



HIGHLIGHTS

- 1. Aid supplies are reaching Myanmar more easily. Many NGOs including Medecins du Monde have received supplies in the last 48 hours. WHO has received and distributed additional Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kits and Diarrhoeal Disease Kits.**
- 2. The UN has launched its global Flash Appeal. The Appeal includes health cluster projects for a total of US\$15 million. The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) has earmarked US\$4 million for health cluster operations. WHO and its partners have finalized the grant proposal to be submitted to the CERF today.**
- 3. Emergency health efforts are continuing in the affected areas. Sixteen WHO Regional Surveillance Officers (RSOs) have been deployed to the affected areas to support the Ministry of Health in assessing needs and implementing relief activities. UNFPA and other partners are delivering Reproductive Health kits and Clean Delivery kits to pregnant women.**

HEALTH ASSESSMENT & SITUATION UPDATE

- The flow of supplies to Yangon is improving. Another WFP plane arrived today in Yangon. Its cargo included a Diarrhoeal Disease Kit for WHO. NGOs have also been receiving supplies through various channels.
- Initial reports of the sinking of a ship off the coast of the Irrawady delta have proven to be incorrect. The ship suffered a mechanical failure and is being towed to port.

HEALTH CLUSTER RESPONSE

1. Supplies

- In consultation with the Ministry of Health, WHO has deployed 11 Regional Surveillance Officers (RSO) to affected townships in Ayeyarwady district. Another five RSOs have been assigned to Yangon district for the next two weeks to support the Ministry of Health in assessing the situation and delivering health relief items.
- WHO has delivered another two Inter-Agency Emergency Health Kits to Bogale and Labutta, and will send four more kits today to the Pyapon, Ngaputaw, Myaungmya, and Ma U Bin townships. This will provide enough immediate medical supplies for most of the worst-hit townships in the Ayeyarwady district.
- The Ministry of Health has given WHO a list of the essential supplies and medicines that need to be replenished urgently. WHO will work with the Ministry to establish a revolving stock of drugs to ensure the continuing availability of essential medicines and supplies.
- UNFPA has received its first shipment of Reproductive Health (RH) kits and is expecting a second kit later this week. One RH kit provides enough reproductive health drugs and supplies for between 200,000 and 300,000 people. UNFPA will deliver the first RH kit to Thongwa township, which is one

- of the areas worst hit by the cyclone. UNFPA and its partners are also providing Clean Delivery Kits (CDKs) to pregnant women.
- UNFPA has translated the key points of the "Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP)" into Burmese. The MISP will be distributed to health personnel, rescue workers and local authorities in the affected areas.
 - WHO will mobilize 2 000 vials of anti-snake venom for Russel viper bites. This amount is enough to treat around 250 patients. Although there have been no reports of snake bites, there is a high likely of increase in cases in the days ahead.

2. Fund

- WHO has released another US\$175,000 from its South East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) for Myanmar.
- WHO has received donations from the United Kingdom and Italy.
- UNFPA has withdrawn US\$ 130,000 from its Field Emergency Support Fund. It will use this money to buy 17,857 reproductive health kits and clean delivery kits locally.
- The Health Cluster has finalized its grant proposal for the CERF (to be submitted today).
- Following the global launch of the Flash Appeal in New York on 9 May, the UN organized a regional launch in Bangkok on 12 May. The Appeal comprises projects for a total of US\$ 187 million, of which US\$15 million is for Health Cluster activities.

3. Surveillance

- All health partners are using the WHO surveillance form to collect and report information on the number and type of diseases and injuries in the affected areas. The information is collected and analysed daily by the WHO office in Yangon.

HEALTH COORDINATION

- Health partners in Myanmar and Bangkok are developing a matrix to show who is doing what, and where (the "WWW matrix").
- The Health Cluster is working closely with the Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Shelter and Logistics Clusters in Myanmar and Bangkok on cross-cutting health issues.
- UNFPA is continuing to work closely with other agencies and rescue groups. UNFPA is involved in the Health, Logistics, and Protection of Women and Children Clusters.
- The UN Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator (DERC) met with Cluster leads in Bangkok on 12 May. He emphasized the need for close collaboration among all partners in handling the crisis.
- An Inter-Agency Standing Committee meeting of regional cluster leads was held in Bangkok on 12 May. According to the Nutrition cluster, there is a strong likelihood the number of cases of malnutrition will increase, as the areas hit by the cyclone produced around 50% of the country's food supplies.
- Twenty-eight participants from 16 agencies attended a health cluster meeting in Bangkok on 12 May. Participants agreed on the need to map partners and activities at all levels. Regional health partners will establish a communications network to share information.
- A large number of NGOs including Merlin, the National Red Cross, Malteser and Medecins du Monde are now working in the affected areas. Close links

between these agencies and the Health Cluster will be essential in order to avoid duplication and overlap.

NEXT STEPS & MEETING

1. Follow Up Action Points

- Purchase and deliver additional supplies by the fastest possible means.
- Strengthen health coordination.
- Continue strengthening the surveillance system in the affected areas.
- Alert stakeholders and appeal to the donor community for strong support for response operations.

2. Upcoming Meetings for 13 May 2008

Meeting	Location
Daily Health Cluster Meeting	Myanmar
Logistics Cluster Meeting	Bangkok