

*This report was issued by OCHA New York. The next report will be issued on or around 19 January 2010.*

## I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- **Urban Search-and-Rescue teams have saved 90 lives. Two more live rescues were reported on 18 January.**
- **The immediate priorities for the wider humanitarian response continue to be medical assistance, corpse management, shelter, water, and food and sanitation.**
- **Fuel remains an issue. WFP is planning to move 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel per day from the Dominican Republic.**
- **IOM is working with the Government and the Inter-American Development Bank to assess the suitability of a 100,000-person temporary shelter site at Croix des Bouquets.**
- **WFP has reached 200,000 people with food since the start of the response.**
- **The Government has declared a month of national mourning until 17 February 2010.**

## II. Situation Overview

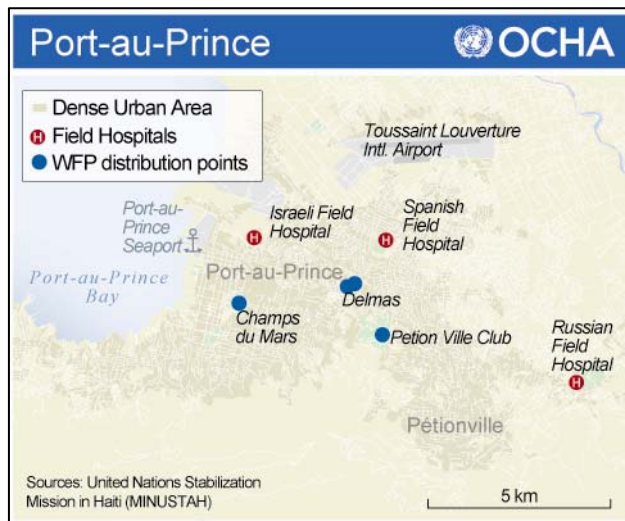
Urban Search-and-Rescue (USAR) activities continue with an additional two live rescues reported on 18 January. The total number of live rescues is 90 people by the USAR teams. USAR will continue operations and teams are increasingly reaching out to affected areas outside Port-au-Prince. The immediate priorities for the wider humanitarian response continue to be medical assistance, corpse management, shelter, water, and food and sanitation.

MINUSTAH reports that the overall security situation in Port-au-Prince remains stable, with limited, localized violence and looting occurring. It has assessed that most security incidents have been reported from areas that were categorized as high risk prior to the earthquake. Military escorts are required for the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The Government has declared a state of emergency throughout the country and national mourning for one month until 17 February.

The Government is prioritizing a rapid return to economic activities through the establishment of food and cash-for-work programmes, and through efforts to re-establish power and remove debris from roads. The Government has further advised severely affected populations to leave the city if they have family or friends in non-affected areas. To this end, it provided cash and fuel to a transport company to provide free transport. Reports have been received that thousands of displaced are leaving Port-au-Prince for rural areas.

Local banks have announced their plans to open 30 to 40 distribution points within the week for the population to access their bank accounts. WFP reports that ad hoc sales of fruits and vegetables are sporadically beginning in the city. However, access to staple foods remains extremely difficult and expensive. Long, chaotic lines are forming at the few gas pumps that still work.

A slot system has been created for Port-au-Prince airport by the US Government. Slots are given pending the size of aircraft (bigger aircraft take longer to offload and take more space); aircraft requiring ramp space (small aircraft are parked on the grass, requiring no ramp space); and cargo transported as per priorities.



On 17 January, a technical assessment mission was carried out by IOM, the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and Haitian Government officials at Croix des Bouquets to gauge the area's suitability as a possible location for a large 100,000-person settlement. Further assessments were planned for 18 January with the aim of not just setting up a temporary settlement, but also starting construction of new houses with IADB funding.

An initial assessment by the United Nations Environment Programme, from 13 to 17 January, indicated no major acute environmental emergencies, but enormous issues for the anticipated recovery phase. The most urgent issues include waste management, medical waste, disposal of corpses and disposal of demolition material.

### III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

The 12 clusters<sup>1</sup> designated in the Flash Appeal are mobilizing and holding more regular meetings to coordinate their joint efforts.

#### Logistics

WFP is planning to move 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel per day from the Dominican Republic to Port-au-Prince to meet high levels of demand following the depletion of existing fuel supplies in the capital. Congestion of relief items continues at the Port-au-Prince airport. The Logistics Cluster recommends that Santo Domingo be used as the primary entry point for humanitarian relief destined for Haiti while Port-au-Prince airport is operating at diminished capacity.

The Logistics Cluster is establishing a field office in Jimaní, Dominican Republic, for the transfer of relief items and personnel into Haiti. It secured a fleet of long-haul 30 trucks in Santo Domingo on 18 January. WFP is in the process of acquiring a warehouse in Santo Domingo air and seaport for its own needs and those of the cluster.

UPS will make warehouse space available at the international airport in Miami. It can be used by WFP and the Logistics Cluster as a transitional shipment base if required.

The International Humanitarian Partnership base camp arrived partly in Port-au-Prince on 18 January. It will be set up by MSB standby personnel once the rest of the equipment arrives in-country by road from Santo Domingo.

WFP, the US Air Force and MINUSTAH are working to coordinate the arrival of incoming humanitarian flights, including flight slots (landing clearance), procedures and criteria for prioritization.

Information related to logistics coordination should be sent to [haiti.logs@logcluster.org](mailto:haiti.logs@logcluster.org) Information on cargo coordination should be sent to: [haiti.cargo@logcluster.org](mailto:haiti.cargo@logcluster.org)

The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) has started passenger flights plus small cargo flights (subject to available space) from Santo Domingo to Port-au-Prince and back. UNHAS booking requests for Santo Domingo to Port-au-Prince should be sent to [UNHASPAX.Haiti@wfp.org](mailto:UNHASPAX.Haiti@wfp.org) Cargo requests should be sent to [UNHASCARGO.Haiti@wfp.org](mailto:UNHASCARGO.Haiti@wfp.org). The booking form and flight schedule are published on the Logistics Cluster website: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/flash-news-17-january-2010-unhas>

#### Health

The Health Cluster reports that all hospitals within the Port-au-Prince area are overwhelmed with incoming patients. The main issue is evacuating patients once they have been treated, as most of them prefer to stay in the facility, thus reducing surgical capacity. Many fracture cases need urgent surgical intervention due to extended periods without care.

WHO reported that the following hospitals are functional: Hôpital St. Esprit; Hôpital Père Damien; Clinique Hôpital Le Messie; le Nouveau Centre Médico-hospitalier; Argentine military field hospital; Israeli mobile field

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<sup>1</sup> The 12 clusters are: Camp Coordination and Camp Management (IOM); Education (UNICEF); Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items (IOM/IFRC); Food (WFP); Logistics (WFP); Nutrition (UNICEF); Protection (OHCHR with UNICEF for Child Protection and UNFPA for GBV); WASH (UNICEF); Agriculture (FAO); Early Recovery (UNDP); Emergency Telecommunications (WFP); Health (WHO/PAHO).

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hospital; Russian military field hospital; and the Nicaraguan military field hospital. Additional field hospitals are arriving from Mexico, Turkey, France, MSF, Indonesia and the USA. Additionally, the Navy hospital ship USNS Comfort is scheduled to arrive on 22 January. Due to the overwhelming number of offers of field hospitals, the Health Cluster has set up a separate field hospital sub-group to deal with this issue under the coordination of the Friends of Haiti group.

Major gaps include surgical capacity, follow-up of surgical patients, maternity care, and coverage of areas of population displacements.

To date, epidemiological reports have indicated that there is no increase in reportable diseases along the Haiti-Dominican Republic border, according to WHO/PAHO. The Ministry of Health of the Dominican Republic has set up a health situation room in Jimaní to compile daily assessment reports.

PAHO/WHO is coordinating the health sector response from operation bases in Port-au-Prince and Santo Domingo. An operations centre is also being set up in Jimaní, in the Dominican Republic, along the Haiti-Dominican Republic border.

MSF reports that it has treated over 3,000 people and carried out some 400 surgeries since the start of the response. The most common treatments include fractures, crushed bones, burns, head injuries, gangrene (requiring amputations) and complicated deliveries. MSF teams are providing treatment at Carrefour; Trinite; Pacot; Choscal (Cite Soleil); MSF office in Petionville; and Martissant. The teams are doing surgery in Chancerelle and nephrology in the general hospital. Assessments have taken place in Saint-Marc, Leogane, Grand Goave and Petit Goave by road, and Jacmel by helicopter. Assistance is planned in each location.

## **Food**

On 18 January, WFP implemented distributions of various food items to approximately 100,000 people inside and outside Port-au-Prince. The cumulative total of people fed by WFP is 200,000 since the earthquake. An estimated additional 130,000 people were assisted by other Food Cluster actors such as NGOs, national authorities and the Dominican Republic bilaterally.

There is still an urgent need for ready-to-eat foods (Meals Ready to Eat, High Energy Biscuits) and logistics assets such as fuel, trucking capacity and security for distributions. A cargo aircraft carrying some 43 metric tons of High Energy Biscuits is due to arrive from El Salvador to Port-au-Prince airport on 18 January.

Within the next week, WFP aims to move the equivalent of 10 million ready-to-eat meals. To achieve this, WFP is establishing four humanitarian hubs to deliver food assistance in Port-au-Prince, and at least 30 others at locations across Haiti.

Several assessments are continuing in the earthquake-affected areas to establish a comprehensive overview of the food needs. Preliminary evaluation and registration of affected people is currently being carried out by ACF in Champ de Mars, Canape Vert, Sainte Marie and Stadium Silvia II, where food needs are estimated for a total population of approximately 50,000 people. Several partners have communicated their operational capacity to WFP as cluster lead.

The National Food Security Commission (Commission Nationale de Securite Alimentaire - CNSA) is partially resuming its activities, but is looking for working space as its offices are inoperative. CNSA will work with FEWSNet and WFP to produce a weekly Flash Bulletin on the food security situation in the country. Its team is available for rapid assessments to be carried out in the next days and will coordinate with other Government instances (DPC and local communities). CNSA will also collaborate with an emergency food security assessment that will be required in the coming weeks, once the situation on the ground will allow a more comprehensive assessment.

To ensure a coordinated response, it is imperative that partners in the food sector are assigned interventions zones within the affected areas. Based on the figures of affected people and the food distribution carried out so far, the Food Cluster will assign zones to each interested partner in order to ensure maximum coverage and a coordinated effort. The Government has expressed its wish to move as fast as possible towards a normalization of the situation through the provision of food (rice and cereal) for cooked meals.

## **WASH**

The WASH Cluster reports that water tanks are being installed in each zone of the city. Potable water was distributed to 80,000 people in Port-au-Prince on 17 January through 45 distribution points around the city. Water distribution was planned for 100,000 people on 18 January. UNICEF also supplied the general hospital in Port-au-Prince with 120,000 litres of bottled water on 17 January.

The cluster is working below its capacity due to fuel shortage. It has secured 7,000 gallons of fuel to produce and distribute water for the next two days, and in order to increase distribution sites to 80.

ICRC is using water trucks to provide clean water for around 7,500 people in three makeshift camps. Latrines for around 1,000 people have also been built in the Delmas area.

## **Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFIs)**

There is a pressing need to have temporary shelter sites identified both within Port-au-Prince (smaller in scale) and outside for larger ones. Site identification is being approved in coordination with the Government, taking into account security, appropriateness of sites, and the link with mid-to-long-term reconstruction initiatives.

IOM continued NFI distribution on 18 January, reaching 9,600 people with hygiene kits at Parc La Primature and Villa Creole in Port-au-Prince. Kitchen kits and bottled water from in-kind contributions will be distributed on 19 January. USAID/OFDA has announced that helicopters are available to support distributions at sites that have been previously assessed for helicopter landing.

UNHCR reports that two plane loads carrying 2,130 light weight tents and 18,550 plastic sheets will arrive in Haiti early in the week of 25 January from UNHCR's logistics hub in Dubai. UNHCR is also offering its immediate emergency expertise in camp management and site planning.

The IOM warehouse, which is large and located next to the airport, has no electricity. This is making round-the-clock operations impossible. Security is also an issue as more items start to arrive.

## **Emergency Telecommunications**

MINUSTAH continues to provide ICT services to the humanitarian community in the logbase. It is currently upgrading Internet connectivity to accommodate the additional personnel who are arriving.

The radio security network is functioning with 1 VHF repeater over 3. WFP is looking to reestablish the remaining repeaters once escorts are available for site visits. An Inter-Agency Radio Room has been established at the WFP workshop.

The first local ETC meeting was held in Port-au-Prince with the participation of UNICEF, TSF and MINUSTAH under the local coordination of WFP. Around 15 ICT staff are providing assistance to humanitarian organizations. The ETC members are looking to replicate the coordination arrangement in place in Haiti for the Dominican Republic, where ICT support is still required. An additional four staff and 2.5 tons of further ICT equipment will arrive in Santo Domingo on 19 January.

Ericsson will provide a GSM system that will permit free communication between humanitarian workers within the network and permit incoming calls from outside routed by Brindisi. This will permit free access to all UN numbers that are interconnected through the Logbase.

## **Education**

Schools remain closed. UNICEF is bringing supplies for temporary schooling once "safe spaces" for children are identified. Plans are still underway to move 30 metric tons of emergency supplies from the UNICEF hub in Dubai with a WFP charter flight containing 42-square metre tents, suitable for dispensaries or classrooms.

## **Protection**

The Child Protection Cluster is now operational and working on the establishment of a system to assist children who were separated from their families. A manual for humanitarian workers and protocols on childcare intervention in hospitals will be circulated.

UNICEF reports that the biggest immediate concern for child protection is identifying and registering children who have been separated from their families or are orphaned. UNICEF has started to work with ICRC and

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Save the Children to initiate family tracing in the Centre d'Accueil. MINUSTAH military responded to a request for help in Carrefour where an orphanage had approximately 150 children trapped inside. They were successful in recovering 44 children from the building.

The UNHCR protection team to support the OHCHR-led Protection Cluster will leave for Haiti on Wednesday.

#### IV. Coordination

The UNDAC team continues to coordinate the On-site Operations and Coordination Center (OSOCC) that has been established at the MINUSTAH logbase. It is supported by the European Civil Protection Mechanism.

Twenty-six countries, including Argentina, Canada, France, Russia and the USA, have provided significant military assets towards the emergency response. These assets included field hospitals, troops, military aircraft, hospital ships, cargo ships and helicopters. MINUSTAH currently has 3,400 troops and police on the ground. OCHA is strengthening its civil military coordination capacity to ensure an effective response. In addition, the Logistics Cluster, through WFP, is closely liaising with the US Military forces in Port-au-Prince to establish direct lines of communication and tasking procedures for US Military assets through USAID/OFDA.

UNDAC members and two OCHA surge staff from OCHA Regional Office in Panama are now in Santo Domingo to support coordination of relief transiting through Dominican Republic. Discussions are underway to activate the cluster system in the Dominican Republic to mirror what has been established in Haiti.

#### V. Funding

According to FTS, the Flash Appeal is 19 percent funded as of 18 January. Of the \$575 million requested, \$105 million has been funded. An additional \$50 million has been pledged. (This total does not include contributions that have been made outside the Flash Appeal.)

**All companies that wish to donate funds are urged to use the new UN/business partnership gateway, at <http://business.un.org>. This function matches offers of support with UN needs.**

**All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform FTS of cash and in-kind contributions by sending an email to: [fts@reliefweb.int](mailto:fts@reliefweb.int).**

#### VI. Contacts

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### Websites:

For more information, please visit [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)

For information on OCHA: <http://ochonline.un.org/haiti>

Guide to humanitarian giving for the Haiti Earthquake: <http://ochaonline.un.org/donatetohaiti>

For information on ICRC's family tracing service, go to <http://www.familylinks.icrc.org/familylinks>.

For the Haiti logistics cluster: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a>

Shelter cluster: <http://groups.google.com/group/shelterhaiti2010>

For a direct link to the Haiti Flash Appeal:

[http://ochadms.unog.ch/quickplace/cap/main.nsf/h\\_Index/Flash\\_2010\\_Haiti/\\$FILE/Flash\\_2010\\_Haiti\\_SCREEN.pdf?OpenElement](http://ochadms.unog.ch/quickplace/cap/main.nsf/h_Index/Flash_2010_Haiti/$FILE/Flash_2010_Haiti_SCREEN.pdf?OpenElement)

ICRC Q&A on the risk of dead bodies to public health: <http://www.icrc.org/web/eng/siteeng0.nsf/htmlall/health-bodies-140110>

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