

# **ZAMBIA: REFUGEE INFLUX**

3 February, 2000

*appeal no. 11/99*

*appeal launched on 4 May, 1999 for 6 months; extended to 31 December, 1999;  
situation report no. 5 (last); programme activities now included in the 2000 Appeal;  
final report due by March 31, 2000  
period covered: December, 1999*

*The situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) remains insecure and unpredictable, causing further limited population movements into Zambia. The conflict in Angola has also intensified, adding a complicated regional dimension to the situation. Despite the uncertainty, the ZRCS continues to deliver basic care and maintenance assistance, with Federation support. The activities originally included in this Appeal are now covered under the Federations 2000 Appeal under the Southern Africa regional operation. A final report on Appeal 11/99 will be issued by March 31, 2000.*

## ***The context***

On 4 March, 1999 an initial wave of some 4,000 Congolese refugees escaping the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) crossed the border into Zambia's Northern Province. A month later, an estimated 25,000 refugees had arrived. Months of living in the bush and sustained travel under conditions of duress had seriously affected the health of the refugees. The situation was aggravated by prolonged rains, affecting both the refugee camp sites and logistics (roads and communications) needed to deliver assistance.

To provide initial services for the refugees, a transit facility was established in the village of Kaputa, northern Zambia, and the government of Zambia enacted contingency plans, including the allocation of land adjacent to the town of Mporokoso where a camp was established to accommodate a maximum of 25,000 refugees.

To respond to the humanitarian situation and to support the Zambia Red Cross Society (ZRCS) in delivering urgently needed assistance, the Federation launched an appeal on 4 May, 1999 for CHF 1,707,000 to provide assistance to refugees for 6 months.

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## ***Latest events***

Despite efforts by the international community to resolve the crisis in the DRC, progress has been limited, with little anticipation of voluntary repatriation. Meanwhile, the conflict in Angola has intensified, with the government reportedly advancing in its campaign against the UNITA forces.

Both conflicts have assumed wide-ranging regional dimensions, with the war in Angola leading to a considerable increase in the number of Angolan refugees into the northwestern and western provinces of Zambia. About 30,000 Angolan refugees are reported to have entered Zambia since the increase in fighting in the last quarter of 1999. Some 9,000 Angolan refugees have reportedly arrived in Sinjembela, Zambia, while almost 4,500 are located in Kalabo.

The social, economic and military situation in the DRC remains unpredictable. The signing of the peace accord and the setting up of the Joint Military Commission to oversee the implementation of the peace accord have had a limited on the conflict. Despite the agreement, foreign troops remain involved in the hostilities. Intermittent clashes between the various factions have continued with each group accusing the other of violating the peace accord. Due to this scenario the refugees continue to trickle into Northern Zambia.

Most African Governments have appealed to the United Nations to send peace keepers to the DRC since the peace deal has not succeeded in taking hold. Most recently, key African leaders involved in the peace negotiations have been invited to the United Nations to discuss the peace process in the DRC.

## ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

During the period under review, the ZRCS and Federation continued providing assistance in all sectors to the refugees both in Kaputa and Mwange Camp in Mporokoso. UNHCR, as lead UN agency, continues monitoring the situation in Kaputa. The ZRCS and Federation are also collaborating with CARE which is responsible for the community services sector in Mporokoso.

The camp population (as of 21 January 2000) was 17,821. The table below reflects the population breakdown.

Age Adult	Sex-Male	Sex-Female	Total	%
Adults>17yrs	3,903	3,990	7,893	44
Children 5-17 yrs	3,145	3,071	6,216	35
Children 0-4 yrs	1,805	1,907	3,712	21
Totals	8,853	8,968	17,821	100

### **Care and Maintenance Assistance**

#### **Food and Non-Food Distribution •**

##### ***Mwange Camp - Mporokoso***

The general food distribution has continued on a fortnightly basis based on the WFP-recommended ration. New arrivals into the camp receive rations to last until the next general food distribution date. Maize grain (resourced by WFP) continues to be distributed to refugees, however the availability and quality of grinding mills is a constraint, and WFP is responsible for resolving this. The distribution of non-food rations continues (including plastic sheeting, blankets, cooking utensils, and soap).

##### ***Kaputa Transit Centre***

Refugees who arrive at the transit centre are given food on a regular basis until they are transferred to Mwange Camp. The ration is the same as applying in Mwange.

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##### ***Kaputa Transit Centre***

Refugees who arrive at the transit centre are given food on a regular basis until they are transferred to Mwange Camp. The ration is the same as applying in Mwange.

The table below summarises the food commodities distributed:

Item	Amount Distributed (Kgs)
Mealie Meal	113,879
Beans	30,390
Salt	2,510
Cooking Oil	5,428

In addition, 364 mt of high energy protein supplements were distributed.

**Health Sector •**

***Mwange Camp - Mporokoso***

The provision of health services in Mwange Camp continued effectively, despite the heavy rain fall which caused logistical constraints. The health situation remained stable.

Some 877 persons received medical attention in the health centers in the first two weeks of January, 2000. The total case load reduced by 40% compared to the last week of December, and re-attendees have remained very low. The morbidity patterns remained the same with malaria being the most prevalent cause of ill health in the camp followed by RTI and intestinal parasites. During this rain season, a higher percentage of malaria and blood diarrhoea cases has been observed in the health centre, an increase of 100% compared to other months. This is attributed to an increase in the population of mosquitoes in the camp and surrounding villages. The increase in diarrhoea is attributed to insufficient sanitary conditions and procedures during the period of low latrine coverage. The home visitors programme which is implemented with the hygiene promotion programme is currently focusing on malaria and diarrhoea diseases control.

***Kaputa Transit Centre***

The health situation at the transit centre has been stable, with no mortalities reported. This can be partially attributed to the reduction of the population staying at the transit centre.

The following beneficiaries received supplementary food rations:

Beneficiary	New	Old
Under 5	13	70
TB cases	12	12
Antenatal	0	1
Social cases	4	23
Total	29	106

The following data reflects the health care assistance delivered during the reporting period:

Disease	Under-Fives		Over-Fives		Total	%
	Male	Female	Male	Female		
Malaria	115	117	145	135	512	58.5
RTI	45	38	57	67	207	23.7
Intestinal worms	6	4	31	31	72	7.7
Watery diarrhoea	14	11	25	19	69	7.8
Bloody diarrhoea	1	2	6	1	10	1.4

The following family planning activities took place:

Contraceptive brand	New	Old	Total	Number of cycles issued
Microgynon	4	8	12	27
Microlut	1	6	7	21
Noristat	1	1	2	2
Neo Sampooon	4	1	5	80
Female condom	0	0	0	0
Male condom	31	5	36	1,080

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Total	41	21	62	
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**Water and Sanitation •**

***Mwange Camp***

*Water Supply:* The water supply at Mwange Camp has greatly improved with the system currently capable of supplying 18 to 20 litres of water per capita per day to 30,000 refugees. The possibility for increased capacity exists. The volume of water delivered in the reticulated system during the period under review was 1,520,000 litres, while 48,000 litres was delivered by 12 hand pumps available in the camp.

*Sanitation:* The family latrine programme has continued in the camp. A total of 2,050 family latrines are currently available, a coverage of 82%. The vector control team has continued disinfecting all the refuse pits in the camp.

***Kaputa***

Due to the reduction in the number of refugees coming in through Kaputa, the water and sanitation facilities available in the area are currently adequate for the number of refugees arriving at the transit centre. As a result of this, of the three water tanks available, only one is being utilised. To supplement the current water situation in case the number of refugees increases, two boreholes have been dug and are in use. MSF-Holland also donated an additional water bladder to be used at the transit centre.

***Outstanding needs***

There is a need to make more chemicals available for the vector control team primarily DBM (8 dozens cartons), K-othrine (6 dozens cartons), and at least 4 sets of Gloria spray pump spares for the six pump sets at Mwange.

***External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media***

Effective relations with operational agencies continue both at the field and Lusaka level. Consultations on the most effective way to provide services to the beneficiaries also continue, with Inter-Agency Coordination meetings taking place every fortnight.

***Contributions***

See Annex 1 for details.

Peter Rees-Gildea  
 Director  
 Operations Funding and  
 Reporting Department

Bekele Geleta  
 Director  
 Africa Department

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**ZAMBIA, REFUGEES**

ANNEX 1

**APPEAL No. 11/99**

**PLEDGES  
RECEIVED**

02.03.2000

DONOR	CAT EGO RY	QUANTIT Y	UNI T	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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**CASH**

REQUESTED	IN			1,631,000	01.01.1999	107.00%
APPEAL----- ----->						
DANISH - RC		200,000	DKK	43,020	06.30.1999	
BRITISH - RC				219,816	10.06.1999	
FINNISH - RC		50,457	EUR	80,465	06.22.1999	
FINNISH - RC		50,456	EUR	80,931	08.01.1999	ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES
ICELANDIC - RC		200,000	SEK	4,066	05.31.1999	
MONACO - RC		40,000	FRF	9,748	07.07.1999	
NORWEGIAN - RC		100,000	NOK	18,767	05.12.1999	
NORWEGIAN - GOVT		485,422	NOK	95,415	01.11.1999	REFUGEE INFLUX
NETHERLANDS - RC				50,100	12.01.1999	REFUGEE INFLUX
SWEDISH - RC/GOVT		500,000	SEK	90,000	05.17.1999	
AMERICAN RC		25,000	USD	36,613	05.25.1999	
UNHCR				581,581	08.23.1999	DIRECT TO DELEGATION
US GOVT. (PRM)		285,000	USD	434,625	09.29.1999	
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN CASH</b>				1,745,147	CHF	107.00%

**KIND AND  
SERVICES (INCL.  
PERSONNEL)**

DONOR	CAT EGO RY	QUANTIT Y	UNI T	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
<b>SUB/TOTAL RECEIVED IN KIND/SERVICES</b>				0	CHF	0.00%

**ZAMBIA, REFUGEES**

ANNEX 1

**APPEAL No. 11/99**

**PLEDGES  
RECEIVED**

02.03.2000

DONOR	CAT EGO RY	QUANTIT Y	UNI T	VALUE CHF	DATE	COMMENT
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