.2001	HUMANITARIAN VALUES/INFORMATION
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH				3'060'857	CHF	54.4%
KIND AND SERVICES (INCLUDING PERSONNEL)						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
Netherlands	Delegate(s)			59'959		
Norway	Delegate(s)			36'304		
Great Britain	Delegate(s)			59'959		
Sweden	Delegate(s)			30'225		
Switzerland	Delegate(s)			17'248		
Iceland	Delegate(s)			24'805		
KUWAITI - RC				79'637	01.05.2001	BURKINA FASO, FOOD PARCELS & CARPETS
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES				308'137	CHF	5.5%
ADDITIONAL TO APPEAL BUDGET						
DONOR	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED				0	CHF	
THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS ARE LINKED TO THIS APPEAL:						
220450, 220460, P61001, P61160, P61201, P61401, P61402, P61502, P61511, P61901, P61902, P61908, P61910						