

# ***TURKEY: EARTHQUAKE***

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## ***Information Bulletin N° 01***

### ***The Disaster***

At 1656 local time on Saturday 27 June, an earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale struck Adana Province in Southern Anatolia. Reports to date show 128 dead in Adana, Ceyhan county, Hatay and surrounding areas. More than 1,500 people have been injured, 300 seriously. The most common injuries were broken limbs sustained as people jumped from windows. Some 35 buildings collapsed and as many as 1,500 were damaged, as well as three hospitals, six schools and one bridge. Between 1700 on 27 June to 1300 on 29 June, 103 aftershocks were recorded: 51 on 27 June, 48 on 28 June and four on 29 June.

The Prime Minister's office immediately set up a Crisis Administration Centre which is co-ordinating with crisis desks at the Governor's office in Adana, Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRC) and the Ministries of Public Works, Health, and Communications. Local authorities used heavy machinery to clear debris and allow the civil defence, local people and Red Crescent volunteers rescue victims, remove corpses and bring the injured to hospitals

The Netherlands Embassy in Ankara has expressed its willingness to collaborate with the International Federation Representation in Turkey to support immediate and long term initiatives to decrease vulnerability in disaster areas.

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

The Turkish Red Crescent set up a crisis desk on Saturday evening (27 June), and the National Society's President visited the disaster area on 28 June. Red Crescent relief teams (50 members) arrived in the area overnight with 30 vehicles and immediately set up mobile kitchens to distribute hot meals in Adana and Ceyhan.

The following relief supplies have been sent to the disaster zone:

Ten small mobile kitchens, one large mobile kitchen, 4,700 tents and 8,200 blankets (some of them being already stocked in Adana warehouse before the earthquake), 8,721 kg of food, two water bladder tanks. The Turkish Red Crescent has also provided 1,157 units of blood (various types) and 50 units of dry plasma to the disaster area.

The Turkish Red Crescent is dealing with the present crisis without external aid.

## Needs

The specific mandate of the Turkish Red Crescent during a relief operation — determined by the Government through the Governor of the region affected by the disaster — is to provide temporary shelter and food to the victims.

The Turkish Red Crescent has been distributing hot meals through its 11 mobile kitchens and has provided thousands of tents and blankets to the most vulnerable population. This relief assistance — one month after TRC responded to the floods in the western Black Sea regions — has had a serious impact on the National Society's stocks. Replacement of depleted stocks requires the procurement of 5,000 tents (with capacity for 4 to 6 persons) and 10,000 blankets. The Federation Representation in Ankara can provide valuable assistance in the local procurement of a new stock of tents and blankets, provided enough funds are available. Ten new mobile kitchens would greatly increase the disaster preparedness of the National Society, as would two mobile generators for use when power supplies are down.

The Federation Representation is assisting the newly-created TRC First Aid Department in organising refresher courses for first aid trainers in Istanbul. Five branches are being prioritised — Izmir, Istanbul, Ankara and one in each of the East and Southeast regions.

The Federation Representation in Ankara will continue to provide assistance in all phases of relief and development programmes, as well as feedback to donors.

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