



Workshop on Efficiency, Effectiveness and International Collaboration in Emergency Relief

European Community Humanitarian Office

Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters

**Hotel Métropole
Brussels, 15 - 16 June 1993**

Contents

Executive summary
Workshop Report
Workshop Agenda
Workshop Participants

Executive Summary

In the light of increasing numbers of events requiring humanitarian assistance and expanding budgets for this purpose, ECHO, in collaboration with the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), School of Public Health, Université Catholique de Louvain organized a workshop entitled "Efficiency, effectiveness and international collaboration in emergency relief" in Brussels, 15-16 June, 1993. The workshop was attended by 24 participants representing key actors in the provision of relief and its policy development. Views from the non-governmental sector (from both industrialized and non-industrialized countries), bi-lateral emergency relief offices, United Nations and specialized international agencies and universities debated issues related to the current and future problems facing relief provision.

Areas identified, as requiring urgent attention, were co-ordination of action (including standard needs assessments), exchange of information, and regular evaluation of field action. The participants felt that no agency on its own could successfully undertake major field operations and in this context, mechanisms

to strengthen collaboration were urgently needed. It was recognized that donor agencies intend to take a more active participatory role in the activities are also looking for improve accountability of funds provided. Preparedness at all levels was felt to be weak and further efforts at better equipping central and national offices in terms of disaster management skills as well as essential informational support was seen as critical. Certain international agencies had already started initiatives in this area. The disaster - development continuum was seen as a central issue, especially in situations of mass displacement or protracted civil war. Bridges within the donor agencies as well as in the national programmes, to connect these two parts of the same problem needed serious attention.

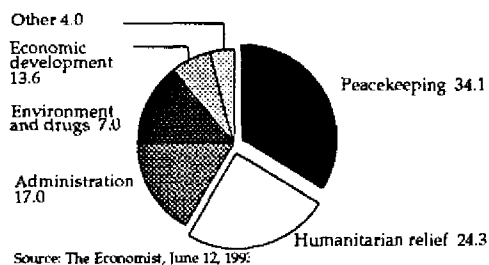
The workshop ended its two-day deliberations welcoming this initiative from ECHO that took the first step in providing a much needed forum for open and stimulating discussions on issues related to humanitarian assistance and saw it as a step to closer and stronger collaboration in the future.

Introduction

Humanitarian relief in the aftermath of disasters has become one of the leading issues of this decade. Since the start of the decade, there have been 1481 separate natural and man-made disasters reported to CRED by various sources. These disasters have resulted in over 750 000 deaths with over 480 million people affected. More than 26 million people have been made homeless. The longer term effects of these events, such as malnutrition in women and children, loss of land and capital, setbacks to developmental programmes in countries that are normally in precarious economic conditions, remains, unfortunately, a moot point.

In the last few years, appeals for humanitarian assistance have done nothing but accelerate. As a consequence, budgetary proportions devoted to humanitarian and related activities have expanded significantly. For example, the budget of USA jumped from 1.5 billion in 1990 to over 3.6 billion US\$ the following year for disaster assistance. The overall UN budget for 1992 devoted more than half of its resources to peacekeeping, refugees and humanitarian activities (Figure 1). Overall, disaster relief expenditures are consuming larger and larger proportions of the total overseas development assistance budgets since 1988, and has grown exponentially since 1990 (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Percent Distribution of Total U.N. Budget US\$ 4.1 billion, 1992

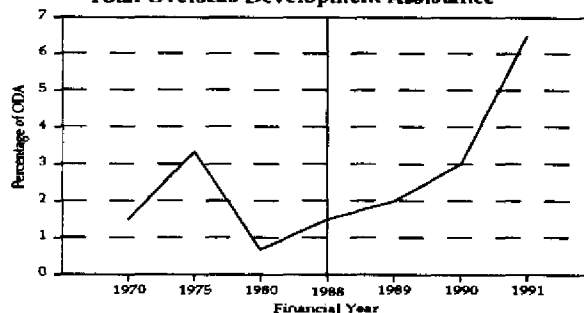


The European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) is a new but major player in the field of humanitarian relief. One of the largest donors of humanitarian aid in the world, it has contributed more than 400 million ECUs* to humanitarian relief efforts in 1992. In 1993, the requested budget represents an increase of 54 per cent (652 million ECUs) from that of the previous year (Figure 3).

* 1 ECU = approximately 1.20 US\$

At these levels of expenditure, ECHO maintains an active interest in rationalizing its activities and increasing efficiency in the field.

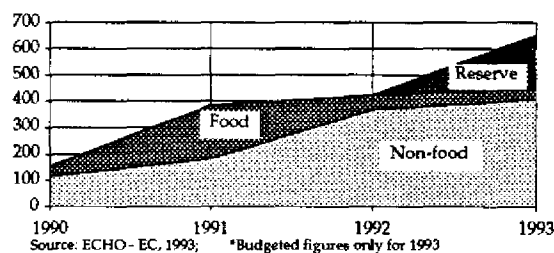
Figure 2. Total Disaster Relief as Proportion of Total Overseas Development Assistance



Source: OECD Data from unpublished commissioned paper, International Federation of the Red Cross, Geneva 1993

In the current climate of economic recession, national governments and donor agencies are beginning to examine the effectiveness and efficiency of these relief expenditures. At the same time, emergency and developmental agencies are manifesting an increasing interest in ways to reduce vulnerability of populations to various disasters. Today, most international and bi-lateral agencies are aware of the need to professionalize services and put in place mechanisms for sharing information and co-operate in assessing needs and responding to appeals.

Figure 3. Humanitarian Assistance from ECHO by category (in million ECUs): 1990-1993*



Within this context of change in humanitarian assistance, ECHO organized a workshop, in collaboration with CRED. Representatives of key organizations as well as independent experts involved in the humanitarian field were invited. The purpose of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for the exchange of views and knowledge on the issues of efficiency, effectiveness and international collaboration in humanitarian operations in third countries. These discussions were held against the backdrop of considerations of the developmental links of relief and rehabilitation programmes and the longer term implications of

these actions. The format of the meeting allowed for open discussion built around keynote presentations and the formulation of a number of key issues and proposals for progress*. The participants welcomed the workshop which was seen as a gesture of openness on the part of ECHO and as a reflection of its interest in involving their major partners in this field.

Presentations and discussions: Synthesis

The workshop discussion reflected views from UN agencies, non-governmental agencies from both industrialized and third countries, bi-lateral agencies and independent experts, although not all of the major interested parties were present. While certain issues were clearly of greater concern to one group than another, there was consensus on those requiring priority attention for improved relief response. Both technical and policy aspects were discussed, however, time limitations precluded in-depth discussion of some items that were considered important. This meeting was a first step towards the development of an international forum of reflection and debate among donors, implementors and beneficiaries.

The main issues and their salient points, debated during the two days, are summarized below:

1. Roles: Donors, NGOs, UN and Scientific Institutions

The roles and responsibilities of organizations at all points in humanitarian operations were discussed. It was felt that the role of the donor was undergoing a fundamental change and that donor institutions no longer wished to be "bankers" alone. They have undertaken a more active position and are now becoming involved in partnership agreements with operational agencies, and they are actively promoting common field activities such as rapid needs assessments and evaluation. The participants agreed on the usefulness of donors to be more engaged in target setting, operational and technical activities and in evaluation procedures for field operations. This expanded role of donor agencies presumed the availability of technical competence in order to make their participation meaningful.

On the other hand, NGOs have evolved from organizations run by well-meaning amateurs to

professional organizations with large turnovers who can be operational in many areas simultaneously. They have a key role at the level of humanitarian aid delivery. They have an independent identity and vary in size and mandate. Their diversity makes them a flexible body that can respond quickly to situations without many of the political or administrative constraints placed on other agencies. It was, however, emphasized that their relationship with donors and with local organizations needs clarification.

Scientific institutions have a critical role in providing technical support for different operational activities of both donor and implementing agencies. In addition, training and technical briefing at different levels would also fall under the purview of these institutions.

As demonstrated by the example from the Philippines, there are situations where local agencies and community groups have been underutilized and undermined by international relief organizations. Their knowledge, expertise and ability to communicate with local people can be invaluable for humanitarian relief programmes. The challenge for international agencies and NGOs is to assure, wherever possible and useful, the appropriate inclusion of the local agencies into the system. Prior identification of local partners in disaster-prone countries and provision of training for them is one way to prepare for unexpected crisis. Examples illustrated that, in some countries, local agencies and community groups exist with high levels of competence but may require outside technical and logistic support. They should be consulted as to their capabilities and needs and integrated into the relief effort. The final goal in any area is that local resources and training should be adequate to deal with all likely eventualities at least in the immediate post impact phase.

2. Co-ordination and communication: Control versus sharing

Co-ordination and communication were central themes at the workshop and it was felt that improvements here could lead to much improved efficiency and effectiveness in relief operations. However, difficulties arise as to the relationship between co-ordination and control. Many agencies present stated that informal arrangements exist in most cases and that these arrangements work well on most occasions.

* Papers presented at the workshop are available on request

The increasing complexity and magnitude of operations do, however, require that communication between all involved parties be improved. Institutional information systems to assist response and decision-making should be put in place in advance of disasters. Minimum informational back-up as well as exchange between agencies was clearly considered a pre-requisite to the management and co-ordination of relief efforts. Development of global emergency networks such as UNIENET, VITANET and relevant databases were mentioned as items of high priority for efficient and effective relief operations.

The concept of the "lead agency" was also discussed with regard to situations involving several UN agencies and NGOs working together. At present such an "agency" is usually an international agency. Concern though, was expressed as to how this concept could be made more formal without individual organizations losing their independence. It was felt that the role of United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs, in this area, needs clarification to further improve international co-ordination.

The participants felt that ECHO can have a key role in stimulating joint assessments and responses as well as take initiative in improved communications between organizations.

3. Needs assessment and standardization

In disaster situations, there is a need for rapid operational decisions within a political and media environment. It was recognized that critical decisions for relief were frequently made on fragmentary and inaccurate information. While it is never possible to have all the information necessary, the reporting of essential information on the background and current situation should be possible.

This minimum amount of management information, on which an effective response could be mounted, should be available to all active relief agencies. In this context, rapid assessment of needs following a disaster was clearly a critical aspect of effective humanitarian action. Inter-agency efforts towards joint assessments was raised as a key issue to more realistic and coherent response planning as well as towards better sharing of responsibilities.

It was agreed that there was an urgent need to standardize rapid assessment procedures and share the information among the main actors in international relief. Finally there was concern expressed on the excessive reliance of pre-packaged aid that have been observed to be inappropriate, unnecessary or unusable. However, pre-packaged aid in conjunction with a rapid needs assessment could generate efficient and effective responses quickly.

4. Objectives and accountability in relief operations

Monitoring of field activities was recognized as being difficult without the setting of objectives and standards for relief actions. Minimum operational goals should be defined for performance evaluation. Goal setting would also bring into focus the impact of the relief on the beneficiaries, both for acute and chronic disasters. There is little applied research in the area and more work will be needed in order to develop measurable field objectives and standard evaluation procedures.

ECHO felt that donor organizations should be able to share information on the quality of performance of their partners and that an increased degree of accountability be implemented. There was debate as to what level accountability should go and still remain practical. On the other hand, it was mentioned that, without operational goals, it is not always possible to provide evidence that aid has had any impact or what targets have been achieved. The challenge, therefore, remains in how and where to measure effectiveness and how this measure should be linked to accountability and future funding.

Finally, it was felt that, as far as practicable, local organizations of the beneficiary community should be consulted at appropriate stages. This was considered by participants from the third world countries as a essential key input for successful humanitarian action.

5. Visibility - A double-edged sword ?

Visibility emerged as both a concern and an opportunity during the discussions. It was felt that visibility was necessary in order to satisfy constituents and maintain funding. On the other hand, negative aspects of visibility were also pointed out, such as the following:

- Visibility driven humanitarian relief may risk undermining aid, which should be delivered on the basis of need. This could, eventually, have a boomerang effect with regard to public perception of the motivation of the operative agency. More importantly, the participants felt, it was essential to try to maintain and support ethical motivation as the principle driving force behind humanitarian aid.

- Visibility may hinder certain relief efforts where cultural and/or political sensitivities are involved. Lower profile interventions were mentioned as serving the purposes of an efficient relief programme better on some occasions. This is particularly true in crisis related to displaced populations, where relief may be successfully provided to the victims, provided it is discrete or public statements or attention are avoided.

- Excessive visibility could also highlight failures as much as the weaknesses of the relief effort. The experience from the previous Sahelian famine (1982 - 1984) illustrates the international consequences of conspicuous mis-guided action or the lack thereof.

However, it was agreed that visibility, if managed carefully, is an asset but an asset that carries responsibilities. A term "responsible visibility" emerged and encapsulated the ideas expressed around the table. ECHO welcomed the discussion on visibility and while stating that visibility was important to them that they would like to explore further the concept of responsible visibility with their partners. This could include issues such as co-ordinated representation of facts, endorsements and acknowledgments, potential effects on beneficiaries, field workers and donor communities, among others.

6. Military roles and security of relief workers

There are an increasing number of disasters with a conflict dimension. These are usually characterized by large scale political change, lack of security or civil war, difficult topographical, climatic or technical barriers. The role of the military in humanitarian assistance is now increasing and multi-dimensional. They can be used to provide one or more of the following services: (i) peace-keeping* tasks, (ii) logistic support for humanitarian programmes, such as assuring safe corridors, (iii) handling communications and transport. In recent times, security related

functions, including those related to protection of operational personnel and buildings, have also emerged as an important aspect of military presence in emergencies.

It is important to distinguish between the two main conceptual functions that the military can be expected to provide in humanitarian relief operations. The first would be to ensure physical security for non-military assistance agencies in conditions that would, otherwise be too hazardous. Second, the function would involve actual physical delivery of emergency goods and services through military logistics.

For both cases, it was agreed that the military would have much to offer the relief community but examples were given of difficulties in communicating with them and differences in their approach to disaster situations. Military humanitarian efforts was largely perceived as one given to by passing humanitarian activities already in place, having their own well developed command and control capability. It was also felt that this approach tended to ignore entirely institution building that has been observed in repeated instances, to be critical to successful relief and rehabilitation in the long term. Field examples from some of the participants emphasized increased co-ordination problems as a result of this type of military intervention in the past, but there was agreement on the need to use this potential resource.

The interface between field agencies and the military still remains a challenge. Whether the military can be used as a passive asset is questionable as they may have objectives that may be in conflict with the agencies involved.

Security of humanitarian relief staff and non-combatants in disaster situation, in the context of an armed conflict, is a crucial and unresolved issue. While the military presence can provide secure environment for relief operations, a military involvement can also cause confusion with the humanitarian effort and so increase danger to both the victims and relief agency operatives on the ground.

* Peacekeeping has been defined by the International Peace Academy (New York) as "the prevention, containment, moderation, and termination of hostilities between or within states through the medium of third party intervention, organized and directed internationally, using multi-national military, police and civilian personnel to restore and maintain peace"

Conflict prediction and resolution have become an integral part of humanitarian efforts as so many disasters have an element of collective violence. This reality means that many relief efforts in the future may have military aspects to them. Because of this it was felt relationships with the military need to be more clearly defined and that the role of the military in any given situation be set out clearly to the relief community, to local government and to the community.

ECHO is participating actively in a United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs project on the use of military and civil defense assets in disaster relief, in cooperation with NATO, the Russian Federation, the IFRC and other interested partners. ECHO is taking the lead in drafting a framework text for co-operation and co-ordination in the field which will be discussed at an international workshop held in Oslo in January, 1994.

7. Preparedness: Basis for efficient and rapid response

The participants identified preparedness and strong operational procedures as key elements in humanitarian relief efforts. It was felt that these elements have traditionally been overlooked, emergencies being handled on an ad hoc basis. With increasing costs and greater accountability, most major agencies are emphasizing these aspects as key to greater impact and response success.

Preparedness, both at international and national levels can shorten response time and minimize inappropriate assistance. While many of the agencies had already started up major preparedness activities, it was clear that insufficient funding of this core activity needs to be increased. Several aspects of preparedness were discussed. The following, among others, were considered essential to preparedness activities:

- Disaster preparedness programmes at local levels for NGOs, country donor offices (EC Delegation, UN Agencies) and the business sector, in addition to governments;
- Disaster management training for national staff of UN and donor agencies as well as international teams;
- Management information systems including both support and real time information;
- Early warning and predictive monitoring of impending crises situations;

- Vulnerability and risk analysis of disaster prone countries;
- Evaluation of relief actions and cost-effectiveness of comparative strategies.

It was stressed that preparedness must be an integral part of humanitarian relief management. Investment in local and regional preparedness would bring many benefits, not least of which are improved effectiveness, lessening the likelihood of errors which can cause failure. Preparedness would also directly support co-ordination by providing networks of partners, prompt and up-to-date information exchange on supplies or experts and relevant country briefings for missions. It was agreed that the IDNDR could provide an appropriate framework for many of the preparedness activities, both at a global and national levels.

ECHO stated that its mandate was essentially related to relief but agrees that preparedness is a key element of these efforts. It does have a responsibility in this area and would hope to expand its interest in and funding of preparedness initiatives.

8. Links to development programmes: Chronic disasters and displaced populations

The issue of bridging the gap between massive relief programmes and development efforts was underlined by several agencies.

The participants felt that donor agencies must recognize the preparedness-relief-rehabilitation continuum if they wish to take part in the assessment, planning and evaluation of humanitarian responses. The importance of integrating massive relief action within the developmental context of the country has been repeatedly demonstrated in past emergencies. The "come-and-go" operations (as described by the participant from the Philippines) have, in many cases, left the afflicted community debilitated by distortion of local service structures and markets. These sort of actions also foster unrealistic expectations which create discontent in the longer term. There is a shift in most major agencies today towards a more professional and planned approach to relief. The objectives are to reduce vulnerability of population at risk of repeated disasters such as in Bangladesh or the Philippines as well as to increase cost effectiveness of the operations. Certain agencies, such as the Organization of American

States, UNDP, Pan American Health Organization and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as well as the World Bank were mentioned as having already made progress in this area.

The problem of bridging humanitarian action over to the development programmes was raised. Agencies dealing with refugees and displaced populations felt particularly concerned since humanitarian assistance frequently continues for long periods. In the last decades, numerous chronic emergencies were experienced where the state of emergency lasted months, and not uncommonly, years. The line between when an emergency action ends and when the development programmes pick up remains unclear, posing concrete operational problems to field organizations.

9. Professionalism, training and research

The traditional reliance on massive material relief packages has yielded to a more professional approach to relief that is characterized by rational planning and modern management techniques. Most of the participants felt that, although this change in approach is much needed, efforts to implement this change is still far from adequate. Experience related from some disaster situations suggested that often highly skilled technical expertise from the international community was needed more urgently than shipments of supplies. The development and maintenance of such technical expertise both locally and internationally was identified as a priority for future progress.

In addition, technical briefings for national offices of governments and international agencies was identified as an important measure to assure proper management by the overseas office of an appeal for humanitarian relief. Forwarding relevant background and emergency information to centralized offices was considered critical for fund raising and the organization of the international response. In this category, both UNDP and UNHCR have existing programmes that provide essential training for both their own personnel as well as their operational partners at local levels.

There was a desire to build on the emerging professionalism in attending organizations and the possibility of maintaining a body of disaster professionals was explored.

Finally, three key areas of research were proposed as having immediate utility to field operations.

These were (i) vulnerability and risk analysis; (ii) rapid needs assessment; (iii) objective setting, evaluation techniques and impact assessment.

CONCLUSIONS

The workshop was largely concerned with ways in which provision of relief can be improved in the future. All participants emphasized the need for collaboration in the present climate of decreasing funds and increasing complexities. This initiative of ECHO in collaboration with CRED was welcomed as an opportunity for different actors to gather around an open forum for constructive discussions. As a new but significant partner in this field, ECHO is in a unique position to influence the direction of humanitarian relief management. The bringing together of diverse organizations in working sessions will create a platform for joint responses and co-ordinated action.

The workshop concluded with an agreement among the participants on the areas requiring urgent attention and where ECHO has a significant role to play. ECHO took the opportunity to explain and discuss some of its mandates, working procedures and objectives. The concept and nature of framework partnerships to improve co-ordinated efforts as well as its position on visibility was clarified. The issue of the bridge within the Commission between support for relief and support for rehabilitation was also raised.

It was felt that the links between humanitarian aid and development aid needed to be strengthened and mechanisms should be explored to ensure coherence between short and long term responses. This was felt to be especially true of refugee or displaced person situations.

Effective co-ordination and rapid response capacities depended largely on access to information, networking with local and national offices, and preparatory status of communities and agencies.

The workshop also concluded that preparedness at all levels required strengthening, including international offices, in order to carry out their functions adequately.

The need for a "lead agency" to co-ordinate needs assessments, monitor field action and donor support was raised. ECHO expressed willingness to support and, if appropriate, participate in multi-agency assessment missions, to improve relief

action. Steps towards easier co-ordination had already been taken at ECHO through the framework partnership system between ECHO and its main operational counterparts.

The critical importance of evaluation of relief activities, both on-going and post facto, was emphasized. Its neglect in the past has resulted in repeated errors in international relief operations, that is no longer acceptable. Standard methods and setting of objectives were mentioned as two areas where progress needed to be made.

The role of the military in humanitarian assistance was a subject of much discussion, which benefited especially from the views of the non-governmental organization perspectives in Somalia as well as representatives of UNHCR. It was clear from the discussions that this was an issue key to the success or failure of humanitarian efforts particularly where civil strife is involved. The logistical, manpower and communication advantages of the military in emergency situations were acknowledged. However, the application of these assets remains to be clarified. Recent emergencies demonstrate the acute need to review and rethink the appropriate channels and scope of military intervention for humanitarian activities in foreign countries and in particular, their interface with other actors in this domain.

Finally, the provision of an open, international, multi agency forum, such as this, was welcomed by all the participants as an initiative that stimulated thought and encouraged discussion. The presence of experts from international agencies, non-governmental organizations from developing and developed countries, bilateral and donor agencies ensured balanced views within a constructive framework.

PROGRAMME

First Day

- 10.00 - 10.15 Welcome and Introductory Remarks
Chair: *Mr E. Thielmann, ECHO*
- 10.15 - 11.30 Relief Evaluation: Policy Context and Realities of the Field
Mr P. Walker, IFRC
- 11.30 - 12.00 Coffee break
- 12.00 - 13.00 Strengths and Weaknesses of Relief Operations: The Case of Somalia
Dr H. Mursal, SCF U.K. Somalia
- 13.00 - 14.00 Lunch
Chair: *Dr D. Sapir, CRED*
- 14.00 - 15.30 International Relief: When and How
Mr O. Davidson, USAID
- 15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break
- 16.00 - 17.30 Prevention and Rapid Response Capacity in Refugee Emergency Situations
Mr F. Grandi, UNHCR

Second Day

- Chair: *Dr O. Elo, IDNDR*
- 09.00 - 10.30 Dynamics of International Relief and National NGO's: The Case of the Philippines
Ms M. Miranda, Manila, Philippines
- 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee break
- 11.00 - 13.00 International Relief Organizations: Priority Areas for Strengthening the Capacity
Mr S. Christopoulos, ECHO
- Disasters and Development
Mr S. Bender, OAS
- Summary of Disasters Relief in the Development Context: The Process Continuum, paper by
Mr P. Witham, UNDP
- 13.00 - 14.00 Lunch
Chair: *Mr P. Walker, IFRC*
- 14.00 - 15.30 Risk Mapping and Predictions for Mass Food Crisis: Possibilities for Improved Relief Effectiveness
Dr J. Seaman, SCF U.K.
- Humanitarian Responses to Collective Violence Evolving Trends and Options for Preparedness
Dr D. Tarantola, Harvard University
- 15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break
- 16.00 - 17.30 Conclusions and Recommendations
- 17.30 - 17.45 Closing Session

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

External Participants

Mr Stephen Bender

Department of Regional Development and Environment
Organization of American States
1889 F Street, N.W., Room 320 T
Washington D.C. 20006
U.S.A.

Tel: (1) 202 458 62 95
Fax: (1) 202 458 35 60

Stephen Bender is project chief of the Regional Development Natural Hazard Risk Assessment and Disaster Mitigation Pilot Project, Organization of American States, since 1983. He has worked in most OAS member states on urban and regional development planning problems including natural hazard and international technical-cooperation program design. Mr Bender holds a Master of Architecture degree in Urban Design.

Mr Fred Cole

Bureau for Food and Humanitarian Assistance
Agency for International Development
320 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20523
U.S.A.

Tel : (1) 202 647 52 10
Fax : (1) 202 647 40 36

Fred Cole is disaster policy advisor at the Bureau for Food and Humanitarian Assistance, Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance. He began his international career as a Care representative in Libya, Yugoslavia and India, where he provided disaster relief to earthquake, flood and drought victims. He has been with A.I.D. since 1973, including 15 years with the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance.

Mr Oliver Davidson

Executive Director
International Disaster Advisory Committee
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523
U.S.A.

Tel : (1) 202 647 52 10
Fax : (1) 202 647 40 36

Oliver Davidson is executive director, International Disaster Advisory Committee, Agency for International Development. He has served OFDA over 14 years, coordinating U.S. Government international relief activities and disaster preparedness and mitigation activities in many countries. Mr Davidson established the first U.S. Disaster Assistance Response Team and the specialized search and rescue element. He initiated disaster preparedness activities in many disaster prone countries by supporting an international network and integrated the business sector into preparedness activities, resulting in a new relationship between governments, industry and NGOs.

Dr Claude de Ville de Goyet

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief
Coordination Program
Pan American Health Organization
525 Twenty-Third Street,
Washington D.C. 20037-2895
U.S.A.

Tel: (1) 202 861 43 25
Fax: (1) 202 775 45 78

Claude de Ville de Goyet is director of the Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief Coordination Programme, Pan American Health Organization. He received his medical degree from the Université Catholique de Louvain and completed postgraduate studies in Tropical Medicine and Public Health. Prior to joining PAHO, Dr de Ville was deputy director of the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters.

Mr Leo De Vos

Office of Emergency Programmes
United Nations Children's Fund
3 United Nations Plaza
New York 10017
U.S.A.

Tel: (1) 212 326 7163
Fax: (1) 212 326 7037

Leo De Vos is senior Programme Funding Officer at the Office of Emergency Programmes of United Nations Children's Fund.

Dr Luise Drüke

Senior European Affairs Officer
UNHCR Regional Office for the European Institutions

11a rue van Eyck
1050 Brussels
BELGIUM

Tel: (32) 2 649 81 18
Fax: (32) 2 641 90 05

Luise Drücke is senior European affairs officer, Regional Office to the European Institutions, UNHCR. She has been trained in political sciences at Harvard University and the University of Hannover from where she has her doctoral degree. Her research interest centers around refugee causes, humanitarian aid and asylum. She has been attached to UNHCR since 1977, having worked during this time in Angola and Malaysia among other places.

Mr Michael H. Elmquist
Director
NATO HQ - Civil Emergency Planning
1110 Brussels
BELGIUM

Tel : (32) 2 728 41 39
Fax : (32) 2 728 79 00

Michael Elmquist is director of Civil Emergency Planning in NATO and chairman of NATO's Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee. In that capacity, he has been responsible for organising NATO's assistance to the Turkish Civil Defence during the Gulf War and for organising NATO's contribution to the coordination of humanitarian assistance to the former Soviet Union. Mr Elmquist who holds a Law Degree from Copenhagen University and has previously held positions in the Danish Civil Defence and Emergency Planning Agency. He assumed his present position in 1987.

Dr Olavi Elo
Director
IDNDR
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
SWITZERLAND

Tel : (41) 22 798 68 94
Fax : (41) 22 733 86 95

Olavi Elo is director, Secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR). Following his medical studies, he joined the World Health Organization in 1979, working in Somalia and Pakistan primarily in emergency programmes. He became the chief of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit - Global programme at WHO

headquarters and was until last year WHO representative in India. Dr Elo also holds a Ph. D. in public health.

Mr Filippo Grandi
Senior Emergency Officer
Emergency Preparedness and Response
Department
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
1202 Geneva 10
SWITZERLAND

Tel: (41) 22 739 81 11
Fax: (41) 22 731 95 46

Filippo Grandi is senior emergency officer, Emergency and Response Section, UNHCR. He has worked for UNHCR in Sudan and in the Gulf emergency and since 1992 is based at the headquarters in Geneva. In his present capacity he conducted assessment missions to Mauritania and Yemen, assisted field offices in Yemen, Ghana and Benin, established one of the two cross-border offices Kenya-Somalia as well as leading the Emergency and Response Team in Benin.

Ms Marcia Miranda
Independent Expert
15 V.M. Salazar St
B.F. Homes, Quezon City
PHILIPPINES

Tel/Fax: (63) 2 931 31 5

Marcia Miranda is a development consultant for international development agencies, NGOs and the corporate sector in social marketing, program evaluation, strategic planning and corporate social responsibility. She has been involved in disaster management since the Philippine earthquake of 1990 and participated in forming two private sector networks for disaster response. Her development experience spans 20 years.

Dr Hussein Mursal
Health Coordinator
Save the Children Fund, U.K.
PO Box 1376
Mogadishu
SOMALIA

Tel: (873) 1444 642
Fax: (873) 1444 643

Hussein Mursal is health coordinator of Save the Children U.K. in Somalia. In his present position

he coordinates all SCF health activities in Somalia, assists the Ministry of Health in the post civil war emergency programmes in Mogadishu and is advisor to the SCF director on appropriate measures on SCF programmes in Somalia. Since 1974, he was involved with the relief programme in Somalia as director of the Refugee Health Unit, setting up health policies and monitoring health situations in the refugee camps of Somalia, acting as a liaison of the UN, NGO and government organizations. He participated in several courses and conferences on public health and emergency relief subjects and is lately involved in training on refugee health.

Dr André Prost
Representative
World Health Organization
Regional Office for
Boulevard Pachéco 19 box 5
1010 Brussels
BELGIUM

Tel: (32) 2 210 64 03
Fax: (32) 2 210 64 05

André Prost is the representative of the director-general of the World Health Organization at the European Community and director of the WHO office in Brussels. Some thirteen years of his professional career were spent in Burkina Faso, first as a district medical officer with government services and thereafter in WHO's Onchocerciasis Control Programme with responsibility for its epidemiological evaluation. He joined the World Bank in 1981 as a public health specialist with responsibility for Burkina Faso, Ghana and China, before returning to WHO in 1985, where he worked as an epidemiologist in the division of Environmental Health, prior to joining the Office of the Director-General to work on programme development.

Dr John Seaman
Independent Expert
Save the Children Fund
17 Grove Lane
Camberwell
GB- London SE5 8RD
UNITED KINGDOM

Tel : (44) 71 703 5400
Fax : (44) 71 703 2278

John Seaman is head of the Overseas Policy Development Unit at Save the Children Fund, UK. He is a medical doctor by training, although his

work now involves emergency relief in developing countries. Since the Biafran war in 1968, he has maintained a particular interest in the problems of famine and food security, and especially in nutrition problems faced by refugees and other displaced groups. He is an honorary senior lecturer for nutrition, at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and has worked for the United Nations bilateral agency, and developing country governments.

Dr Daniel Tarantola
Independent Expert
Harvard School of Public Health
665 Huntington Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02115
U.S.A.

Tel . (1) 617 432 06 86
Fax: (1) 617 432 43 10

Daniel Tarantola is lecturer in Population Sciences and International Health and director of the International Aids Programme of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston. His involvement in humanitarian action began during the civil war in Biafra, Nigeria in 1969. He then participated in the creation of Médecins Sans Frontières. In various capacities, he took part in humanitarian actions in Peru, the Sahel, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Cambodia, Afghanistan, the Occupied Territories, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Irak and Kuwait. Between 1974 and 1991, his career was with the World Health Organization, where in 1990-1991, he headed the Relief and Rehabilitation unit.

Mr Ruprecht von Arnim
Regional Representative
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Regional Office for the Benelux and the European Institutions
11a rue van Eyck
1050 Brussels
BELGIUM

Tel: (32) 2 649 0151
Fax: (32) 2 641 9005

Ruprecht von Arnim is regional representative of UNHCR, in Brussels. He has been serving the UNHCR for the last 17 years. Apart from fund-raising activities at headquarters in Geneva, he was representative in London, Paris and Brussels

and is now poised to take up similar duties in Senegal in charge of disaster-prone countries, such as Liberia, Togo and Mali.

Mr Peter Walker

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
P.O. Box 372
17 Chemin des Crêts / Petit-Saconnex
1211 Geneva 19
SWITZERLAND

Tel : (41) 22 730 42 22
Fax : (41) 22 733 03 95

Peter Walker is head of the Disaster Policy Department of the International Federation of Red Cross. He has a background in environmental sciences and has practised as both a relief manager and a development programmer for 12 years in a number of African countries. Prior to joining the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, he was field director for the British agency Action Aid, in Ethiopia and before that Deputy Director of the Oxfam programme in Sudan. Dr Walker has a research interest in the role of indigenous knowledge in disaster response and is co-editor of the World Disasters Report, an annual reference report produced by the IFRC.

Mr Hans Zimmermann

Senior Relief Coordinator Officer
DHA/UNDRO
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
SWITZERLAND

Tel : (41) 22 917 35 16
Fax : (41) 22 917 00 23

Hans Zimmermann is senior relief coordinator officer of the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs since 1992. His previous assignments included field posts with United Nations Agencies, mostly in countries in Africa and Asia, affected by man-made and complex emergencies, as well as with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

ECHO Participants

Mr Mikael Barfod

Responsible Officer Informatics

Mikael Barfod is responsible officer within ECHO 3 for coordination, preparedness and informatics. Until recently, he was at the Delegation of the European Commission office in Harare, Zimbabwe. Mr Barfod is trained in economics and maintains an active interest in disaster information systems and planning issues.

Mr Donato Chiarini

Head of Unit ECHO 2

Donato Chiarini is chief of ECHO 2: Humanitarian Emergency Relief Operations in Asia, Latin America and former states of USSR. Previously he was head of delegation in Mozambique and Somalia. He was also involved in the EC assistance to the Kurdish refugee crises.

Mr. Stylianos Christopoulos

Responsible Officer ACP and Phare Countries

Stylianos Christopoulos is responsible officer within ECHO 1, head of the Africa-Caribbean-Pacific and Phare Countries. He studied law in Athens and Paris and worked as a lawyer in Athens. He worked in several Commission departments including Agriculture and Social Affairs. At the end of 1991, he joined the Emergency Aid service.

Ms Jacqueline Coeffard

Evaluation Advisor

Jacqueline Coeffard is evaluation advisor within ECHO

Ms Chantal Graykowski

Assistant to Director

Chantal Graykowski is assistant to director of ECHO and formerly desk-officer within DG VIII for Haiti.

Mr Edgar Thielmann

Head of Unit ECHO 3

Edgar Thielmann is chief of ECHO 3: General Planning. The unit is responsible for budget, informatics, judicial matters, coordination and planning. He was formerly responsible for administration of delegations of the Commission and in charge of technical assistance provided in the frame work of European Development Fund.

CRED Participants

Ms Regina Below Documentalist

Regina Below is documentalist at CRED. She has worked with CRED since 1988. Besides maintaining the library and preparing specialized dossiers on specific themes, Ms Below assists in all training activities of the Centre as well as preparations of background materials and documentations.

Ms Hedwig Deconinck Research Associate

Hedwig Deconinck is research associate at CRED. After her studies in Physiotherapy at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, she followed a postgraduate in Teaching and Social Anthropology. She has varied field experience with ICRC in Sudan, Kenya and Pakistan and has a special interest in emergency relief. Her work at CRED has focused on development of emergency related training materials as well as organizing courses and workshops in this area. She is currently also enrolled in the masters programme of Public Health at the Université Catholique de Louvain.

Dr Debarati Guha-Sapir Director

Debarati Guha-Sapir is director of the Centre for Research in the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), Brussels and Associate Professor, School of Public Health, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels. Following her studies in Calcutta, she did her masters at Johns Hopkins University and doctoral work at the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine of the Université Catholique de Louvain. She has been involved in emergency programme and policy development in various countries including China, Bangladesh and

Ethiopia with WHO in the Sudan with UNDP and more recently in the Philippines with the European Commission. Dr Sapir maintains an active interest in operational research in this area as well as in relief policy issues.

Ms Fabienne Keymeulen Secretary

Fabienne Keymeulen is administrative secretary. She has worked with CRED since 1986. Besides her secretarial duties she covers all administrative affairs of the Centre.

Ms Claudine Misson Research Associate

Claudine Misson is research associate at CRED. She has worked for over 20 years in the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels. She specialized in data base development and is currently working on the maintenance and validation of a global database on disasters as well as other related databases within the EM-INFO system.

Dr Olivier Ronveaux Researcher

Olivier Ronveaux is researcher at CRED. Following his medical studies at the Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, he specialized in Tropical Medicine and Public Health. He has long field experience in emergencies with various NGOs. and has been responsible for the Sudan emergency surveillance project of CRED.

Dr Michael Ryan Visiting Fellow

Michael Ryan is research analyst at the Public Health Laboratory Services, U.K. He studied medicine in Dublin and maintains an active career interest in health aspects of emergency preparedness and relief and is planning to undertake post doctoral studies in this area.

Dr André Sasse Research Associate

André Sasse is research associate at CRED. After his medical studies at the Université Catholique de Louvain he has specialized in Tropical Medicine, followed by a further specialization in Environmental Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Dr Sasse has extensive field experience of emergencies in Chad and Sudan with Médecins Sans Frontières, as well as research experience at CRED.

Dr René Tonglet
Senior Lecturer in Epidemiology

René Tonglet is senior lecturer in Epidemiology at the School of Public Health, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels. He has fifteen years of experience in planning and organization of health services at the local level, five years as a family practitioner in Belgium and eight years as a district medical officer in Zaire. From 1990 to 1992 he has been research associate at the School of Public Health, Université Libre de Bruxelles, and project manager of CEMUBAC, a non-profit organization for international co-operation.

Mr Kelemu Yitbarek
Head of Relief and Social Affairs
Ethiopian Red Cross
PO Box 195
Addis Ababa
ETHIOPIA

Tel: (251) 1 519364
Fax: (251) 1 512643

Kelemu Yitbarek is head of Relief and Social Affairs of the Ethiopian Red Cross, Addis Ababa. He has extensive experience in emergency relief and disaster vulnerability.

Papers submitted by

Mr Stylianos Christopoulos (outline)

Mr Oliver Davidson (outline)

Dr John Seaman (outline)

Dr. Daniel Tarantola (outline)

Mr Peter Witham
Deputy Director
Emergency Programme
United Nations Development Programme
UNDP Room UH 700
One United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10017
U.S.A.

Tel: (1) 212 906 50 00
Fax: (1) 212 906 53 79

Peter Witham is deputy director of the Humanitarian Programme of the United Nations Development Programme, New York. He is responsible, among other activities for the Disaster Management Training Programme (DMTP) in disaster prone countries.