

**Office of the Resident Coordinator  
Situation Report No. 5  
Earthquake in Peru  
15:30 hours**

**August 19-2007**

**Situation**

1. At 11:40:58 PM UTC/GMT (Greenwich time) 6:34:56 PM local time on August 15<sup>th</sup>, an earthquake measuring 7.9 degrees in the Richter scale struck in the Department of Ica. The epicenter was 25 miles (61 kilometers) west-northwest of Chincha Alta, Peru, and 90 miles (161 kilometers) south-southeast of Lima, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The epicenter was 30.2 km depth (18.8 miles). The effects were also strongly felt in Lima capital.
2. The last official report issued by the National Institute of Civil Defense (INDECI) informed the situation up to August 18<sup>th</sup>, 15:00 hrs:
  - 503 dead
  - 1,042 wounded
  - 34,410 houses destroyed according to Peruvian Government preliminary assessments.
  - 495 houses affected.
  - 11 hospitals affected.
  - 4 hospitals destroyed according to Peruvian Government preliminary assessments.

**National Response**

1. The state of emergency in the Department of Ica and province of Canete in the Department of Lima is still in effect. The emergency situation has been extended to the provinces of Castrovirreina and Huaytará and the district of Acobambilla (Department of Huancavelica, central-east of Lima), and to Huañec and Tupe in the province of Yauyos (Lima).
2. The Government of Peru has established an air bridge that reaches the city of Pisco, in order to deliver humanitarian supplies and facilitate the deployment of international relief aid and aid workers.
3. Chincha, Canete, Pisco and Ica are still suffering from electricity/water shortages and lack of sanitary conditions. Health facilities are still affected and are insufficient to attend current demand.
4. At the moment, INDECI has identified as critical needs in the provinces: Water, water containers, water purification pills, tents, tarpaulin, electric generators, portable beds, blankets, and tools to remove rubble.

5. With the support of international cooperation the Peruvian government set two campaign hospitals and has indicated that hospital needs are covered.
6. The President of Peru announced a temporary employment programme to attend rubble removal activities. It will start on August 20th, and will last for 30 days.
7. The Central Government transferred to INDECI approximately US\$ 190,000, in order to provide a subsidy to victims (US\$ 316 approximately).
8. Approximately US\$ 7.6 millions will be transferred to the Ministry of Women and Social Development in order to procure food through WFP.
9. A reconstruction fund has been set and will include public resources and funds from the international cooperation.
10. A supplementary credit of US\$ 31.6 million has been authorized by the Peruvian government for the reconstruction of public infrastructure. This credit has been announced today by President of Perú, Alan Garcia; President of the Minister Council Jorge del Castillo, and the Minister of Economy, Luis Carranza. Through this official norm, a fund for reconstruction-earthquake 15th. August 2007, has been created.
11. As from tomorrow, The Ministry of Health will provide emotional support to the victims through eight groups of psychiatrists and psychologists. These professionals will use special disaster material provided by UNICEF, adapted to the situation.

### **The UN Response**

12. The RC has activated the Emergency Operations Centre on a 24 hrs basis and convened a rolling meeting of the UNDMT.
13. Coordination support from OCHA Panama has arrived and supporting the preparation of an international appeal and to CERF appeal, and supporting the coordination capacities of local authorities.
14. INDECI has established an Emergency Operations Centre at Pisco airport. The UNDAC team has already been deployed to the area on August 19. The UNDAC information team is helping the Peruvian government to establish an information system to gather all data related to the contributions from the international community and the identification of the areas already attended, and those yet to be covered.
15. With the support of WHO/PAHO, the Government of Peru has established the SUMA in the two airports, and is providing information to the national authorities in charge of the coordination.

16. An interagency team has been deployed to the affected areas.

On August 19, the report is as follows:

**Water and Sanitation:** In the Municipality of Pisco, Chincha and Ica, water is being given; bombing systems are working on a limited basis because of the difficulties of the energy system and the damage of water supply system components.

Lack of sanitary conditions is still posing a serious threat to health conditions. In Ica it is necessary to reinforce the attention to pregnant women and that related to mental health for children and women.

**Food:** In Pisco food for 80,000 people and supplies for 30 days has been distributed, as well as additional milk, rice, canned food and bread. The humanitarian aid is being channeled through the Municipality of Lima, INDECI, the Red Cross and Medicines sans Frontieres. Local authorities estimate that Chincha will require between 60 and 80 thousand rations of food per person.

**Shelter and Infrastructure:** Immediate shelter is still needed in the three areas visited (Pisco, Chincha and Ica). There is also a lack of tents, and blankets. Most roads are accessible. There is equipment to clean roads and streets. The Stadium of Ica has been opened as shelter.

The process of rubble removable has not yet started and problems with hospital's solid waste management could increase (PAHO).

It is estimated that affected population in affected zones is very high. The priorities identified by missions on the field are: lack of water and sanitary facilities, rubble removal from streets and avenues, tents, shelters, food and psychological support.

Difficulties to access to rural zones have been identified, the aid is just beginning to reach rural populations; according to unofficial information, it is estimated that only in Huancavelica Region there are around 5,000 affected at different levels.

The Government through the Vice Minister of Fishing has informed to FAO that there are around 1,000 fishing boats affected by the earthquake. Harbors of San Andres and Pisco are also affected. This would mean the damage of artisan fishing, local incomes and alimentary safety of the populations in the coast areas of Pisco.

#### **United Nations Office Coordination of Humanitarian Affaire (UNOCHA)**

OCHA has offered to Peruvian Government US\$ 100,000 in order to support the response process. The UN system in Peru, with the support of OCHA team is finalizing the preparation of the Flash Appeal and the CERF request, that will be issued on Monday August 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **World Food Programme (WFP)**

The procurement process has been done and the purchase consists of: 960 tons of rice, 288 tons of brown sugar, 672 tons of beans, 192 tons of vegetable oil, 408 tons of fish, 816 tons of evaporated milk, 134.40 tons of cookies

## **International Organizations response**

9. The IFRC and the PADRU (Pan American Disaster Response Unit) has provided and distributed blankets, water bladders, tents. The field team is already in Pisco.
10. Telecoms Sans Frontieres has deployed 3 technicians. Satellite Phones: 3 MiniMs + 1 Iridium Satellite modems: 2 Bgans + 1 RBgan + 1 GanM4 . 5 Laptops.
11. Swiss Humanitarian Aid / Peru: Assessment. Switzerland has brought a specialist in water and sanitation and has deployed a rapid reaction response team for assessment.
12. In the donors meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup>, the international organizations made several pledges and actions have been mentioned. The preliminary information is detailed as follows (a complete list will be supplied in due course):
  - Spain: a flight with 100 tons of humanitarian support has arrived, including tents, material for removing rubble, blankets.
  - Switzerland: 42,000 litres of water and 1,000 have been distributed in Chincha, Rapid reaction support team of 6 people has been deployed. A cash grant of US\$ 400,000 is available.
  - The Organization of American States has made pledges of support.
  - The Inter American Development Bank indicated that a cash grant of US\$ 200,000 will be made available in support to the emergency.
  - European Union: Fast-track 'primary emergency' decision: €2 million. Funds will be used to cover urgent needs, including food, emergency shelter, medical assistance, hygiene kits, water and sanitation, basic household tools as well as the establishment of emergency telecommunications facilities and psycho-social counselling.
  - USAID is sending two cargo planes with medical teams of 30 people and mobile hospitals and transport support, medicines and humanitarian supplies.
  - Germany has already sent a rescue team in the area and will made available US\$ 260,000.

- Italy has provided 200,000 Euros for food and humanitarian supplies through the IFRC. A team of experts sent by the Italian civil defense organization.
- The USA sent on Friday a military hospital which has been installed in Pisco. This hospital is fully equipped provide medical services and minor surgeries.
- Brasil has sent two planes with humanitarian aid. Another aircraft is expected to arrive next Wednesday with medicines and water purifying devices.
- The International Federation of the Red Cross has sent a shipment of 45 tons (blankets, family tents and 2000 water containers), additionally has decided the deployment of two ambulances and 40 volunteers to the emergency zone. IFRC informed on August 19<sup>th</sup> that the following items have been distributed :

tent (rubhall – (10\*24\*3.35 mts) : 1  
 watertank : 2 (15m3) , 2 (10m3), 2 (5m3)  
 jerrycan (10lt) : 2000  
 blankets (10,000)  
 tents : 450 for 7 people.

- Canadian red cross  
 kitchen set (1500 for family of 5)  
 tarpaulins (1000)  
 blanket (5000)
- American Red Cross  
 1000 tarpaulins.  
 hygienic parcels for one persons (1500)  
 jerrycan,
- The Government of Ecuador has sent medical personnel to the city of Pisco in order to support rescue actions.
- The Church of Jesus Christ of latter-day saints, will send to Peru, a boeing 747 with humanitarian aid (medicines, food, cloth). Since the earthquake, this church has donated 10,000 blankets and other materials, as camping tents. The four churches of Jesus Christ of latter-day saints, are being used as shelters for 1,000 victims.