The Federation’s mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity.

It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 180 countries.

In Brief

Appeal coverage: 39.4%; See attached Contributions List for details.

Outstanding needs: CHF 2,549,482


Programme Summary: The reporting period has seen a number of disasters in the region, particularly the floods in Santa Fé province in Argentina following which an international appeal was launched. The Argentine Red Cross is implementing an operation in response to the flooding as well as a programme to assist the most vulnerable affected by the country’s on-going social crisis. The relocation of the regional delegation from Buenos Aires to Lima posed a constraint during the initial months of the year in that time was needed to consolidate new structures, train and induct new members of staff. However, the delegation is now well established and well placed to continue effective programme implementation. Preparations for the Inter American Conference held in late April in Santiago de Chile were a major focus of regional delegation and, in particular, the sub regional office in Buenos Aires which provided support to the host National Society, the Chilean Red Cross. The documents resulting from the conference, including the health strategy for the Americas, are of major significance for Red Cross programming and Federation support. The delegation established effective links with external agencies which will continue to be reinforced throughout the year.

Operational developments

The first four months of 2003 have been characterized by a general situation of instability and social tension in several parts of the region.
In Argentina, civil associations and public opinion cite corruption and poor management of national resources as the main causes of the spread of poverty, with levels reaching almost 60% of the total population. As a symptom of the general distrust towards the political system, for the first time in Argentine history presidential elections did not result in a winner in the first round and a ballot has been scheduled for mid May. Unemployment and lack of resources for everyday life still result in major apprehension among the population, together with the concern for the reducing public security.

March marked a new phase of the operation carried out by the Argentine Red Cross (ARC) in response to the social crisis. Thanks to the contribution of EUR 800,000 from the Italian Agency for Development in December 2002, the operation has been extended until 31 July 2003, with a substantial growth in terms of beneficiaries and activities.

On 29 April, devastating floods hit the Argentine province of Santa Fé, leaving 24 dead, tens of thousands homeless and in extremely precarious conditions. The ARC and Federation took immediate action and an international appeal was launched on 6 May 2003 to assist 8,000 of the most vulnerable flood victims.

In Paraguay, presidential elections were held on 27 April, electing the Colorado Party’s candidate, Nicanor Duarte, a former education minister, as the country’s new president with 38% of the votes. The Colorado party has been governing Paraguay for a period of 56 years, and will thus continue doing so for another five, making it the world’s longest-serving ruling party. Duarte promises to crack down on the country’s chronic corruption, in light of last year’s economic recession (4%) and increasing inflation rates.

A bomb blast in the North Eastern Colombian town of Cucuta in early March killed 6 people and left 71 more injured. The Colombian Red Cross assisted the victims, and a story describing the Colombian Red Cross actions was posted on the Federation home page. According to the Colombian government, the attack was carried out in retaliation for a government campaign to eradicate coca crops from the region, which it says is financing the opposition movement.

In March, the European Commission announced the allocation of a total of 8 million euros for humanitarian aid, targeting victims of the continuing internal conflict in Colombia. The majority of the funds will be used for food and other humanitarian relief items for the approximately 2 million citizens who have been displaced as a result of the conflict. The funds will be channelled through the European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO). While the majority of these funds will be utilized for short-term relief actions, part of the funds will also be used for medium-term interventions with the aim of reinforcing the integration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) into the receiving/host communities in the country. It is likely that the PNSs based in Colombia will apply for funding of their programmes from this newly announced allocation.

In Venezuela, the tensions and street violence continued; negotiations were on-going between Venezuela’s government and the opposition regarding a possible mid-term referendum on Hugo Chavez’ presidency to be held in August 2003. A pre-agreement, mediated by the Organization of American States, was reached, but not signed. A bomb was planted outside the building where the talks between the government and the opposition were held. The general strike during the first month of the year has left the Venezuelan economy seriously weakened and the opposition to the government split, lacking coordinated leadership.

Coca farmers in Peru marched on the capital, Lima, demanding talks with the President of the republic, Alejandro Toledo, and his government. The demands made by the coca farmers mainly focused on their protest against the anti-drug programme that aims at substituting the growing of coca with other non-disputed agricultural products. The April initiative is seen in light of a trend of coca farmers in Peru and the wider region becoming more radical in their political demands on the ruling governments for sustainable living and income conditions. Public support of the President, Alejandro Toledo, continues falling month by month.

Natural disasters have hit Bolivia continuously during this reporting period. In January, hail and rainstorms affected the capital, La Paz, leaving hundreds of families without homes and with devastated crops. In April, a mudslide that hit a gold-prospecting town in northern Bolivia killed 17 people and left 200 missing. DREF funding was allocated for the operations implemented by the Bolivian Red Cross.
During March and April, a series of protests were mobilized throughout the region, against the military invasion of Iraq.

**Health and Care**

**Goal:** The National Societies (NSs) in the region will have implemented efficient, responsive and focused programmes which will have contributed to improve the lives of vulnerable people. These programmes will have been carried out with coordination and technical support from the Federation’s Secretariat through its regional resources.

**Objective:** The National Societies in the region will have improved their capacity to diminish vulnerability due to disease.

**Progress/Achievements**

**Project 1: Strengthening of National Societies’ capacity to implement community programmes**

The process of mapping the quality of health activities in National Societies has advanced. The Federation is seeking to promote an interchange of successful experiences between the region’s National Societies.

Two projects have been initiated with DFID funding: the first in Bolivia will develop a community initiative integrating components of health and disaster preparedness. The second is in Paraguay whereby the National Society will implement an educational project which includes aspects of preventive health, work with people living with HIV/AIDS, the organization of support groups and issues of stigma.

Regional health activities have been identified such as the “South American Week for Vaccination” and participation of the National Societies is this type of health campaign is being promoted.

The drawing up of an operational health plan for the Americas has begun and it is planned that it will be concluded in June for the occasion of the meeting of health directors focusing on “building sustainable mechanisms of cooperation and health”.

Definition, dissemination and promotion of the health strategy for the Americas have been carried out through international meetings including that held in Washington on 15 February, gathering a committee of experts including representatives of PAHO and the Federation; a second meeting held in Panama on 28 February sought to review health issues in Central America.

The document “Equity and Health in the Americas” was analysed and subsequently approved at the Inter American Conference held in Santiago de Chile from 23 to 26 April. Therefore, for the first time, a document outlines the health strategy defined by the National Societies with the support of PNSs, Federation delegates and the ICRC. This document gives the framework in which the region should work in the area of health in the following years. The key points of the agreement are:

- Establishing of strategies and programmes which deal with the issue of inequity in health, ensuring synergy between the different community health and disaster initiatives.
- Strengthening interventions for a greater impact in:
  - Social mobilization and promotion of voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation.
  - Women and children’s health with focus on equity which will be integrated with the integral initiative in the fight against prevalent diseases in children (AIEPI) at community level.
  - Prevention and response in relation to HIV/AIDS.
  - Public health response to emergencies and disasters.
  - Promotion of the message of tolerance, non-violence, non-discrimination and respect for human rights.
  - Promotion of support to migrants and displaced people in line with their basic rights, including their right to health.
Project 2: HIV/AIDS
The Chilean Red Cross youth section organized its annual event, “The 4th National School for Youth Training”, held between 1 and 9 February. 150 young people participated and were trained in first aid, gender, planning and implementation of projects, sexual education and HIV/AIDS prevention, together with basic institutional orientation. The event also served as a meeting for the national and regional youth directors.

The regional gender and youth officer was invited to participate in “The 2nd HIV/AIDS/STD Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean”, held in Cuba from 7 to 12 April. She was in charge of the conference entitled “youth, sexual health promotion and the future of the HIV/AIDS epidemic”. This experience served to present the experience “youth to youth” or “Peer Education” developed by the South American Youth Network. During the forum, there were meetings with organizations that work in the field of HIV/AIDS including Red LA+, the network of Latin-American women living with AIDS, the network of international women living with AIDS, the NGO Fundamind, and the national networks of Peru, Venezuela, Bolivia and Argentina.

As has been mentioned previously (under Project 1), in Paraguay, a project with DFID funding has been initiated: the National Society will implement an educational project including components of preventive health, work with people living with HIV/AIDS, organization of support groups and dealing with stigma. The project implemented by the Paraguayan Red Cross is designed to work on non-discrimination and non-stigmatization of PLWA in communities.

Project 3: Amazónico Programme
The National Societies of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela continue implementation of the Amazónico programme which focuses on improvement of conditions in local communities through micro projects and the strengthening of local capacities. The annual evaluation and planning workshop for regional community programmes was held between 17 and 21 March in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, with the support of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency (AECI) through the Spanish Red Cross. As a result of the workshop, three working groups have been formed: the first group will focus on the community development conceptual framework, the second will work on the development of training materials to teach people use of the methodology and the third group will design the “exit strategy” using the better programming initiative (BPI), for those communities in which the implementation of local development plans (LDPs) has been completed. Nine ONSs and four Federation representatives, including the participatory community development coordinator from the regional delegation in Budapest, participated in the workshop.

80% of the National Societies involved in the programme apply tools and the methodology from the Amazónico programme to other activities and programmes. For example:

- In Brazil: the Maranhao community used the methodology to set up the “Community Medicinal Orchards” project with Swedish Red Cross funds.
- In Ecuador, assistance to displaced people provided by the American Red Cross uses the methodology.
- In Peru, in the south of the country: Arequipa, Moquegua and Tacna, development projects post-emergency have adopted the methodology.
- Colombia uses the methodology in the programmes implemented with the Netherlands Red Cross and in youth groups.

The “Lessons learned” document prepared by an external consultant in consultation with Federation programme coordinators and which gathers the experiences of community-based programmes, has been revised. The document analyses the lessons learned from the implementation of five regional programmes: Amazónico, Camalote, Andino, Gente Fuerte (Strong People) and also Golfo de Fonseca implemented in Central America. The publication of the document is expected for the end of July and will be made available to Red Cross staff involved in development projects and also to other organizations working in this area. The document will also form the basis for an external evaluation.

A local development plan is formed by six or eight micro projects related to community problems: for example, health, water, sanitation, environment, education, work, non-violence, disaster prevention. The LDP is the result of the Participative Planning Workshops (PPWs). Communities prioritize those micro projects which are most urgent. Implementation of micro projects for the year 2003 will begin in May.
Micro projects from 2002 have been completed:

- Bolivia: building of latrines in the Trinidad community.
- Colombia: environmental and health improvement in the Florencia community.
- Ecuador: nutritional improvement in the Pastaza community.
- Venezuela: environmental and health improvement in community Babilla de Pintao.

The principal lesson learned to date is that the Federation needs to work more on the exit strategies at the conclusion of LDPs, and that this phase is equally important as the strategy to initiate the plans.

Amazónico Project:
Improvement of health services in community Babilla de Pintao in Puerto Ayacucho, Venezuela - (project completed in February 2003).
Teaching the community how to make bricks to build latrines.

The work in Brazil, the country which most recently became part of the Amazónico programme, joining in May 2002, continues successful implementation. Two PPWs took place in April in the communities of Cotijuba and Terra Firme, both linked with the Red Cross branch of Belem. The PPW in Cotijuba was completed and the LDP document will be completed at the end of April; the priority micro project will also have been selected for implementation. In accordance with these communities’ needs, the micro projects discussed included issues such as: water and sanitation, education, tourism, agriculture and public transportation. In 2003, the work in Brazil will focus on the Belem branch.

90% of the National Societies involved in the programme have developed plans and calendars to update their financial situation and report positive balances of all projects implemented between 1999 and 2002. The positive balances will be used to finalize activities relating to prior micro projects, initiate another micro project from the community’s LDP or invest in the reinforcement of the completed LDPs. Another part of the positive balance will be used in the process of internal evaluation and exit from finalized micro projects.

Terms of reference for an external evaluation of LDPs which have been concluded in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, have been finalized. The evaluation is planned for June.

**Project 4: Internally Displaced People (IDPs) – Health and disaster preparedness**
There has been no significant progress with this project over the reporting period. The Colombian Red Cross is undergoing a series of changes, and a new health director has recently been hired.

*It is important to explain the latest developments, that the role is being redefined together with the CRC, focusing more on coordination….*

**Impact**
Health was one of the main themes discussed during the Inter American Conference, held in April in Santiago de Chile. The document “Equity and Health in the Americas” is considered as a step forward to defining the roles and areas of intervention of the Secretariat and the Federation in health. This has a positive impact since it focuses resources in concrete areas of health support.

To date, the Amazónico Programme has been implemented in 27 communities with a total of 65,000 beneficiaries.

Communities’ negotiation capacities have been strengthened, as evidenced through their relations with local authorities and NGOs.

The establishment of monitoring and evaluation committees for the Amazónico programme facilitates the formation of social networks.

**Constraints**

- Electoral processes and social crisis affected the development of some Amazónico projects, especially in Venezuela (improvement of the environment and health prevention project in Babilla de Pintao community and the health improvement project in Caño de Tigre community) and Colombia (building of the sewage system in Inirida community).
- Certain national Amazónico coordinators will no longer be taking on this role, so the first semester of 2003 will require further efforts in order to secure continuity.
- In some National Societies, technical personnel are not always involved in Amazónico activities, sometimes because there are other urgent matters occupying their time or because there are few staff or few internal opportunities for exchange and consultation.
- It is necessary to have more information about the alliances that each National Society is making in the area of health, with the aim of promoting successful partnerships and experiences, providing support for better negotiations and avoiding potential difficulties.
- The National Societies in the region know little concerning the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) agreement signed with the Federation, thereby much of the potential of joint initiatives risks is being lost.

**Coordination**

- The health delegate has visited the National Societies of Argentina, Bolivia and Peru, where he promoted ties with the Ministries of Health and the Pan American Health Organization.
- Contacts with the PNSs present in the region have been established to promote joint work in health and care.
- Contact with the Andean Regional Health Organization has been made in view of an agreement for working together.
- During “The 2nd HIV/AIDS/STD Forum of Latin America and the Caribbean” the regional gender and youth officer established contact with organizations working in the area of HIV/AIDS: Red LA+, the network of Latin-American women living with AIDS, the network of international women living with AIDS, the NGO Fundamind, and the national networks of Argentina, Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela.
- The Finnish Embassy is working on a bilateral project (Finland-Peru) to protect the biodiversity of the Amazon region: Biodamaz. The Embassy is working jointly with the Institute of Research in the Peruvian Amazon and the Turku University. The Amazónico programme has made contact with a view to working in common areas such as strengthening of local management capacities of communities to generate sustainable development. Biodamaz is planning to extend its cooperation to Brazil.

**Disaster Management**

**Goal:** The National Societies (NSs) in the region will have implemented efficient, responsive and focused programmes which will have contributed to improve the lives of vulnerable people. These programmes will have been carried out with coordination and technical support from the Federation’s Secretariat through its regional resources.

**Objective:** The National Societies in the region will have improved their capacity to work cooperatively with communities, local authorities and disaster management institutions in the development of integrated
disaster preparedness and emergency response strategies, structures, systems, plans and activities with the aim of reducing the vulnerability of communities impacted by natural disasters.

**Progress/Achievements**

The programme is based on three projects:

**Project 1: Disaster Preparedness and Response Capacity**

Since 2002, as part of the regional strategy, the ten National Societies in the region have manuals of procedures and systems for disaster preparedness and intervention activities. The Red Cross Societies of Brazil, Chile and Uruguay require further strengthening in the area of relief given a lack of volunteers. The National Societies of Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela have contingency plans to face the El Niño Phenomenon; however, internal dissemination of these plans has not taken place as a result of a lack of financial resources. In order to resolve this situation, further alliances with Civil Defence are being made.

Argentina twice faced severe flooding during the reporting period. The first floods in February were a result of heavy rains which affected Buenos Aires; the San Andrés branch deployed 15 volunteers to assist evacuees and provided clothing and blankets. Furthermore, at the end of April, floods occurred in the province of Santa Fé and continue to affect the region at the time of this update. The rains caused the overflow of Salado River, resulting in flooding of most of Santa Fé province and more than 100,000 people were evacuated. The Argentine Red Cross carried out rescue and evacuation, ensured the provision of first aid and the delivery of relief items both from its own warehouse and through donations made by other institutions. An international appeal was launched in order to assist 8,000 of the most vulnerable flood victims with food and non-food relief items and health and hygiene interventions.

The Argentine Red Cross has also been implementing the operation in response to the Social Crisis, through the appeal launched in April 2002. The ARC is currently responding to the social crisis through assistance to 19,850 children and senior citizens, providing food to soup kitchens and senior citizens’ homes. The Red Cross programme also includes health promotion and disease prevention for 62,500 beneficiaries and the distribution of basic medicines and medical equipment to 32 primary health centres in strategic communities. The social crisis operation has been extended until the end of July 2003.

In Paraguay, the operation in response to drought affecting indigenous farming families in the Chaco central region since October 2002 has progressed well over the period and is now concluding. The drought programme ensured the provision of much-needed assistance to a total of 29,880 beneficiaries in 57 communities. The activities of the Paraguayan Red Cross were focused on food and water distribution, construction of water collection and storage systems and the training of hygiene promoters that have worked with communities to improve hygiene practices.

In Peru, the heavy rains which start in November each year, ending in March, caused an emergency situation in nine departments of the country, affecting 59,474 people with floods. The Peruvian Red Cross collected and distributed 70 tonnes of clothes and blankets, mainly donated by the Peruvian population.

Bolivia has also faced heavy rains twice during this period. The first disaster was caused by hail and rainstorms which occurred on 21 January, and affected mainly La Paz, where many houses collapsed and hundreds of families lost their crops. The Bolivian Red Cross assisted in evacuation, first aid and management of shelters and also distributed 800 food kits to families of the community of Camacho. The second disaster occurred on 31 March, when an avalanche after heavy rains occurred in Larecaja, a province of La Paz. Reports indicated that 150 houses were buried under mud, 22 persons died and 700 families were affected. The balance of DREF remaining from the first operation was used by the Bolivian Red Cross to assist 200 families with blankets and food supplies.

The National Societies of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela have at least two staff members trained in systems and structures for planning in the context of disaster preparedness and intervention, through the formation of national and regional intervention teams (NITs and RITs).
Relations with the PNSs present in the region have been strengthened, particularly in the areas of exchange of information, resource implementation and strengthening of National Society capacities.

**Project 2: Community Based Disaster Preparedness**

The regional delegation and the Pan American Disaster Response Unit (PADRU) promoted the use and strengthening of tools and processes for disaster preparedness in the National Societies in the region. In Venezuela, the disaster preparedness programme has been strengthened in eight communities of Greater Caracas and Yaracuy, whereby the lessons learned from simulations are being applied in coordination with other local institutions such as the Civil Defence and schools.

The Peruvian Red Cross is implementing a CBDP programme through its own resources, together with support from governmental and external agencies. The National Society has effectively incorporated the participative methodology learned from disaster preparedness community projects and is now working with municipalities in workshops to train trainers. The National Society of Colombia is also working with the Bajo Upia community where 120 persons are being trained in disaster preparedness techniques.

In communities affected by drought in Paraguay, hygiene and sanitation is being promoted through the formation of water and sanitation promoters who are reaching 5,289 families in 55 communities.

The National Societies of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela are carrying out community education programmes in disaster preparedness through the Federation. Venezuela and Ecuador also benefit from the support of PNSs and Disaster Preparedness European Commission Humanitarian Office (DIPECHO) funds. The community based disaster preparedness (CBDP) programme in Ecuador was implemented as planned, achieving positive results: 290 persons were trained in disaster preparedness during 21 workshops. The dissemination of information on the programme to the media was particularly successful and volunteers were interviewed. In communities of Ecuador, alert systems (sensors and sirens) for floods and avalanches were installed in January 2003 and community education in disaster preparedness has been initiated. All members of five branches and eight communities know how to build risk maps, which is a tool to measure capacities as a community, have identified their social networks, their human resources, hospitals, vehicles and institutions that in case of emergency can be used as shelters, and have defined natural hazards which frequently occur at particular times of the year, such as rains.

![Community in Ecuador installing alert systems, January 2003.](image-url)
The Federation’s regional delegation for Central America and the Caribbean, with the participation of the regional delegation for South America, is leading the final phase of the revision of the guide entitled “Es Mejor Prevenir”, for community based disaster preparedness. Its objective is to strengthen the capacity of communities and National Societies to respond effectively to disasters. Further work took place between 6 and 10 April in Guatemala and the guide is now ready for validation, followed by printing.

The Spanish Red Cross in Venezuela and the French Red Cross in Ecuador use the tool entitled “Guide for the facilitator”, that helps with the participative methodology in the programmes for disaster preparedness that they are implementing in the region.

The National Societies of Argentina, Bolivia Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela have strengthened and improved their capacity to work with communities, in coordination with local authorities, such as the Civil Defence and municipalities. The National Societies of Brazil, Chile and Uruguay require further strengthening; as a first step, an inventory of their human resources and an analysis of their capacities will take place. In Uruguay this will be done through the Camalote programme and in Chile through the community education programme.

Simulation of an Earthquake with the Ecuadorian Red Cross, March 2003.
Attending a victim.

Through the programme for community education in disaster prevention, the Red Cross Societies of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela have involved local authorities including the Civil Defence, schools, municipalities and also private companies. Strengthening of alliances forms an important part of the strategy this year.

A way to improve efficiency in the National Societies is through dissemination of information, the integration of planning of programmes and projects and through joint approaches as a result of agreements with organizations such as PAHO, UNICEF and Ericsson Response.

Project 3: Reduction of Social Vulnerability

The Camalote regional programme which works with communities in the countries forming part of the river Plata basin in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, had, at the end of 2002, reached a total of 16 communities. During the reporting period, the Uruguayan Red Cross chose the two branches with which the Federation will be supporting this year: Cerro Largo and Artigas. The selection was made based on the geography of the communities, their easy access and their high level of vulnerability. In April, both branches designed projects, one of which was selected
by each branch, and both of which relate to environmental sanitation. In Argentina, the four branches forming part of the Camalote programme: Corrientes, Resistencia, Concepción de Uruguay and Concordia, drew up their projects for the year: In Paraguay, information exchange is taking place, as the national coordinator of the programme changed in April. In 2003, four branches of the National Society: Pilar, Concepción del Paraguay, San Pedro and Tapua will be involved in the programme.

The annual evaluation and planning workshop for the regional community programmes was held between 17 and 21 March, in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, with the support of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency (AECI) through the Spanish Red Cross. As a result of the meeting, the Camalote team agreed to hold a Participatory Planning Workshop in each community to update plans of action and to review the status of past projects, taking the form of an informal internal evaluation. It was also agreed to support training for the national coordinators in each country. As a result of this agreement, the National Society of Paraguay offered a possibility for the coordinator from Uruguay to attend a planning course between 5 and 7 April.

Through the Camalote programme and community education in disaster preparedness including projects focusing on healthy homes (“hogares saludables”), knowledge among communities has been strengthened. The healthy homes project teaches families how to make their own risk maps, identify the risks, their capacities and resources; finally, the family draws up an emergency plan in where every member of the family knows what to do in case of a disaster. In Venezuela, work is carried out through analysis on a house-to-house basis and through educational campaigns for health promotion focusing on personal hygiene, hygiene in the home, vaccination and prevention of diarrhoea.

**Impact**

- The community education in disaster prevention programme has reached 600 families in Ecuador who have enhanced their capacity to make risk maps of their communities and to ensure coordinated participation in everyday activities. Four Ecuadorian communities have implemented early warning systems.
- The drought operation in Paraguay has resulted in the formation of 23 national intervention teams which know and apply the Federation’s systems in case of disaster.
- The Colombian and Peruvian Red Cross Societies have coordinated activities with the Civil Defence in their countries and are now part of the national system for management of risk, as a result of which their interventions are integrated in national policies.
- In the case of Camalote programme, as its methodology works on the basis of annual projects, the impact of development projects is tangible, demanding the participation of the community with their time, resources and materials.

**Constraints**

- There is a lack of financial resources to make National Society contingency plans operational.
- Many National Societies are poorly coordinated so that efforts are duplicated unnecessarily.
- Governments of the regions tend to have shortcomings in the area of disaster response; the National Societies are therefore striving to empower communities exposed to risks.

**Coordination**

- Cooperation agreements with the regional office of the Pan American Health Organization in Quito, Ecuador, have been signed for training courses in emergency preparedness and strengthening of the National Societies.
- In the recent floods in Brazil, Bolivia and Peru, actions were coordinated with the PNS present in those countries. In the three countries, the German Red Cross has presence and the Spanish Red Cross works in Bolivia and Peru. The issue social violence in Bolivia and Venezuela was approached jointly with the ICRC and the Spanish Red Cross.
- Many of Camalote projects are financed by the Swedish Red Cross and the government of New Zealand through their Embassy in Argentina.

3. **Humanitarian Values**
Goal: The National Societies (NSs) in the region are implementing efficient, responsive and focused programmes which contribute to improving the lives of vulnerable people, with coordination and technical support from the Federation’s Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The National Societies in the region are promoting the understanding of Red Cross and Red Crescent humanitarian values and values of non violence, especially among young people.

The annual event of the South American youth network was held in December 2002 in La Paz, Bolivia. This network is made up of the youth officers from the National Societies in the region. At this meeting, the Plan of Action (PoA), for the Plan Joven Sur (“Southern Youth Plan”) was drawn up for 2003. The PoA is based on two programmes: sexual education and HIV/AIDS prevention and promotion of non-violence. For both, activities such as workshops, lectures and other training events are organized by volunteer trainers.

With regard to the promotion of non-violence, in Argentine Red Cross a programme entitled “Values in Action”, has been established which consists of training for students from elementary school, putting in practice humanitarian values by carrying out community support activities. Currently, the training material has been designed, and financial support to launch the programme nationwide is being sought.

Progress/Achievements

Young volunteers from Uruguayan Red Cross showing their commitment to the HIV/AIDS campaign.

In Brazil, a programme focusing on the exchange of letters between Brazilian and foreign students has started with the objective of promoting values and a peace culture.

In the Bolivian Red Cross, youth members have designed projects of non-violence from which they have chosen two: one relating to violence and gender to be developed by the branch of Rivera Alta and another focusing on violence in schools to be developed by the branch of Sucre.

In Colombia, the National Society continues to implement the programme “Peace, Action and Living together in Harmony” (PACO), targeted at children and teenagers, with focus on the displaced. Its implementation is through courses, workshops and recreational activities which include a strong component of non-violence. The programme is carried out through 876 education brigades, which include 22,500 boys and girls.

The Colombian Red Cross is also implementing a project financed by the Netherlands Red Cross to promote respect and peaceful coexistence and preventing violence, by training monitors and carrying out micro-projects in marginal urban communities. Eight branches are involved in this project reaching some 1,500 children. In addition, Colombian Red Cross youth are working on the programme “Don’t run away from home” concentrating on the prevention of violence in the family and supporting children living on the streets.
In Chile, the Red Cross is continuing its project entitled “The Humanitarian Route”, a board game that teaches and tests through a game, knowledge about the Red Cross and International Humanitarian Law. The game is currently being played in schools in four regions of the country, as part of the official syllabus. The Chilean Red Cross youth members have also included a section “Education for Peace” on the web page, as a guide for volunteers.

The Ecuadorian Red Cross organized a workshop on the “Historic and Social View of Aggression and Intervention Alternatives” in April, for children in the final years of elementary school in Quito. Volunteers from the branch of Azuay also developed seminars relating to non-violence at the University of Cuenca.

In Paraguay, the National Society has carried out the second phase of training for non-violence monitors. Today there are 20 monitors who will start working in all Red Cross branches as of May. They will be leading workshops in schools and communities targeted at teenagers.

The Peruvian Red Cross youth manage two projects: the first, “Action for Peace” during this reporting period saw the implementation of workshops in schools concentrating on non-violence through five branches: Chiclayo, Chimbote, Tumbes, Callao and Islay-Mollendo. The second project is focused on HIV/AIDS in which training is provided in 13 branches for facilitators so that they may take charge of participative workshops in communities, targeting participants of between 15 and 24 years old. There is a plan to hold regional workshops on both themes with funding from the Norwegian Red Cross which has been supporting the Peruvian Red Cross since 2001 when both projects began.

Impact
- It is difficult to measure the impact of projects which seek to reinforce humanitarian values as they are managed by young volunteers who have not been adequately trained in project management. However, the Chilean, Colombian and Peruvian Red Cross Societies are implementing strong youth programmes.

Constraints
- Since those who manage youth programmes are volunteers, there are no paid personnel in charge of coordinating these programmes and there is a lack of a monitoring and evaluation culture; as a result, there is no formal way to follow up with regard to events coordinated by the youth departments and measurement of impact is difficult.

Coordination
- In Ecuador, alliances with organizations working in issues of non-violence issues have been formed. One is with the Centre “Tres Manueles” that helps in the emotional recovery of sex workers, their families and the inhabitants of the section 24 May of the city (considered a red light zone because of the number of brothels located there). A second alliance is with the Metropolitan Municipality of Quito to create the Gender and Family Violence Observatory, which will register cases of violence in Quito and analyse them in order to develop intervention strategies.
- The Peruvian Red Cross has worked with the organizations Via Libre and RedLA+ in their workshops on HIV/AIDS prevention and sexual education. The Norwegian Red Cross finances the youth programmes focusing on non-violence and HIV/AIDS.

4. Organizational Development

Goal: The National Societies (NSs) in the region will have implemented efficient, responsive and focused programmes which will have contributed to improve the lives of vulnerable people. These programmes will have been carried out with coordination and technical support from the Federation’s Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The National Societies in the region will have improved their capacity in service delivery to vulnerable people.

Progress/Achievements
The programme is based on six projects:

**Project 1: Well functioning National Societies**
As regards the need for the revision of National Society Statutes, the following was achieved during the reporting period:
- Ecuador: the development of new Statutes was completed and the Statutes were reviewed by the Joint Commission in Geneva. Once they were returned to the Ecuadorian Red Cross, they were approved by the National Assembly in April. These new Statutes have been sent to the government for final approval.
- Brazil: the drawing up of new Statutes has been completed, but the report of the Joint Commission remains pending. It is planned that in May the Statutes will be presented during the National Assembly.
- Peru: significant progress was made in the process of revision of the new Statutes. The Commission that has been appointed to draw up the new Statutes accepted all the joint regional delegation/ICRC recommendations for amendments to the first draft version presented earlier this year. The new draft will be reviewed by all levels of the organization in May.
- Argentina: the compilation of the new Statutes has started.
- Paraguay: new Statutes were approved in 2002 and the National Society is working on the related regulations.
- Uruguay: the process for the development of new Statutes is on stand by given internal management issues.

- Updating of National Development Plans (NDPs) according to Strategy 2010:
  - Ecuador: the National Society has concluded its NDP and work on the Cooperation Agreement Strategy (CAS) is proceeding well; it is therefore hoped that this may be finalized during the next quarter.
  - Colombia: as a result of the strategic planning workshop held in November 2002, the Colombian Red Cross started to work on a NDP. During this process, several workshops have been held in all the country focusing on different technical areas. As result, the CRC presented a Strategic Plan as well as the main outlines of a future National Development Plan to all the members of the Movement present in Colombia (ICRC, the Federation, PNS). At the same meeting, the CRC also officially expressed its wish to begin discussions on the drawing up of a CAS by May 2003.
  - Peru: the process of drawing up an NDP will involve the participation of all technical areas of the National Society and will be facilitated by an external consultant with experience in strategic planning. In April, there were several meetings between the National Society and the Federation which resulted in the definition of components of organizational development which will be addressed with funding from DFID.
  - Argentina: the drawing up of the NDP is included in the Argentine Red Cross modernization project, and is benefiting from much participation. The draft NDP will be reviewed by the National Assembly in May.
  - Venezuela: the National Society has expressed the wish to initiate the process of strategic planning this year and made a proposal for the use of a positive balance from programmes in 2000 to initiate this work and to continue supporting the project office.

The National Societies of Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela completed the self-assessment in March.

The Chilean Red Cross youth organized its annual event, “The 4th National School for Youth Training”, from 1 to 9 February. 150 young people participated and were trained in first aid, gender, planning, projects implementation, sexual education and HIV/AIDS prevention and institutional orientation. The event also served as a meeting for the national and regional youth directors.

The regional gender and youth officer participated in the 2nd HIV/AIDS/STD Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean, from 7 to 12 April. This experience served to present the experience “Youth to Youth” or “Peer Education” developed by the youth network in South America. This project delivers sexual education and HIV/AIDS prevention awareness amongst young people. The programme is designed, implemented and evaluated by the same young people.
The results of the forum were positive in that NGOs and donors were presented with the work in the area of youth that is being carried out in the region, experiences and lessons learned were shared and new contacts made with the potential for creating future alliances.

**Project 2: Argentine Red Cross**

Besides the renewal of Statutes and the drawing up of the NDP mentioned above, the ARC is ensuring continuity in the process of training staff at headquarters and branch level. In this respect, a second round of training was held in the first week of March to analyse the document “Well functioning National Societies”, with 300 participants from all branches. The first round of this training was carried out in November 2002.

The first round of training gave the participants a general vision of the components which make up a well functioning National Society, and the second workshop focused on how to work and plan strategically, in line with Strategy 2010, and brought the participants up to date regarding basic management and leadership tools in order that the National Society may become more efficient, effective and pertinent. The workshop was developed through teamwork and plenary sessions and there was a highly participative and motivated attitude from all participants.

To continue with organizational development training, in the future there will be specific and more technical workshops held at each of the branches.

**Project 3: Brazilian Red Cross**

The decision that the headquarters of the National Society will remain located in Rio de Janeiro was taken in January. The areas of first aid and health prepared working plans for 2003 at the end of the quarter given that a health director was nominated in March.

In January, there were floods in Minas Gerais within Sao Paulo and response to this emergency was immediately ensured. The rains became particularly intense between 22 and 24 January and affected thousand of people. The Brazilian Red Cross response focused on the provision of clothing and food from the warehouses run by the Minas Gerais Red Cross branch, stocked through the response to on-going campaigns for local donations. The German Red Cross offered relief goods so that the National Society could assist the affected population; this was coordinated by the Federation’s liaison delegate based in Brazil.

The regional organizational delegate visited the Brazilian Red Cross in March to support the Federation’s work and held meetings with the President, the Secretary General and the directors of health, volunteering, international relations and relief.

The next meeting to review the National Society Statutes has been scheduled for the end of May. The Federation’s liaison delegate completed his mission in April.

**Project 4: Peruvian Red Cross**

A letter of intent has been signed by the President of the PRC, the ICRC delegation and the Federation delegation and led to a period of conversations with the National Society during the first quarter. The following has been achieved to date:

- Renewal of statutes: the PRC is in the process of drafting its new Statutes. A draft is pending distribution and discussion in all levels of the National Society. These draft Statutes make a clear distinction between government and management, give a new vision of volunteering and its management, and provide for decentralization of the organization.
- During the first quarter, decisions as to the process to be adopted for the drawing up of the national development plan have been made. A local consultant has formulated a project to develop the planning process, through participative methodology.
- Modernization of management systems: a diagnosis of the management system will be carried out in order to define a new model which guarantees efficiency, effectiveness and transparency within the National Society.

**Project 5: Strengthening volunteer management**
This project has not yet begun implementation. A regional meeting will be held towards the end of the year reviewing National Society policies in respect of volunteer management. This will form the basis for decisions in respect of strategies to be adopted.

Project 6: Communications
The Long Distance Education Programme (LDEP) for Communicators began in Argentina and Venezuela; however, the pace of implementation slowed because of the context of political and financial problems. This programme trains volunteers with communication skills in order that they are more prepared to report on operations in the event of a disaster. The programme uses the Internet tool and has duration of approximately 8 months.

National Societies participated in the VII annual Latin-American Communications and Resource Development Forum, held from 21 to 27 February in Cartagena, Colombia. This forum represents a space where the network of communicators and resource development specialists from the National Societies of Latin America share experiences to strengthen their areas of action. Amongst the achievements highlighted at this forum were: “the Communicators Guide” translated into Spanish, the “communications contingency plan” for information work during disasters, 21 web pages created at the level of the region’s National Societies, and the long distance education programme. The purpose of strengthening the network of communicators is to achieve concrete results according to the objectives set out in the plan of action of the Inter American Regional Committee (CORI). Based on this plan, the long distance education programme for communicators was designed. The programme includes contingency plans for emergencies, visibility, media action, and internal and external communications, providing effective tools for National Society communicators.

The regional information delegate drafted a communications plan for the Amazonico and Camalote programmes, which was presented and analyzed by the programme coordinators during their annual evaluation workshop held in Bolivia.

Impact
Impact is difficult to assess at this stage as projects are in initial phases of implementation.

Constraints
- The major difficulty is resistance to change. Changes in the area of organizational development require much time
- In the Brazilian Red Cross there is lack of financial management capacity. In addition, response mechanisms in the event of emergencies require strengthening, as evidenced during the floods in Minas Gerais. The National Society is just emerging from a crisis that has lasted ten years and much work is needed to build and strengthen capacities.

Coordination
- In Colombia: there has been regular contact with the ICRC in Colombia, promoting exchange of information and sharing of objectives and activities. There have also been meetings with representatives of PNSs.
- In Ecuador: the Cooperation Agreement Strategy process is being coordinated with the ICRC delegation. In Ecuador contact is maintained with the American Red Cross, the Spanish RC and other PNSs present in the country.
- In Peru: there is constant support for the drawing up of the new Statutes together with the ICRC cooperation delegate. As part of the harmonization process, the regional information delegate is planning to hold a meeting with the ICRC delegation in Peru to discuss future joint actions and coordination issues.
- In Brazil: contact with private companies related to the RED GLOBO network has been established in order to support the Brazilian Red Cross National Development Plan. An agreement with the TV network FUTURA to support Brazilian Red Cross activities is being established.

5. International representation

Goal: The National Societies (NSs) in the region will have formed effective partnerships and alliances to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable, promote their interests at the national, regional and
international levels with coordination and technical support from the Federation’s Secretariat through its regional resources.

Objective: The Federation will have achieved heightened awareness of its aims, and will have mobilized support for Red Cross activities at national and regional level in core areas of Strategy 2010.

Progress/Achievements

The President of the Chilean Red Cross represented the Federation at the UN General Assembly in November 2002; a strategic step that contributed to the further strengthening of the Federation coordination link with the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in South America. The Chilean Red Cross maintains regular contacts with the Commission, based in Santiago de Chile. A further sign of increased cooperation was ECLAC’s participation in the XVII Inter American Conference held in Santiago de Chile in April 2003.

Apart from ECLAC, initial contacts have been established with the UN Agencies in Lima, Peru, since the relocation of the regional delegation from Buenos Aires to Lima in November 2002. Key contacts to date have been with PAHO/WHO, UNDP, UNICEF and with the security officers of UNSECOORD in Lima. Further emphasis is foreseen in this regard in the months to come, as the delegation is now well established and fully operational. These efforts will include the strengthening of links with the UN agencies in the other countries of the region. The contacts with the UN system agencies in Argentina has been further enhanced, through the sub regional office based in Buenos Aires, as a result of the ongoing emergency operation in response to the social crisis that moved into a heightened active phase of implementation during the first quarter of 2003.

Ways continued to be sought in order to operate and better utilize the partnership agreement with Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization signed in May 2002. A number of joint activities in the region in 2003 and beyond were identified, and are in process of preparation at the time of the writing of this update. Close contact and communication was ensured between the regional delegation and PAHO regional representatives, both in the area of health and disasters.

Close links with the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) were maintained despite the fact that the Federation has not obtained funding for 2003 from ECHO for its current programmes in South America. However, the Disaster Preparedness European Commission Humanitarian Office (DIPECHO) initiated an evaluation exercise of its programmes and objectives in South America, with the active participation of current partners, including the Federation.

As mentioned above, greater emphasis will be placed on the strengthening of international representation during the second programme update reporting period, as the regional delegation is now beyond its initial stage of the setting up of its infrastructure that absorbed the majority of the new delegation’s capacity during the first reporting period of 2003.

Considerable time and effort was dedicated in the region to the preparation of the XVII Inter American Conference that was held in Santiago de Chile between 23 and 26 April 2003 under the motto “Equity in Health, Road to Development”. The hosting National Society, the Chilean Red Cross, was supported by the Federation through its sub regional coordinator in Buenos Aires, the regional delegation in Lima and with the full backing of the Americas department in Geneva. In addition, working groups with the task of drawing up the two main documents to be discussed and approved by the Conference, i.e. one on health and one on disasters, were a focus of preparatory work required prior to the event. A third working group was convened in Panama in mid-March in order to review the status of the Inter American Regional Committee (COR) Plan of Action for Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted in early 2002, with the aim of presenting a summary of achievements and trends to the conference. The conclusions of this work will be utilized for the new Plan of Action that is to be compiled within three months after the closing of the Inter American Conference.

35 National Societies of the Americas participated in the conference, together with nine observer National Societies: the British, Danish, Finnish, German, Italian, Netherlands, Norwegian, Spanish and Swedish Red Cross Societies. Also participating were representatives from international organizations such as PAHO, ECHO, the Coordination Office of Humanitarian Aid (OCHA), the Coordination Centre for Natural Disaster Prevention in
Central America (CEPREDENAC), the network of people living with AIDS in Latin America (RedLA+), the Organization of American States (OAS/OEA), the Inter American Development Bank (IADB/BID) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, with which the Red Cross has strategic alliances. The total participation was of some 250 persons.

The main outcome of the Conference was the adoption of the Santiago de Chile Commitment and resolution signed by all the National Societies of the Americas, including the commitment to continued efforts towards Strategy 2010, the Strategy for the Movement, and the new plan of action of the Inter-American conference. A document of support to the Commitment was also signed by the observer National Societies taking part in the Conference. The two thematic strategies setting future priorities in the areas of health and disasters, prepared for the conference, were also both approved by the Conference.

The final session of the Conference, i.e. the CORI meeting that was to adopt new regulations for the coordinating body as well as elect new members of the same, was suspended until the next gathering of all representatives that will take place in Geneva for the General Assembly, the Council of Delegates and the International Conference at the end of November/early December. The issue of the location of the next Inter American Conference, to be held in four years, was thus also left pending until later this year. All documents relevant to the Conference can be found on the Federation web site.

Information on the International Year of Fresh Water was distributed to all National Societies in South America, together with news releases and key messages to be shared with media. The regional information delegate, based in Lima, updated the National Societies in South America regarding the plans and actions of the Movement in the crisis in Iraq on a continuous basis. Key messages and recommendations on how to deal with the media were disseminated. In addition, the regional information delegate was invited by the Ecuadorian Red Cross to participate in a one-day workshop for journalists on the topic of Red Cross and Red Crescent action and International Humanitarian Law in relation to the crisis in Iraq. During her stay, the delegate gave several interviews on TV, radio and with newspapers in Ecuador on the same issue.

Impact
• The impacts of the above-described achievements have not been instant. The results of the XVII Inter American Conference should contribute to the improvement and consolidation of the impact of the work of the National Societies and of the Federation in the region as a whole, provided the commitments made at the Conference are respected by all.

Constraints
• Clearly, the recent move of the regional delegation to Lima, Peru resulted in a temporary decrease of international representation and coordination, as highest priority was given to the setting up of a new structure before moving on to other, more operational areas.
• The Federation Status Agreement with the Peruvian Government has still not been ratified by Parliament to date which has impeded the regional delegation from working effectively as a recognized, international entity in the country/region.

Coordination
All organizations with which the Federation coordinates and has developed strategic alliances are mentioned above.

Field Management
Goal: The Federation assists the National Societies of the region effectively in achieving their institutional and programmatic goals, in line with Strategy 2010.

Objective: The Federation's new structure, management and programmes successfully meet three key priorities: building National Society capacities, raising the international profile and resource base, and working together effectively.
Progress/Achievements

By the end of the current reporting period, the new Secretariat field structure for South America was established and all regional delegation positions filled, while the Federation liaison delegate position for Brazil was discontinued. The two continental functions foreseen to be based in Lima were still pending recruitment (human resources team leader) and final decision (advocacy, communications and external relations) respectively, while all other functions were successfully covered.

While the regional delegation structure was being completed, the regional finance unit and regional reporting unit entities were further consolidated in Panama, supporting the setting up of financial as well as narrative reporting mechanisms in the regional delegation in order to meet the requirements for efficient reporting in the region. By the end of the current reporting period, this process had been completed with the successful recruitment and initial training of new staff. All relevant narrative and financial reporting deadlines were adhered to over the reporting period.

With the new structure in place and all positions having been filled, the effective and efficient management of the Federation programmes and activities is now ensured. The first four months of the year (January - April 2003) should be seen as a period of consolidation while the effectiveness and efficiency of this new structure can only be measured at a later stage, further into its operational lifetime.

A first regional planning meeting was held in Lima in February 2003, with the participation of all Federation delegates based in South America (Lima regional delegation, Buenos Aires sub regional office, Brazil liaison delegate), the head of the RFU/Panama and the regional officer for South America from the Secretariat in Geneva. The meeting served to assess the ongoing activities and to consolidate plans for the remaining months of 2003. The next regional planning meeting is scheduled to take place at the end of May 2003.

Close cooperation continued between the regional delegation and the National Societies of the region regarding the promotion, initiation or further advancement of new and ongoing Cooperation Agreement Strategies processes. Preparatory work for a more active phase of the process was carried out with the National Societies of Colombia and Ecuador, while the process in the Bolivian Red Cross, initiated in 2002, advanced only modestly. Current plans are to contribute to the launching of participatory CAS processes in Ecuador during the second quarter and in Colombia and Argentina during the year, following the finalization of the National Development Plans.

The Inter American Conference was instrumental in increasing the effective coordination between all partners – including National Societies, the ICRC and external partners. It provided an opportunity to present the new regional delegation structure to all parties, as well as to discuss future coordination mechanisms, to be followed up in due course.

Close contact was maintained with the PNSs present in the region, including the German and Spanish Red Cross Societies which have offices in Lima and in La Paz, as well as with those operating in Colombia: the American, Canadian, French, Netherlands and Spanish Red Cross Societies. In Lima, the Spanish Red Cross programme representative has been hosted at the regional delegation since the beginning of 2003, and a service agreement is to be formalized with the Spanish Red Cross to this effect.

Equally, regular contact was maintained with the ICRC with a view to further strengthening the harmonization process in South America. As the structures of the ICRC and the Federation do not coincide in South America, communication still leaves room for improvement and will be made a priority for the next reporting period. Harmonization issues in the field were discussed regularly with ICRC counterparts and consultations held during the Inter American Conference. A joint meeting to assess the status of the harmonization efforts of the ICRC and the Federation is scheduled to take place in Lima in May 2003.

For the sake of increased regional coordination, it is foreseen that representatives of PNSs and the ICRC be invited to join the quarterly regional planning meetings of the regional delegation as of the second quarter of 2003.

An informal, Nordic coordination meeting was arranged in Stockholm by the Swedish Red Cross in early March 2003 in order to exchange information on South America. In addition to the head of regional delegation, the Finnish Red Cross and the regional officer for South America participated in the meeting. Items on the agenda
included an update on developments in the Americas in light of the Secretariat Change Strategy; the Inter American Conference; perspectives on possible activities involving internally displaced persons in Colombia; future funding prospects from the Nordic PNSs, and others.

A possible short-term consultancy with PAHO/WHO is being discussed, seeking the establishment of an exchange mechanism for PAHO and Federation staff on a short-term basis in order to further strengthen cooperation between the two institutions, focusing on finding ways to put the existing cooperation agreement into operational practice.

Impact
- During the current reporting period, much time was taken up with the consolidation of the regional delegation for South America, now based in Lima. The impact of all activities mentioned above, including the Inter American Conference will be measured at a later stage.
- The continued efforts to promote CAS processes in the region should further contribute to the same goals and objectives, increasing the impact of Federation/Movement efforts in South America.

Constraints
- The main constraint of field management was a natural consequence of the relocation of the regional delegation since consolidation of the new structure required time, particularly recruitment and induction of new staff.

For further information please contact:
- Regional Delegation for South America, Head of Delegation, Charlotta Relander; Phone 511-221-815; Fax 511-441-36; E-mail ifrcpe01@ifrc.org
- Desk Officer, Americas Department, Olaug Bergseth; Phone 41-22-730-4535; Fax 41-22-733-0395; E-mail olaug.bergseth@ifrc.org

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct and is committed to the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE Project) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, please access the Federation website at http://www.ifrc.org
### South America regional

#### ANNEX 1

#### APPEAL No. 01.51/2003

#### PLEDGES RECEIVED

11.06.2003

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