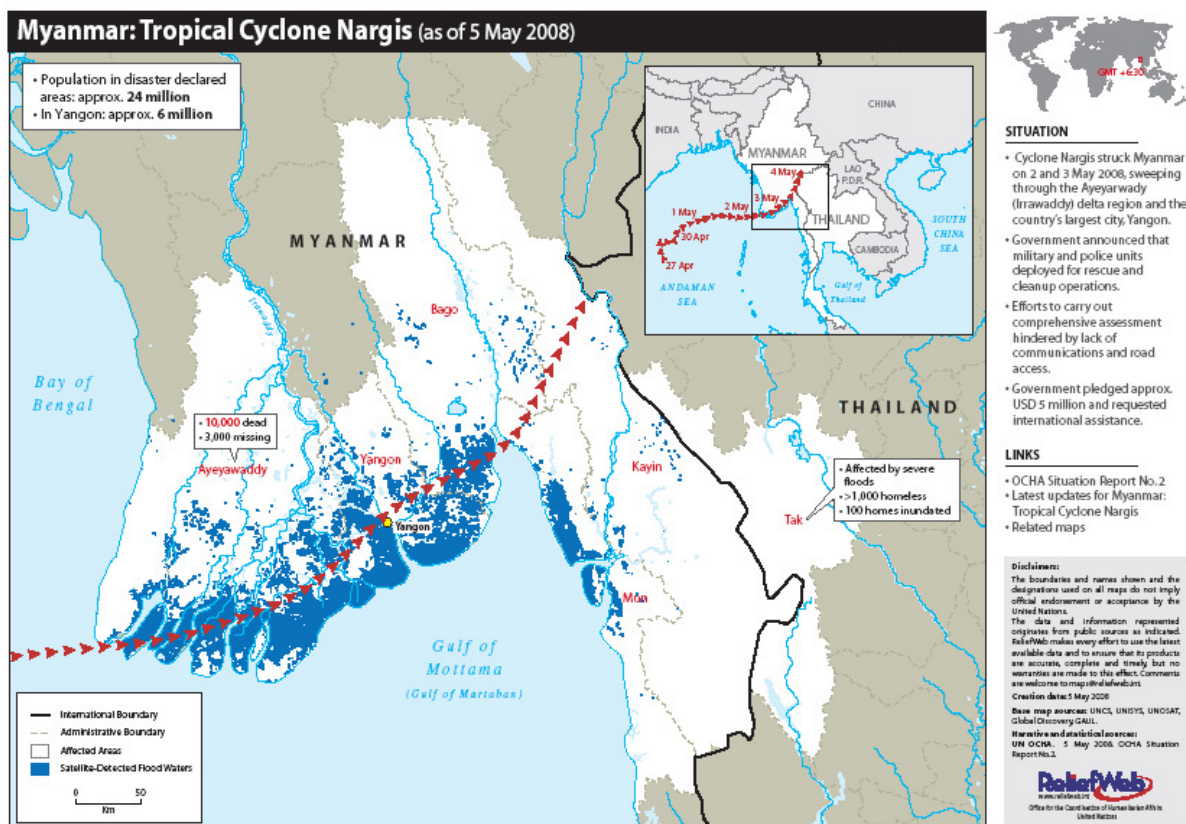




Relief Activity Report No. 2 Myanmar cyclone

06 May 2008

Overall Situation



Source: www.reliefweb.org

The death toll after the heavy cyclone Nargis hit the coastal regions of Myanmar has risen to more than 22,000 people. Thousands of people are still missing; hundreds of thousands of survivors have lost their homes (some sources even talk of up to one million homeless) and all their belongings. Myanmar officials stated that the number of victims could even be higher as remote villages in the especially hardly hit Irrawaddy delta area could not yet be reached.

There is an enormous need for foodstuff and safe drinking water, tents, plastic sheets or other material for temporary shelter, household equipment, medical drugs, clothes and blankets.

Malteser International activities

Malteser International provides 50,000 Euros (about 77,500 US Dollars) for emergency relief activities. Caritas International also provided 50.000 Euro which will be implemented by Malteser International. The Federal Foreign Office of Germany gave its verbal agreement to financially support the activities of Malteser International. The teams already present in the country started their relief activities directly after the cyclone passed. The staff members have ordered more water purification tablets to assure safe drinking water and to avoid the outbreak of diseases. A medical team is also providing first aid to injured people in the districts of Dawbon und Tantabin in the Yangon Division. "Fortunately, the tank we have built next to the health centre in Tantabin has not been damaged by the cyclone," Birke Herzbruch states. "The tank catches 22,000 litres that secure the water supply for the whole neighbourhood."

The assessment team analyses the situation and organises further relief efforts. Planned are amongst others the distribution of plastic covers, cookware, mosquito nets and further water supply for the beneficiaries by huge water tanks for household clusters.

Malteser International has been working in Myanmar since 2001 and is present in the disaster regions with projects and team members. The organisation is realizing projects to strengthen the health services in the country, to fight diseases like HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and assures safe drinking water, functioning sanitation and hygiene for thousands of people in different regions.

Appeal for donations

Malteser International needs your support to help the survivors of this disaster. The estimated more than one million homeless people, the injured and the hungry will need our support not only in the current disaster situation but also for the rehabilitation period.

The cyclone did not only kill more than 22,000 people and let more than one million without home and protection; it also destroyed many rice fields. But the extent and sustainable success of our assistance in this emergency is largely depending on external and internal funding.

Malteser International would therefore highly appreciate your financial contribution to the benefit of the survivors of the cyclone in Myanmar. Your contribution allows giving a reliable assistance based on the victims' needs.

Parallel to this disaster and hardly noticed by the public, another phenomenon endangers millions of lives - what means this is a phenomenon we also have to deal with: famine due to extremely high rice prices. Therefore, we do not only focus our help to the disaster in Myanmar but also want to support the US Associations of the Order of Malta in their effort to help people survive in Haiti.

In order to plan our assistance thoroughly, we shall be most thankful if you would announce your possible contribution by mail, phone or fax. We are always available for your questions and inquiries.

In order to avoid “fundraising confusion” and high bank fees, we suggest that all associations should first use their own internal system for collecting donations and just afterwards transfer donations to the following Malteser International bank account:

Bank für Sozialwirtschaft
Sort Code 370 205 00
Account N° 120 120 120
IBAN: DE 49 3702 0500 0001 0258 01
BIC BFSWDE33XXX
Reference: Cyclone Nargis or Haiti

We shall keep you informed about all further developments.

Ingo Radtke
Secretary General