

*This report is based on information received from official sources in Chile and was issued by the OCHA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, covering the period 6 to 8 March. The next report will be issued on or around 10 March.*

#### HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visited Chile on 5-7 March and met with Chilean authorities. The Secretary-General also visited the affected area. A US\$10 million grant from the CERF was allocated for the Chile earthquake.
- A Telethon was organized in Chile on 6 March, with the participation of the UN Secretary General, and raised nearly US\$60 million. The funds will go towards the construction of emergency shelter.
- Initial figures are for approximately 200,000 emergency houses needed. In rural areas, an estimated 30% of communities do not have access to potable water as well as other services.
- Access to drinking water and electricity continue to be of concern.

#### I. Situation Overview



Reliefweb map showing the six areas declared as zones of catastrophes: Valparaiso, Metropolitana, Libertador, Maule, BioBío and Araucania.

- On 5 March, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon met with the president of Chile, the UN Country Team, key cabinet members and the president elect. Together with the Foreign Minister and other Cabinet members he also visited the most affected areas, including Concepcion. The Secretary-General commended the Government of Chile response.
  - Following the Secretary-General's announcement of a Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) of up to \$10 million, UNICEF, OPS/WHO, IOM, ECLAC, UNESCO, UNDP and FAO are currently drafting CERF project proposals. Priorities are Health, Water and Sanitation, Emergency Shelter, Education and Emergency Telecommunications.
  - A Telethon was organized in Chile on 6 March and raised nearly US\$60 million, double of what was aimed for. The money will go towards the construction of emergency housing. Initial estimated figures are for approximately 200,000 emergency houses needed.
- The Government indicated that after carrying out a general assessment, they confirm that assistance would be needed in several areas for immediate needs and reconstruction. In addition to priority areas of health, education, emergency shelter, water and sanitation, the Government has identified needs for telecommunications restoration and welcomes structural engineers to assist with assessments.

#### II. Humanitarian Needs and Response

##### Health: Response

- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is sending three basic health care units. The first unit, supplied by the Spanish Red Cross, arrived this weekend and includes capacity for psychosocial support. In total, 25 experts will be working directly with health specialists and volunteers from the Chilean Red Cross. The warehouse of the Pan American Disaster Response Unit in Panama is

dispatching humanitarian aid to assist 3,000 families affected by the earthquake (15,000 blankets, 3,000 kitchen sets and 3,000 hygiene kits).

- The American Red Cross has pledged US\$450,000 from its International Response Fund.
- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) currently has 14 staff on the ground, comprising doctors, nurses, logisticians and a coordinator. Medical supplies are being provided to some hospitals in the region, and MSF teams are heading to more remote regions to assess needs and offer assistance. A team focusing on psychological aid is being prepared to help survivors deal with the trauma.
- Brazil is to send a navy field hospital as well as search and rescue personnel.
- On 2 March, the Peruvian Foreign Minister arrived with three planeloads of relief supplies, including a makeshift field hospital, tents and medicines.
- A 12-module Argentinean Air Force hospital is to be located at Curicó. On 6 March, the Argentinean Health Minister announced that Argentina would send 10,000 doses of hepatitis A vaccine.

### **Food:**

#### *Response*

- The World Food Programme (WFP) has shipped a total of 70 metric tons of high energy biscuits that can feed up to 35,000 children for five days. These will be distributed with the help of the National Board of Student Aid and Scholarships.
- Argentina announced the delivery of 1,800 MT of food and more than half a million litres of water.

### **Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items:**

#### *Needs*

- The government highlights the need for temporary shelter in coastal areas. Many people are living in tents and are afraid to move back in their houses. Initial estimated figures are for approximately 200,000 emergency houses needed.

#### *Response*

- The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is dispatching NFIs to assist 3,000 families.
- The Swiss Cooperation (COSUDE) is planning the construction of temporary emergency shelters including water and sanitation for 400 families in Talca, in the Bio Bio region in conjunction with Techos para Chile.
- On 8 March, UK/DFID is sending 600 tents for up to 3,000 people.
- China sent a plane with non-food items (NFI) on 6 March. Goods include 700 tents, 10,000 blankets, 100 portable generators and two water purifiers.
- Australia sent a first shipment of emergency supplies including 50 generators, 150 family tents and 1060 collapsible beds.

### **Water and Sanitation:**

#### *Needs*

- The government highlights that in 1,000 rural areas, an estimated 30% of communities do not have access to potable water as well as other services.

#### *Response*

- The Ministry of Health is sending 600,000 litres of water purification products to the Rancagua, BioBío and Maule Regions.

### **Education:**

- According to government sources, schools are partially and/or completely non-operational in Valpariso (160), in Bernardo O'Higgins (130), in Maule(75), in BioBío (100), in Araucanía (100) and in the Metropolitan Region (460)
- The Ministry of Education is committed to opening schools. The majority of schools will open next week although some are expected to open only in April.

### **Emergency Telecommunications:**

#### *Needs*

- Communication continues to be a challenge, especially in Bio Bio with only 45% landline coverage and 27% cellular coverage in rural areas.

#### *Response*

*The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.*

- CORRIGENDUM: Contrary to what was reported on 5 March, only 20 satellite phones have arrived from the UN System as part of the temporary solution as opposed to 20,000 as mentioned.

## Early Recovery

### Needs

- The government stated that support will be needed in the reconstruction of small coastal ports.
- Reconstruction is a priority and the government indicated that it will welcome experts to assist in these assessments.

### Response

- The government is working with the Association of Engineers and Students to carry out structural assessments.
- The Swiss Cooperation (COSUDE) has sent a team of four structural engineers to support the government in assessments of public buildings and infrastructure in Talca.

## IV. Coordination

- The government has established contact with the majority of communities throughout the country though communications are still a major problem in the affected coastal areas.
- Assessment missions are still underway by the government and various international organizations to achieve a better vision of the situation. Missions are programmed to report back in Santiago on 9 March.
- The UN agencies that are preparing the CERF include: UNICEF, OPS/OMS, OIM, CEPAL, UNESCO, UNDP and FAO.
- A coordination meeting was held with members of UN, NGOs and Donor organizations. A follow-up meeting is planned for 10 March during morning hours in Santiago.

## V. International Funding and Assistance

- In kind and funding support for Chile earthquake and tsunami amounts to US\$23 million (US\$12.5 million in funding and US\$11 million in uncommitted pledges).
- The members of the European Union Civil Protection (EUCP) team arrived in Santiago on the 4th and the 5th of March together with a technical assistance and support team which will secure the self-sufficiency of the mission. The EUCP team will undertake assessment on the needs on-site and coordinate and facilitate the deployment of the assistance offered by the EU Members States to Chile.
- CERF funding of up to US\$10 million will be made available to assist the UN agencies in their relief efforts.
- ECHO will release US\$4 million to relieve suffering and meet the immediate needs.
- Mining concern Anglo American PLC announced US\$10 million for emergency water and power supply, and reconstruction of homes and schools.

## VI. Contacts

Location	Role	Name	Contact Details
OCHA Regional Office (Panama)	Officer in charge	Rogelio Mobilia Silva	<a href="mailto:silvar@un.org">silvar@un.org</a> +507 317 1748/49
OCHA Regional Office (Panama)	OCHA - Disaster Response Advisor	Douglas Reimer	<a href="mailto:reimer@un.org">reimer@un.org</a> + 56 2 210 2380
Santiago/Chile	UN Coordination Officer	Alejandro Mañon	<a href="mailto:alejandromanon@undp.org">alejandromanon@undp.org</a> +562 654 1016
OCHA CRD, New York	Humanitarian Affairs Officer	Heidi Kuttab	<a href="mailto:kuttab@un.org">kuttab@un.org</a> + 1 917 367 33 65
OCHA CRD, New York	Associate Humanitarian Affairs Officer	Martin Buettner	<a href="mailto:buettnerm@un.org">buettnerm@un.org</a> + 1 646 241 7106

### Websites and document links:

Government of Chile website: <http://terremotochile.com/>

For more information on Chile and other crises, visit: [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int) and [www.redhum.org](http://www.redhum.org)

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

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

Maps about Chile: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.nsf/doc404?OpenForm&emid=EQ-2010-000034-CHL&rc=2>

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