

# ***INDONESIA: EARTHQUAKE***

**preliminary appeal  
no: 15/2000  
6 June 2000**

***THIS PRELIMINARY APPEAL SEEKS  
CHF 5,353,933  
TO ASSIST 140,000 BENEFICIARIES  
WITH IMMEDIATE RELIEF***

## ***Summary***

At the request of the Indonesian Red Cross (Palang Merah Indonesia - PMI), the International Federation is appealing for cash support for the Society's emergency relief operation in aid of victims of the earthquake that struck Sumatra late on Sunday, 4 June. This preliminary appeal will be followed by a full appeal once needs assessments have been completed and more detailed information becomes available. In its early stage, the operation is targeting 140,000 people, or almost 10% of the population of the affected area. A Federation assessment team will arrive in the area tomorrow. The Indonesian government yesterday requested international assistance.

## ***The Disaster***

An earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale hit the province of Bengkulu on the island of Sumatra at 23:30 hrs. local time on Sunday, 4 June, (source US Geological Survey). The epicentre of the quake was approximately 112 km Southwest of the provincial capital of Bengkulu (pop. 1.2 million).

The Indonesian Meteorological and Geophysics Agency reports that the main quake was followed by 54 aftershocks measuring between 3 and 4 on the Richter scale. There have been no reports so far of a tidal wave (tsunami), which is a common occurrence after such large quakes.

According to recent reports, the quake has left 103 dead and 500 injured, many of them seriously. Some are being treated in local community health centres. The numbers of injured could rise, as more people are extracted from ruined buildings. The Indonesian Red Cross provincial branch in Bengkulu reports that it is providing first aid as well as making blood supplies available. The branch stated that buildings have collapsed or been damaged, including the public hospital in Bengkulu town, that telephone lines are down

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and the airport is closed. It adds that while there have been no official evacuations, people prefer not to stay in what remains of their houses for fear of further aftershocks.

There is little information concerning the situation on Enggano island, south of Sumatra, which was close to the quake's epicentre. It has a population of 1,500; many houses have been destroyed and communications with the island have broken down.

## *The Response so far*

### **Government Action w**

As with similar emergencies in the past, Indonesian government agencies, including the military and civil authorities, are co-ordinating the rescue and relief operation. The Indonesian Disaster Management Co-ordinating Board (Bakornas PB) met on Monday with UNDP and other agencies. The government has appealed for international relief assistance including tents, water, food and surgical equipment. It is expected to send an assessment team to the area today.

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

The Indonesian Red Cross Bengkulu branch is assisting the local authorities in a more thorough damage and needs assessment.

Because of the scale of the disaster, the Federation took immediate steps to dispatch an emergency assessment team to the region, to reinforce PMI efforts. The nine-member team comprises three regional team members -- participants from the Japanese and Singapore Red Cross Societies and the Bangkok Regional Delegation, two American Red Cross personnel and three Geneva based Secretariat staff. Specialities represented in the team include health, water and sanitation, relief and shelter. A helicopter is on standby to lift the team to the disaster area on Wednesday morning. The German Red Cross has relief staff on standby.

Using CHF 250,000 released from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund, the Federation team will also provide initial emergency assistance.

### **Co-ordination**

Since the onset of the emergency the Federation has been in close contact with the Indonesian Red Cross as well as with the ICRC Jakarta delegation. The Federation will work closely with the National Society and the ICRC to co-ordinate all international Red Cross Red Crescent assistance. The Federation will also join the Indonesian Red Cross in co-ordinating with the Indonesian government's Bakornas as well as with UNDP and OCHA. A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, 7 June.

## *The Intended Operation*

### **Assessment of Needs w**

Indonesian Red Cross relief officials who are surveying the affected area will be joined tomorrow, Wednesday, by the multi-discipline Federation team described above. The assessment will be co-ordinated with government assessments as well as with OCHA who will deploy an UNDAC team to assist the UN resident co-ordinator.

### **Indonesian Red Cross Capacity w**

Emergency relief is one of the main services of the Indonesian Red Cross. The national society has experience of the large earthquake that struck the island of Flores in 1992, killing 2,500, and with the support of the Federation is currently managing a small earthquake operation in Sulawesi. It also has a long track record of working with ICRC in a number of complex relief operations. The Indonesian Red Cross has several branches in Sumatra, including a provincial branch in Bengkulu City.

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However, despite its considerable experience, the Society recognises the need to further strengthen its capacity. Since its National Convention in November 1999 in particular, it has demonstrated a strong commitment to strengthening its nation-wide disaster preparedness programme.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent Objectives**

- In this initial stage of the relief operation, the first priority is the immediate purchase of urgently needed relief items, to dispatch them to the worst hit areas and to distribute them to the victims. According to the latest information, all the supplies required can be purchased within Indonesia.
- The second priority, which must be realised in parallel to the initial relief assistance, is to complete the emergency assessment which will identify a clear set of co-ordinated activities to be carried out by the Red Cross.
- The third priority is to focus on the likely rehabilitation and reconstruction needs as well as on the replenishment of disaster preparedness stocks and the longer term strengthening of the Society's capacity to respond to disaster situations.

## ***Budget summary***

See Annex 1 for details.

## ***Conclusion***

This is a preliminary appeal, based on the limited information currently available. It is being launched in order to raise immediately the funds that will enable the PMI to continue providing the most essential emergency relief supplies and services to the injured and homeless victims. Donors are urged to respond rapidly with cash donations. All contributions should be made to the International Federation, in its co-ordinating capacity for Red Cross Red Crescent international assistance for this disaster.

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Acting Under Secretary General,  
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<b>RELIEF NEEDS</b>	<b>IN CHF</b>	
<u>Shelter &amp; constructions</u>		
Plastic sheeting	250,000	
Other shelter material	650,000	
<u>Clothing &amp; textiles</u>		
Blankets	350,000	
Water & Sanitation	550,000	
<u>Medical &amp; first aid</u>		
First Aid Kits	100,000	
Basic drugs	500,000	
<u>Utensils &amp; tools</u>		
Household kits	520,000	
<b>TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS</b>		<b>2,920,000</b>
<u>CAPITAL EQUIPMENT</u>		
Telecom. equipment /Computers	250,000	
Generators & lighting	150,000	
Medical equipment	525,000	
<u>PROGRAMME SUPPORT</u>		
Programme management (automatic calculation)	361,016	
Technical support (automatic calculation)	108,069	
Professional services (automatic calculation)	119,848	
<u>TRANSPORT STORAGE &amp; VEHICLE COSTS</u>	450,000	
<u>PERSONNEL</u>		
Expatriate staff	150,000	
National staff	200,000	
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE &amp; GENERAL SERVICES</u>		
Assessment/Survey mission/Evaluation	25,000	
Travel & related expenses	15,000	
Information expenses	30,000	
Administrative & general expenses	50,000	
<b>TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS</b>		<b>2,433,933</b>
<b>TOTAL APPEAL CASH, KIND, SERVICES</b>		<b>5,353,933</b>
<b>LESS AVAILABLE RESOURCES (-)</b>		
<b>NET REQUEST</b>		<b>5,353,933</b>

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