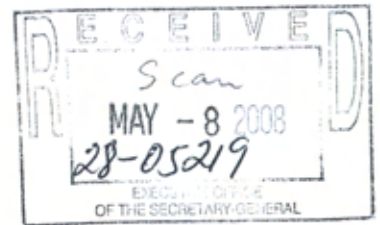


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Myanmar ACTION N/A  
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Note to the Secretary-General

**HUMANITARIAN UPDATE ON CYCLONE NARGIS 08 MAY 2008**

1. As of 8 May, the Government is reporting more than 22,908 confirmed dead and 42,119 missing. However, unofficial estimates now being cited globally are significantly higher. The UN estimates that 5,000 square kilometers are still flooded. There is growing concern for the management of corpses and contamination of a significant portion of water sources. Some assessments have suggested that people are coping by migrating outwards from the most affected areas in search of basic necessities. While the Government agreed to the deployment of four UN Disaster Assessment Coordination Team (UNDAC) members of Asian nationality, two members were turned back at the airport on 08 May. The two UNDAC members allowed to enter held Asian national and diplomatic passports; the two UNDAC members turned away held a UN Laissez Passer and a UN certificate. The international media's growing attention to the issue of access delays is very much contributing to a rising sense of anger with the Government and impatience with the UN's cautious approach.

08/05/08

2. More than 23 international agencies (NGO and UN) are either operational or planning to become operational in the affected areas. Of these, 15 agencies are presently involved in assignments. NGOs and UN operations agencies have been providing supplies to people in affected areas and in shelter camps, both in the Yangon area and in Ayeyarwady. Supplies have included food, water, water purification aids, plastic sheeting, tarpaulins, mosquito nets, first-aid and health kits, and oral rehydration salts. It is estimated that at least 276,000 individuals have been reached by 07 May.

3. As the aid operation scales up, there are new, unconfirmed reports of diarrhoeal disease outbreaks which could, if unchecked, trigger a new wave of deaths. WHO and UNICEF are mobilizing essential drugs and supplies in response, with WHO supporting the Ministry of Health on rumor verification, outbreak investigation and rapid response. Information, education and communication materials have been translated and at least 200,000 will be printed and distributed to address the misconception that dead bodies on their own cause disease, while educating on the need for basic hygiene measures including clean water, sanitation, and hand-washing. UNDP has established a road transportation relay system for personnel and supplies moving into Ayeyarwaddy Division, as communication networks are still seriously compromised. WFP is undertaking an Immediate Response Emergency Operation of US\$500,000 for an estimated 40,000 beneficiaries as an initial response. This is expected to be exhausted quite shortly. WFP is planning an Emergency Operation to reach approximately 630,000 beneficiaries with a complete food basket.

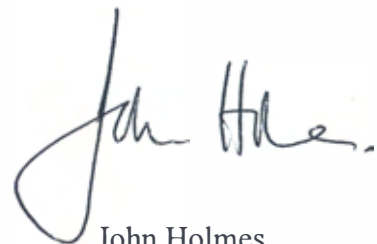
MAY - 8 2008



4. A total of 90 MT of rice has been dispatched to camps in Yangon, distributed by cooperating partners, and 40 MT to Labutta. WFP currently has a total rice stock of 690mt in Yangon. WFP is expecting to import a total of 45 MT of High Energy Biscuit for emergency distribution in shelter camps. The first airlifted 7 MT have arrived today and will be forwarded to warehouse and distribution sites.

5. There are currently 47 teams from 21 countries specializing in search and rescue, emergency medicine, and information management support on standby in various parts of the world. I would be grateful if you could continue your efforts to encourage the Government of Myanmar to open up access. We may also need to ask you to make a series of phone calls to key ASEAN leaders, including Singapore and Indonesia, to ask for more support, both with the Myanmar government, and in terms of logistics and military assets, given that US and other western assets are almost certain to continue to be refused.

6. The Flash Appeal will be launched tomorrow, for an initial amount of around \$130 million.

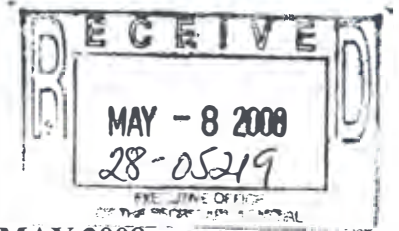
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John Holmes', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

John Holmes  
8 May 2008

cc: Mr. Gambari  
Mr. Dervis



ACTION NH  
COPY VN



Note to Mr. Nambiar

**HUMANITARIAN UPDATE ON CYCLONE NARGIS 08 MAY 2008**

Please find attached a note to the Secretary on the Humanitarian Update on  
Cyclone Nargis for 8 May 2008.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Holmes".

John Holmes  
8 May 2008

