

# INFORMATION BULLETIN



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

## ***PERU: FIRE***

10 January 2002

*Information Bulletin N° 2/2002*

*Disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) Allocated: CHF 75,000*

*This Information Bulletin is being issued based on the needs described below. A DREF allocation of CHF 75,000 has been released, and the Federation does not anticipate further needs. Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are needed. This operation will be reported on through the quarterly DREF update.*

### ***The Situation***

The worst fire tragedy recorded in Peru destroyed the Mesa Redonda shopping area in Lima killing hundreds of people on December 29. Several tonnes of fireworks exploded engulfing shops and surrounding buildings. Latest official figures report 286 bodies have been recovered with 424 people missing. Other reports put the number of missing at 800. Sixty-six people suffering burns have been transferred to public hospitals and 30 families are being cared for in public shelters.

### ***Red Cross/Red Crescent Action***

One Peruvian Red Cross (PRC) rescue brigade and three psychological support groups (more than 60 volunteers in total) have supported emergency services to rescue and provide first aid and psychological support to victims and their families. The National Society has participated in the Committee for Emergency Operations (CEO) set up by the authorities and is leading a blood donation campaign.

The PRC, supported by the International Federation's Regional Delegation for South America through its office in Peru, has adopted a Plan of Action for six months, with three different phases:

- Phase I, 29 December - 4 January: Evaluation of needs, capacities and primary emergency response (already implemented).
- Phase II, 29 December - 1 March: Relief to 300 most vulnerable families affected:
- Phase III, 29 December 2001 - 30 June 2002: Psychological and social assistance to victims, families of missing and volunteers involved in rescue and after-fire support activities.

## ***Health***

In coordination with the CEO and the Ministry of Health (MINSa), PRC is carrying out rescue and psychological support activities, as well as taking the lead in the blood donation campaign. Coordinated by the PRC headquarters, one rescue brigade and three psychological support brigades have taken part in primary emergency assistance to victims. A blood donation campaign has been carried out by groups of volunteers who have collected blood for hospitalised patients.

## ***Psychological and Social Assistance***

The PRC, in coordination with the National Office for Mental Health, will take part in a mid-term psychological and social programme for those victims who have suffered burns as well as families of missing people and volunteers. A team consisting of psychologists and volunteers will provide psychological and social support to 300 affected families for six months. All members of brigades taking part in rescue activities and/or supporting the affected families will attend regular meetings with psychologists who will provide them with mental care.

## ***Food Assistance***

The most vulnerable families will receive two standard food parcels (20 kg of rice, 10 kg. of pasta, 5 kg. of lentils, 1 kg. of salt, 10 kg. of sugar and 2 litres of oil). They will also receive two hygiene kits.

For a full description of the National Society profile, see [www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)

*For further details please contact :*

- *The Peruvian Red Cross in Lima; Fax/phone 511-4710701 & 4710523; email <scrperu@mail.iaxis.com.pe>*
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*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 support to or for further information concerning Federation operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website [at http://www.ifrc.org](http://www.ifrc.org)*

*For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.*

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