

# **ANGOLA: INTEGRATED COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

6 November 1998

*appeal no. 01.17/98  
situation report no. 2  
period covered: October 1998*

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## ***THE FINANCIAL SITUATION IS SUFFICIENTLY SERIOUS TO ENVISAGE CLOSURE OF FEDERATION PROGRAMMES IN ANGOLA***

*A lack of funds for Angola has resulted in halting all cash transfers to the field. During the latest Donors' Meeting held on 2nd October 1998, it was agreed by all partners that efforts should be made to ensure that the programmes continue until the end of the year 1998. Despite this, further funding has not come forward and the programmes risk immediate closure.*

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## ***The context***

During the last week of October the security situation was comparatively calm and the reported number of security incidents throughout the country were less numerous than earlier in the month.

At the moment, the major concern of the humanitarian community is the shortage of agricultural inputs and the need for resettlement of displaced populations (new IDPs in 1998 numbered 399,787) so that they may restart their productive activities towards self-sufficiency. Access to health facilities is also of great concern, especially during the rainy season when epidemics such as malaria and cholera continue to spread and the capacity of response of the national health institutions remains weak.

An increasing number of cases of malnutrition, an imminent shortage of medicines and a lack of qualified personnel are leading towards an emergency situation.

## ***Latest events***

On 2nd October 1998 an Angola Working Group Meeting was held in Geneva to inform Heads of International Departments of the PNSs of the progress made in the Community Health and Development Programmes (ICHDP) in Angola, and specifically to discuss the precarious financial situation of the programmes. There was an appeal to all the partners to support the Programmes in Angola until the end of 1998 and again in 1999. Agreement was reached during the meeting that the Project Delegation approach, commenced in Angola in 1996, had not been as successful as hoped, and it was decided to work in accordance with a traditional Federation Delegation approach during 1999.

## ***Red Cross action***

The Integrated Community Health and Development Programmes (ICHDP) in Angola have been effective in 7 Provinces with 18 health Posts serving some 70,000 beneficiaries/IDPs per month. Nevertheless, financial difficulties and serious insecurity of late have hampered the programmes. Security problems, together with the onset of the rainy season, have incited renewed population movements and the need for health facilities is more important than ever. The work of the Red Cross which concentrates on the Health sector is crucial at this time in Angola.

The Institutional development component of the programmes should not be underestimated, particularly since only a few months previously, the first General Assembly held by the Angola Red Cross for many years took place. This demonstrated support for the restructuring of the National Society and for the important work which the Angola Red Cross is carrying out in a context of insecurity and hardship in a country devastated by numerous years of conflict.

## ***Outstanding needs***

The immediate needs are for funding to secure the Programmes until the end of 1998. The amount needed to cover programme implementation up to 31st December 1998 is of CHF 550,000.

Timing is highly important as at this stage no funds are presently available for transfer to the field.

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

Regular contacts are maintained in the field and Geneva with UN organisations, NGOs and representatives of the media.

## ***Contributions***

See Annex 1 for details.

## ***Conclusion***

In view of urgent funding needs in order to guarantee the future of the Programmes in Angola, donors are encouraged to make contributions at the earliest possible date.

Please contact the Desk Officer for Southern Africa, Helga Leifsdottir, at (41.22) 730.43.16 or by e-mail - Leifsdot@ifrc.org should you wish to receive further information.

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