

# ***CAMBODIA: FLOODS***

14 October, 1996

## ***Information Bulletin no.03***

### ***The disaster***

Widespread flooding, while continuing to ravage six provinces and districts of Phnom Penh along the Mekong river, has now spread to three other Cambodian provinces. In Svay Rieng province, an estimated 10,000 people were forced from their homes by floods caused by a freak combination of receding flood waters from upstream provinces and high tides in Vietnam that forced water back into Cambodia. In Takeo province a heavy thunderstorm caused flooding in several districts, affecting an estimated 10,000 families and damaging 31,000 Ha. of farmland. Finally, in areas of Banteay Meanchey province in the NW, heavy rains and water run-off from Thailand have affected an undetermined number of people.

The number of deaths has risen to 27, while many more people are reported missing and tens of thousands remain homeless. They are facing immediate shortages of food, shelter and medicines.

The National Committee for Disaster Management (NSDMC) continues to estimate that some 1.3 million people have been affected, of whom 500,000 will require assistance. Full assessments of the affected areas are ongoing but are constrained by difficulties in accessing the severely flooded areas.

### ***Government Action***

To date, approximately US\$ 2.1 million in cash and kind has been pledged or donated by local and international donors following the appeal launched on 04 October for US\$ 5,163,250 by the NSDMC.

### ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

The CRC and the Federation continue to visit the affected areas with the NSDMC, assist in distributions and play a leading role in the Flood Working Group.

Emergency distributions are taking place in all affected areas. A consolidated report on beneficiaries, their location and the amount of emergency supplies received is being compiled by the CRC/Federation. Furthermore, a consolidated list of pledges and donations is being constantly updated by the CRC/Federation and is regularly submitted to the NSDMC for dissemination to donors.

After the return to Phnom Penh of the Secretary General of the CRC, the National Society notified the Federation that it planned to request the launching of a Red Cross Appeal. Details of the projected CRC operation will be sent to Geneva very shortly.

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