At a Press Conference on 7 February, Margareta Wahlstrom, the U.N.'s special tsunami relief envoy, said that donor countries are failing to provide enough funds for temporary housing and job creation for survivors of the tsunami. She said that there are two issues that have to be focused on at this stage and over the next six months: providing people with shelter, however temporary, and giving them the opportunity to earn an income.

The Government of Sri Lanka closed its Centre for National Operations (CNO) on 4 February citing the end of emergency phase relief operations. The CNO had been in operation since 29 December. The recently established Task Force for Relief (TAFOR), in partnership with the various government ministries, will now take over the relief operation and related functions of the CNO.

Funding highlights

Out of $859 million pledged to the FA by official donors on or after Jan. 11, $423 million has been contributed ("paid," "disbursed"). A further $249 million has been committed. (423 + 249 = 672, meaning that 78% of official FA pledges have been converted into commitments or contributions.) Private donors have contributed an additional $57 million.* The rest remain uncommitted official pledges.

*Subject to clarification by donors.

INDONESIA

Situation Update
According to the latest information provided by BAKORNAS (07/02/05), 114,573 bodies have been buried, with 127,749 listed as missing. The total number of displaced people in Nanggro Aceh Darussalam Province (NAD) is 412,438 scattered in 18 districts/cities.

Overview of Activities
The Provincial Government of NAD has started its registration of displaced people who will be moved to relocation sites in Banda Aceh and Aceh Besar District and will subsequently start in the other districts. This registration will not include displaced people living with host families.

UNDP plans to carry a joint pilot project on waste management and recycling initiatives for both the tsunami waste and municipal garbage in Banda Aceh. A rapid inspection of waste in damaged areas and at dumpsites in Banda Aceh and Meulaboh has shown that a large part of the volume of
waste is spoiled soil, damaged building materials, and vegetative matter. Moreover, the inspection showed that a large portion of the waste can be recycled. This joint Government and UNDP tsunami waste management project is expected to provide immediate employment for survivors at the same time. The workers will receive a daily wage, health and safety training, appropriate clothing and vaccination prior to the job.

A Working Paper on Humanitarian and Early-Recovery Assistance Framework has been finalized in consultation with the authorities, international organizations, NGOs and others present in Banda Aceh. The purpose of this framework is to outline the strategy of the UN and other stakeholders in regard to recovery, as well as to help bring the international community into alignment and provide support for the Government. The document will be made available through the HIC (www.humanitarianinfo.org).

It is estimated that more than 250 organizations are operating in NAD Province, of which only about 25 percent have registered their activities with OCHA on a regular basis. Efforts continue to bring as many as possible into the coordination process and a mapping exercise of national NGO’s and development of local coordination mechanism to ensure the information flow is now underway.

The onset of rainy season in the tsunami affected area of NAD and NS has increased the need for proper water and sanitation management in the IDP settlements, as well as the need for waste management around the affected areas. The GoI, UN agencies and NGOs have jointly completed water and sanitation assessments in some areas of NAD. In addition, a joint Government and UNDP tsunami waste management project has been set up for Banda Aceh.

Singapore is evaluating the possibility of strengthening the port capacity in Meulaboh with a floating barge or pier.

The Government has agreed for WFP to supply six rub halls for storage of relief goods. Rubb halls will be airlifted to Calang, Lamno, Teunom and Lhoong to be used by the Department of Social Welfare. Two additional rub halls will be delivered to Panga and Patek (west coast).

The road from Calang south to Kruang Saba and Panga is being repaired by TNI marines and engineers and should be open to normal traffic soon. From Meulaboh east to Medan, road conditions are generally good and continuing to improve as the result of work by TNI engineers.

For the latest comprehensive report regarding logistics, please see UNJLC’s latest situation report at www.unjlc.org

**Major obstacles, challenges and needs**

The Government relocation strategy will be carefully developed over the next days to ensure that humanitarian principles are adequately safeguarded. Choice of shelter materials for relocation infrastructure will be a function of the emerging policy.

**Link between emergency activities and livelihood recovery**

In Meulaboh the Minister of Social Affairs outlined economic development plans for livelihood recovery in the medium to long term. Potential projects include providing capital for small-scale industry and loan incentive programs. He highlighted the needs of fishermen, who comprise approximately 60% of tsunami impacted communities, and displaced persons.

The Minister also stated that economic development assistance could include provision of capital
for small-scale industry that would support the wider communities. In addition, the possibility of loans incentives will be looked into with the banks at a larger stage. He highlighted that the faster displaced people are empowered with the assistance of the international community, the greater and more effective the recovery will be. FAO sponsored a meeting in Medan of the working group on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry which was attended by more than 70 delegates from ministries, international agencies and NGOs. The meeting launched a two-day workshop to prepare strategies and detailed recovery plans for the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Further workshops are planned in Aceh.

To facilitate access to jobs for people who have lost their livelihoods as a result of the earthquake and Tsunami disaster, the Provincial Department of Manpower in Banda Aceh (Disnaker NAD) established the Employment Service for the People of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam Province (ESPNAD), supported by the UN. The purpose is to create and maintain a database of skilled people living in NAD who are in need of employment.

In the transition from humanitarian relief to rehabilitation, the UN agencies have also begun to replace foreign military assets and personnel. During this process OCHA recognizes the importance of consultation with the Indonesian military (TNI) and has employed two senior Singaporean Civil Military Coordination officers to link international military with national counterparts in thematic areas where the TNI will maintain a leading role.

Useful websites:
Government:
www.bakornasphp.go.id (National Coordination Board for Natural Disaster Management)
www.depsos.go.id (Department of Social Affairs)
www.depkes.go.id (Department of Health)
www.lin.go.id (National Information Board-Ministry of Information and Communication)
www.info-ri.com (Information-Republic Indonesia)

Other:
www. coe-dmha.org/tsunami.htm (daily chronology of key events)
www.apan-info.net - tsunami page (Pacific Command)
www.humanitarianinfo.org - Humanitarian Information Centre (HIC)

MALDIVES

Situation Update
One month after the tsunami an estimated 12 000 persons (5 percent of the population) have been displaced from their islands and another 8 500 people are temporarily relocated to other places on their own islands. All are in urgent need of re-establishing their livelihoods.

Overview of activities
The humanitarian situation in Maldives has stabilized with immediate humanitarian needs generally being met in all major sectors.

National response: The rapid response mechanism, the National Disaster Management Centre set up by the government to address humanitarian relief issues has been working effectively and a just over a month after the disaster, the Government has established a longer term framework:

Disaster Relief Coordination Unit: responsible for the construction of temporary shelters, repairing damaged homes, maintenance of new housing for those who lost homes, repairing
damaged social infrastructure and the provision of relief aid for victims. The Unit will also handle registration of displaced persons and attend to their social needs.

**National Economic Recovery and Reconstruction**: planning and implementation of reconstruction and rehabilitation of affected islands, coordination of the recovery of the national economy and planning and implementation of long-term projects within the National Development Framework.

**International Response**: Pledges to the UN Flash Appeal have been slow in coming with only UNICEF’s funding needs being fully met. UNFPA requires another $1.5 million to be able to address the needs it outlined in the Flash Appeal whilst WHO is confident that their funding requirements will be met in the near future. UNDP has secured the least amount of funding for the components outlined in the Flash Appeal and assistance is urgently required in the areas of housing and shelter, restoration of livelihoods and disaster risk reduction.

**Major obstacles, challenges and needs**

**Health**: sustaining emergency health inputs until more permanent arrangements are in place and rendering damaged health facilities functional.

**Housing**: preliminary damage assessments of private housing come to over $65 million. Reconstruction has been estimated at $75 million of which over 22 million are immediate needs. Funding secured for this is minimal.

**Restoration of livelihoods**: re-establishment of the agricultural crops will involve improvement of soil, forestry, and water resources, importation of planting material, and provision of extension services, some of which will have to be obtained from other countries. Recovery needs; US$11,1 million.

An estimated 50 percent of field plots have been destroyed due to saline water flood, causing loss of perennial plants and crop failure. Saltwater intruded into fresh water lenses on almost all of the 1,200 islands, resulting in vegetation browning and dieback. Perennial trees such as coconuts, breadfruits, mango etc. have been uprooted and/or are suffering from salt toxicity. Particularly bananas have been severely damaged. 700,000 fruit trees and 840,000 timber trees have been damaged in the inhabited islands. Perturbation of water aquifers, sea salt sediments, and salt logging constitute big threats to agriculture and water supply.

OCHA Male received information from the Department of External Resources (DER) about unmet requirement of 10,000 mattresses (3 x 6 feet - single bed), with pillows and sheets, for IDPs.

**SRI LANKA**

**Situation Update**

Sri Lanka is exiting the phase of immediate emergency. On Sri Lanka’s Independence Day, 4 February, the President stated that although some 700,000 persons remain displaced, there has been no suffering due to hunger or disease. Priority tasks are now to build 75,000 new houses and repair another 50,000 in a country that annually builds less than 5,000 houses and about 200 business spaces. Sri Lanka will have to rebuild in one year the infrastructure that took decades to construct.

National press reports indicate growing tensions over alleged flaws in the distribution of relief in the South and East of the country. Grievances are directed towards national government authorities, INGOs, agencies and/or district and local authorities.
Overview of activities
Funding for FAO projects totaling 12.9 million Euro (US$ 16.7 m) has been approved to support the rehabilitation of Sri Lanka’s fishing industry. The tsunami killed 7,500 fishermen and destroyed 80% of the country’s fishing boats. In addition, a pledge was made for 160 m Euro from the Dutch private sector and civic groups, to be used in dredging, watsan and fisheries rehabilitation.

The Tamil Tigers freed 23 child soldiers after allegations that the LTTE recruited at least 40 underage combatants. The 23 children were handed over to the North East Secretariat on Human Rights (NESOHR) to be reunited with their parents.

Tents continue to pour into the country though the authorities have announced that the official position is to move from tents to temporary shelter.

Rabies control activities are being conducted through the Ministry of Health in Matara district due to the large number of stray dogs roaming around the camps.

Planning and/or construction of temporary and semi-permanent schools is underway. The identification of suitable sites for semi-permanent school shelters is causing problems in densely populated areas, such as Ampara. Proposals for temporary school buildings in Paddiruppu and Batticaloa education zones (Batticaloa district) have been approved and work will start immediately. A proposal from Kalkudah for construction of semi-permanent buildings is being considered. In Jaffna district, UNICEF has agreed to undertake the reconstruction of 2 schools; GTZ will be responsible for 6 schools and the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) will be responsible for 4 schools. UNICEF will support the construction of 46 temporary modular classrooms in Maruthankerny in Jaffna district. These will accommodate up to 1,500 children.

The Government has now withdrawn the duty free concession for relief items coming into the country, introduced on 28 December. Items that are still exempt from duty are medical supplies, milk powder, infant milk, infant food, roofing materials and components for prefabricated houses.

Major obstacles, challenges and needs
An updated UN Coordination Strategy was presented to the HC and UNCT jointly by OCHA and the HIC. A major challenge in the coming week will be linking up UN and NGO coordination mechanisms with the emerging consolidated Government coordination scheme.

Providing water and sanitation for relocated families is becoming a major challenge in all districts. Many families are moving in an unplanned and uncoordinated manner. Planning water and sanitation under such circumstances requires lengthy negotiations especially when dealing with private landlords and can be a time consuming and difficult process. Large numbers of children have still not returned to school for a variety of reasons, some of which can be addressed in the near future and others that will take longer to remedy.

Detailed information on the relief effort is available on website of the Centre for National Operations (CNO) www.cnosrilanka.org

PLEDGES – CONTRIBUTIONS
Regarding overall funding in response to the tsunami, according to the information available to the United Nations:

Total amount pledged, committed or contributed to all recipients is US$ 5.5 billion. Of this:
87 Governments have pledged, committed or contributed US $5.1 billion. Private persons and institutions have contributed at least US$ 393 million.*

Total amount pledged, committed or contributed to the UN-NGO Flash Appeal is US$ 920 million. Of this:
-- 53 Governments have specifically pledged, committed or contributed US$ 664 million to 16 UN agencies.
-- Private persons and institutions have contributed US$ 57 million to 6 UN agencies.**
-- The balance ($205 million) consists of general pledges for the Flash Appeal but not yet assigned or committed to any agency or NGO.

*UN agencies are informing FTS of the private contributions they receive, but not all NGOs are; therefore this figure is known to be understated.
** A further $140 million in private contributions has been reported by UN agencies, but the agencies are re-allocating the funds from Flash Appeal projects to medium-term reconstruction activities.

Note regarding "unearmarked funds": There is increasing discussion of the role of "unearmarked funds" in filling the under-funded gaps among Appeal sectors, projects, and affected countries. For precision, unearmarked funds in the Flash Appeal should be understood as three main types:

1. Funds that are already committed or contributed to specific agencies in the Appeal, but with only loose earmarking (e.g. to the tsunami situation in general), without conditions by the donor as to affected country, sector, or project. It therefore rests with the appealing agency to decide on the funds’ allocation among affected countries, sectors and projects, and to disseminate that information. Funds in this form still constitute the majority or plurality of Appeal pledges, commitments and contributions.

2. Funds that are contributed (paid) to the UN without donor specification as to the recipient agencies, affected countries, sectors or projects. So far, this is a minor phenomenon: funds that have been contributed in this form for the Flash Appeal amount to only about $4.8 million.

3. The third kind could more accurately be called "unspecific or unassigned pledges." Many donors have announced lump-sum pledges for the Flash Appeal. Many of those have further announced which agencies would receive how much from that pledge (or have already completed the steps of signing commitments with and paying the contributions to specific agencies). Some donors have not yet specified which agencies or projects will receive all or part of their announced pledge. These unassigned parts of pledges are not "unearmarked funds" in the strict sense, since they are still only pledges, not yet commitments or actual contributions. It therefore rests with donors to decide what to do with these unassigned balances – presumably giving primary consideration to under-resourced projects, sectors, and affected countries – and to disseminate the information. As of today, such unassigned Flash Appeal pledges total $200 million.

Updates on contributions to this disaster may be found on the Financial Tracking Service (http://www.reliefweb.int/fts; or, click “Financial Tracking” at the top of the ReliefWeb page for this disaster). Donors are requested to verify this table and inform OCHA Geneva of corrections/additions/values. Donors are encouraged to notify OCHA Geneva of their contributions to this disaster using the OCHA Standardized Contributions Recording Format, available electronically on the above-mentioned FTS website.
Together with further information on other ongoing emergencies, this situation report is also available on the OCHA Internet Website at http://www.reliefweb.int.

Aid agencies are encouraged to use the Virtual On-Site Operations Coordination Centre (OSOCC) at http://www.reliefweb.int to share information on assistance and coordinate activities.

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