

Alert

Haiti

Tropical Storm Emily

Geneva, 3 August 2011

1. Brief description of the emergency

Haiti and Dominican Republic are preparing to face tropical Storm Emily that is continuing its course in the Caribbean Sea and expected to land in Hispaniola Island during Wednesday, 4 August. Tropical storm comes with winds up to 85 km/h with gushes that can be more violent. Emily is expected to produce 100 to 150 mm of rain in Hispaniola.

2. Impact

Tropical storm related effects include loss and injured of human lives, damage to or destruction of houses due to strong winds, damage to or destruction of infrastructures such as bridges, roads, public building as well as water sources and irrigation systems due to violent rains and flooding, loss of crops and livestock and loss of livelihood related equipment (tools, stock for sales etc.). Large displacement due to flooding is often a result, leading to family splitting and increased vulnerability.

Haiti is particularly vulnerable to these effects because of the deforestation, high density of population in urban context and especially the earthquake affected displaced people living in the makeshift camps. In addition the risks include poor quality of constructions and infrastructure, settlement in flood prone areas with poor drainage system and lack of suitable shelter for the population to evacuate.

3. National and international response

The national authorities have set up the National Emergency Operation Center and declared the red alert in accordance to the national plan of risk and disaster management with an estimated risk for a violent to extreme impact. The storm is expected to impact the whole national territory. UN entities that follow a common national plan with the government are prepared and the cluster system is alerted.

4. ACT Alliance response

ACT Haiti Forum members have activated their contingency plan and ACT members in the island have alerted their partners and the communities they work with, including local authorities, going through local preparedness plans, revised their stocks and shelters and human resources as well as started to plan eventual assessments after the storm. ACT Alliance members and partner organisations have a

nation-wide presence, it is expected that the storm could mobilize several of them in a multiple sector response. The type of activities to be implemented will be determined by the assessment.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Jean-Daniel Birmele, ACT Chief Finance Officer (Jean.Daniel.Birmele@actalliance.org).

Thank you for your attention.

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