



Situation Report 1 – Tropical Storm Noel – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 31 OCTOBER 2007

This situation report is based on information received from the National Emergency Commission and member institutions from the Emergency Operations Centre and United Nations agencies in country.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Forty-one people have been killed, 20 missing, 543 rescued and some 51,000 are displaced.
- A five-person UNDAC team is being deployed and a Humanitarian Affairs Officer from the OCHA Regional Office in Panama has arrived today in Santo Domingo.

GENERAL CONTEXT

1. On Friday 28 October, a low pressure system formed over the Central Caribbean, south of Hispaniola Island. Early Sunday morning this low pressure system evolved as a Tropical Depression, and rapidly became a Tropical Storm., threatening directly the Dominican Republic.

2. Heavy and prolonged rainfall hit most of the country, with rivers overflowing their banks and causing major flooding, landslides and the destruction of bridges throughout the Dominican Republic (see attached map).

3. Latest reports indicate that 41 people have been killed, 20 missing, 543 rescued and some 51,000 are displaced. In addition, 41 communities are currently isolated, approximately 12,600 homes have been partially destroyed and 12 bridges and highways affected (see attached list of temporary shelter).

4. Affected Areas: Santo Domingo, Distrito Nacional, San Cristóbal, Peravía, Azua, Barahona, Pedernales, Independencia, Bahoruco, San Juan de la Maguana, Santiago, Puerto Plata, Espaiat, Salcedo, Duarte (especially Bajo Yuna), María Trinidad Sánchez, La Vega, Monte Plata, Moseñor Nouel, Hato Mayor (especially Sabana de la Mar), El Seibo (especially Miches), Sánchez Ramírez, Dajabón,

Montecristi, Santiago Rodríguez, La Altagracia and San Pedro de Macorís.

5. According to weather forecasts, intermittent rainfall will continue for the next 48 hours. This, combined with over-saturation of the soil, will likely cause further flooding and landslides, particularly along the Yuna and Jaya rivers. For these reasons, there is the likelihood of an increase in the number of displaced persons, with needs in the areas of shelter, food, medicine and medical assistance.

NATIONAL RESPONSE

6. President Leonel Fernández announced an amount of DOP 100 million (approximately USD 2.9 million) through the Presidential Social Assistance Plan, to assist the population affected by this disaster.

7. The Nacional Emergency Commission (CNE in Spanish) in an extraordinary meeting held today, has taken the following administrative measures: activation of the Emergency Operations Centre (COE in Spanish) at the national, regional and provincial levels, coordination of first deliveries of food rations with CNE and member institutions, meetings with international organizations, suspension of classes nationwide until further notice.

8. The response has been led by the COE, which has been activated at regional, provincial and



municipal levels. Personnel as well as rescue teams have been sent to the areas affected, and have carried out preventive evacuations. Emergency and health teams have been also activated, and ambulances have been deployed to affected areas, among other activities.

9. The current situation in the country surpasses local response capacity. The Civil Defense has reported that shelters have surpassed its maximum capacity, with major needs of food (particularly for children and babies), mattresses, sheets, mosquito nets, brooms and hygiene utensils (soap, toilet paper, diapers, tampons, detergent, and garbage bags) and security.

10. There is also a lack of fuel and oil for search and rescue in the field. The Secretary of State of Public Health and Social Assistance (SESPAS in Spanish) has predicted that this could be a 'worst case' scenario for the country.

11. The SESPAS is running against time trying to reach the different provinces and municipalities affected in order to provide medical supplies to already stretched local health facilities.

12. Short-term diseases:

- a. Acute Diarrhea due to contamination of potable water supplies.
- b. Acute Respiratory Infections due to high humidity and viruses in the atmosphere.
- c. Gastroenteritis (due to consumption of contaminated food)
- d. Food intoxication

13. Long-term (1-2 weeks) diseases:

- a. Dengue in two variables.
- b. Pneumonia.
- c. Malnutrition.

14. *Food for the Poor* has shipped approximately 30 containers of aid to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Relief items include tents, blankets, cleaning supplies, medical supplies, clothing, food and other essentials.

15. UNETE in conjunction with Civil Defense is doing a rapid needs assessment today.

16. A five-person UNDAC team is being deployed and a Humanitarian Affairs Officer from the OCHA Regional Office in Panama has arrived today in Santo Domingo to assist the UN Resident Coordinator's office. OCHA is allocating an emergency cash grant (from Nederland pre-positioned funds) of USD 50,000 to purchase emergency relief supplies.

17. IFRC – PADRU is in contact with the Dominican Red Cross, and about 500 volunteers have been deployed through the affected areas and are working with COE (Emergency Operation Centre). They have allocated an emergency grant (DREF) of 150,000 CHF, and deployed two PADRU and two RIT teams.

18. The CNE has called a meeting with the Donor's today, with the purpose of formally presenting an overview of the situation and the immediate needs identified by the COE and CNE. The office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator is providing coordination support for this meeting.

PRIORITY NEEDS

19. Below are described the priority needs presented by the National Authorities:

- Fuel: 1,500 gallons for Villa Rivas
- Oil for boats, 20 boxes (also located in Villa Rivas)
- Requirements for 61 shelters (14,541 people):

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE IN THE FIELD



- a. Environmental sanitation and water:
 - Vector control
 - 305,361 liters of water
 - 25,300 trash bags
- b. Food:
 - 43,623 cooked food rations
 - 6,801 liters of baby formula
 - 6,801 rations of baby food and cereals
- c. Refuge/Housing/Electrical/Construction:
 - 7,271 mattresses
 - 7,271 sheets
 - 6,336 mosquito nets
- d. Personal/hygiene needs:
 - 5,412 body soap
 - 5,412 rolls toilet paper
 - 4,360 tubes toothpaste
 - 2,004 diaper packages ages 2 to 5
 - 4,053 tampons
 - 1,215 pounds detergent
 - 873 gallons Clorox
 - 1,722 brooms
 - 1,722 mops
- e. Basic needs reported by the Secretary of State of Public Health and Sanitation Assistance (SESPAS):
 - 40 water purifiers
 - 50,000 sheets
 - 50,000 mattresses
- f. Medicine (antipyretics, adult and children's analgesics, oral rehydration salts, hypoglusemites, anti-hypertension medicine, and anti-rheumatoid medicine)
 - 30 minor surgery equipment packages
 - 8 pumps for water purification
 - 20 trauma stretchers
 - 20 Oxipac (portable oxygen units)
 - 100 portable halogen lamps
 - 100 gelatin batteries for communication
 - 1000 feet of 1.5" cord
 - 2000 bags for solid waste
 - 500 body bags

- 20 first aid response kits for trauma (neck and extremity immobilizers, bandages, blood pressure measurement units, stethoscopes), gloves, gauze, bandages, etc.

- 10 mobile communication radios (Motorola EM400)

20. Possible suppliers who have provided in prior emergencies:

- Plaza Lama: Tel(809) 687 9171; Fax: (809) 687 9445
- Ferretería Americana. Tel: (809) 549. 7777; Fax: (809) 567 7063
- Multicentro la Sirena. Tel: (809) 472 4444; Fax: (809) 566 5440

21. In cases where international aid is received, the COE will activate the SUMA software for aid distribution and monitoring.

22. List of Temporary Shelters:

PROVINCE	ADDRESS	TOTAL PERSONAS
SANTO DOMINGO DN.	LA PUYA DE ARROYO HONDO	65
"	LA ZURZA	145
"	BARRIO LAS CAÑITAS	100
"	LA CIENAGA	185
"	LA CIENAGA DE LOS GUANDULES	235
STO. DGO. NORTE		300
"	LOS MINA	254
"	LA BARQUITA	170
"	LOS MINA	100
"	EL BONITO SAN ISIDRO	4
"	EL TAMARINDO	56
"	LOS MINA	200
"	CALLE LA FUENTE BARRIO LA LATA	80
"	LOS GUARICANOS	350
STO. DGO. NORTE	GUARICANO	185
STO. DGO. OESTE	CARRETERA MANOGUAYABO	34
"	EN LA ENCUESTRA	26
"	HERRERA	53
"	HERRERA	80



“	PROL. 27 DE FEBRERO	260
“	HATO NUEVO	200
“	BAYONA	200
“	ENGOMBE	80
“	MANOGUAYABO	300
“	CARRETERA SANCHEZ	300
“	MANOGUAYABO	80
STO. DGO. OESTE	BAYONA	200
SUBTOTAL provincia Distrito Nacional		4242
PERAVIA (BANI)	SOMBRERO	100
PERAVIABANI	PAYA BANI	50
BONAO	BONAO	465
SAN F. DE MACORIS	SAN. FCO M.	200
MARIA T. SANCHEZ	SECTOR RIO MAR	70
SALCEDO	SALCEDO	100
SAN P. DE MACORIS	CENTRO DEL PUEBLO	86
SANCHEZ RAMIREZ	BARRIO LA PAZ FANTINO	500
AZUA	BARRIO FLAN BOYAN	120
SAN JOSE DE OCOA	BARRIO SAN LUIS	46
“	SABANA LARGA	21
“	BARRIO SAN RAFAEL	42
SUBTOTAL Provincia san Jose de Ocao		109
BAHORUCO	NEIBA	780
“	ESTERO “NEIBA”	28
“	GALVAN	240
“	TAMAYO	60
“	TAMAYO	5
SUBTOTAL Provincia san Jose de Ocao		1113
SAN J. DE LA MAGUANA	SAN JUAN	710
S. J. DE LA M.	GUANITO	300
S. J. DE LA M.		312
S. J. DE LA M.	KM 11	30
S. J. DE LA M.	LA SIENEGA DE MOGOLLAN	93
SUBTOTAL Provincia san Juan de la Maguana		1445
BARAHONA	BATEY CENTRAL	3
“	MUNCIPIO BARAHONA	750

“	PUEBLO NUEVO	150
“	MUNICIPIO CANOA	1200
“	EL PEÑON	300
SUBTOTAL Provincia de Barahona		2403
SAN FRANCISCO M.	LAS GUARANAS	123
SAN F. M.	LA BOCA	15
PROV. DUARTE S. F. M.	LOS JARDINES, LAS GUARANAS	43
“	“	64
“	LOS RIELES , LAS GUARANAS	90
“	LA BOCA	114
“	BARRIO AZUL, SANTA ANA	92
SUBTOTAL Provincia Duarte		541
TOTAL		14.541



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

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