

**Office of the Resident Coordinator  
Situation Report No. 4  
Earthquake in Peru  
19:00 hours**

**August 18-2007**

**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. At the moment in the provinces of Ica and Pisco, power lines are still affected (Chincha, Pisco and Ica; no lights or light equipment). It is expected that power lines in Ica will be reestablished gradually. The lack of power lines is causing security issues in the affected areas (robbery and assaults). Government of Peru is taking measures to reinforce security.
3. The Government of Peru convened a meeting with international cooperation agencies and donor countries on August 17<sup>th</sup>.
4. The last official report issued by the National Institute of Civil Defense (INDECI) informed the situation up to August 18th, 15:00 hrs:
  - 496 dead
  - 1,042 wounded
  - 33,676 houses destroyed according to Peruvian Government preliminary assessments.
  - 2,574 houses affected.
  - 8 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.
2. The Ministry of Health has deployed medical teams to the Ica Department in support to the local hospitals and collecting several items such as medicines and clothes among others from different sources.

3. The Government of Peru has made available two airports in order to receive international support: Jorge Chavez International Airport and the Air Base in Pisco. Given current difficulties in unloading, big cargos are still landing in Jorge Chavez Airport. Arrivals must be coordinated closely with the Peruvian authorities (INDECI).
4. The assessments carried out by national authorities and other organizations in affected areas point out that the priority based on the severity of the damages are Pisco, Ica and Chincha.
5. 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.
6. 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 demands.
7. INDECI has identified as the main humanitarian needs at the moment in the Provinces as water, water containers, water purification tablets, tents, tarpaulin, electric generators, portable beds, blankets, and tools to remove rubble.
8. Two warships from the Peruvian navy will be sent to Pisco on August 19<sup>th</sup> with humanitarian aid and 10 tons of water.
9. With the support of international cooperation the Peruvian Government has implemented two campaign hospitals.

### **The UN Response**

10. The RC has activated the Emergency Operations Centre on a 24 hrs basis and convened a rolling meeting of the UNDMT.
11. 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.
12. Ms. Carolina de Borbon, Mr. Marco Antonio Rodriguez, Mr. Carlos Cruz and Mr. Joe Bishop from UNDAC team have already arrived. UNDAC team has already held its first meeting at INDECI Operations Centre facilities.

Mr. Carlos Cruz is awaiting for his air transfer to the city of Pisco as part of an advance mission to the team.

INDECI has established an Emergency Operations Centre at Pisco airport. The OSOCC will be installed on the incoming days.

13. With the support of WHO/PAHO, the Government of Peru has established the SUMA in the two airports.

14. An interagency team has been deployed to the affected areas:

Four vehicles (3 UN vehicles, 1 police vehicle) have been deployed initiating an interagency mission (UNDSS, UNDP, PAHO, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNDAC) to affected areas, involving 12 UN staff in the field. Areas included in this mission are Pisco, Canete and Chincha. Two vehicles had problems to pass during the morning due to the damage of a bridge at kilometer 180-190. The reports sent by the joint UN team inform the following:

### **CHINCHA**

One vehicle reached, with certain difficulties, Grosio Prado Health Center in Chincha. During the afternoon, the delegation from PAHO faced problems in reaching the city of Ica. It is recommended that assessment teams use flights coordinated by INDECI.

The mission informed that access to Chincha by land was blocked during the morning. People injured were evacuated to Lima. The most urgent items identified and required are water, food, blankets and tents. Lack of sanitary facilities is posing a serious threat to health conditions. 11 provisional shelters have been organized and the local government has anticipated that 2,000 tents will be received, which is still insufficient (5,000 units more are needed). Some grocery stores are gradually reopening.

Several vehicles loaded with humanitarian aid have been assault and in some cases they have returned due to the lack of control. The entrance of the city of Chincha is blocked by the police in order to avoid eventual disorders or robbery.

The hospital of Chincha has been partially damaged.

The mission is already installed in Pisco.

15. The support provided by the UN agencies so far is as follows:

The UN system has provided an Operations Emergency Centre open around the clock. It is gathering the information UN agencies.. The Centre operates in the UNDP facilities, Av. Benavides 786, Miraflores. Tel: 511 213-3200, ext 4000, 4001; email: [coeunete@undp.org](mailto:coeunete@undp.org).

Additionally, the information related to UN system activities can be accessed at [www.onu.org.pe](http://www.onu.org.pe)

The Centre is gathering information related to international cooperation teams in the affected areas and situation reports provided by national organizations and assessment teams from the international cooperation on the field.

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

OCHA has offered to Peruvian Government US\$ 100,000 in order to support the response process. OCHA team is supporting the preparation of the Flash Appeal and the CERF.

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

The WFP will provide approximately 500 tons of food to the PRONAA (National Programme of Food Assistance) in order to be distributed among the affected population.

14 tons of fortified cookies will be imported from Ecuador. The flight will be chartered by the Government of Ecuador and it is expected to arrive on August 17th or August 18th.

An Emergency Operation will be carried out in order to buy food and cooking tools (spoons, plates, pans, water bowls) for US\$ 500,000.

The WFP has already carried out an assessment, and as a result, at the request of the Government, a procurement process is being carried out in order to buy food for 30 days (rice, sugar, canned fish, vegetable oil, dried beans, milk, biscuits) to attend 150,000 people for 30 days (30,000 families of 5 members each).

### **UNICEF**

UNICEF has made available funds for immediate response up to US\$ 200,000.

UNICEF has already delivered materials for health water purposes to the Ministry of Health (90,000 chloring pills, 500 water containers for 20 liters of water each, 300 chlorine measuring devices) and 26,000 informative flyers on common disease prevention under emergency situations.

50,000 sachets of ORS and 270,000 water purifying tablets have been already delivered,

The following materials are expected to arrive by air to Jorge Chavez International Airport within the next hours: 50,000 sachets of ORS, 230,000 water purifying

tablets, 3,000 water containers, 5 units of flexible water containers for 10,000 liters each.

Coordinations in order to implement activities in the following areas of cooperation: Health with PAHO, Education with UNESCO and child protection against abuse and violence and emotional and psychological recovery for affected children.

### **United Nations Population Fund – UNFPA**

Arrange a US\$ 50,000.00 fund for early initiatives to help improving the live conditions of women and girls affected by the emergency. This is a flexible fund that will be used in line with the priorities of the Peruvian Government.

Request for “Reproductive health emergency kits” to attend pregnant women and childbirths in the disaster area.

UNFPA role within the joint field mission will allow to identify needs in gender and reproductive health.

### **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

UNDP has arranged the immediate disposal of up to 100.000 US\$ for the emergency attention requirements. Also, it will bring support to the drafting of the social recovery and reconstruction programmes.

In the framework of its mandate of giving support to the international assistance, the UNDP offers support to the management and layout of resources from the bilateral cooperation.

UNDP is also participating in the field mission and assessing shelter requirements and NFI's, early recovery measures for housing. In addition, it is being assessed institutional capacity restoration by the rehabilitation of essential government buildings and assets. UNDP has also began initial identification activities leading towards rehabilitation of key access infrastructure.

UNDP is providing complementary procurement support under the supervision of the WFP regarding the purchase of essential food items.

### **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**

At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, FAO will bring technical support for the assessment of damage on the productive infrastructure in agriculture as a consequence of the earthquake.

FAO will extend technical support for the damage assesment in other areas such as fishing and also the impact of earthquakes reported in other geographical areas in the country.

### **International Labour Organization (ILO)**

In the United Nations System cooperation framework, ILO is able to analyze the impact of the earthquake on the employment and the job market. The analysis will include a strategy proposal and recommendations for temporary employment, employment intermediate services, and measures to regain the income level of the affected population and to reactivate the local economy.

Counterpart: in close collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Employment Promotion.

### **World Health Organization / Pan American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO)**

- Support to the Ministry of Health in establishing the situation room and emergency centre of Health Sector.
- Evaluation mission of the United Nations System in the affected area, in order to orient the technical cooperation.
- To jointly plan with the PAHO Emergencies and Disasters Programme (PED) the response actions.
- To assure the suitable operation of the methodological and operative instruments for the disasters management, including the Provisions System, SUMA and other guidelines and procedures.
- To contribute with the best location and operating conditions of the shelters.
- Analysis of the vaccination coverage as opposed to the limitations of the cold-chain and functioning conditions affected by the disaster (electricity, water, biosafety)
- To support the deployment of mental health care.
- Preliminary assessment of the needs of the infrastructure recovery on basic sanitation, water and services network.
- Orientation for the correct handling and treatment of corpses.
- Assessment of the health infrastructure carried out by specialists
- Coordinate within the UN System Health matters with the international cooperation.
- Elaborate an action plan and present the project of funds mobilisation with available information and complement it with the missions in field.
- Mobilise response regional team depending on the evolution of the event and in field assessment.
- Prepare reports related to event evolution in Health matters and manage humanitarian assistance.

## **UNESCO**

UNESCO will bring assistance to the Ministry of Education in order to prepare an assessment of the school facilities in affected areas. They will implement a joint action with UNICEF in order to carry out a programme for the restore school facilities and return to school.

In close coordination with Ministry of Education and regional officials in order to asses the current situation of schools and the needs in terms of setting temporary schools. This is made in coordination with UNICEF.

Meetings held with head of Regional Sismographic Center for South America, Institute of Geophysics and several universities in order to make a technical evaluation of schools' facilities to determine possibilities of immediate and simple reconstruction of schools.

### **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 able to be released.
  - The Organization of American States has made pledges of support.
  - The Inter American Development Bank mentioned 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 going to send two cargos 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.