

**1: Post-conflict Angola: the transition between emergency and development**  
(by Philippe Lazzarini, OCHA Angola)

Mr. Philippe Lazzarini, who has until now been with OCHA Angola, gave a briefing on the situation in Angola, focusing on the transition between emergency and transition.

After the war in Angola ended about 3 years ago, the country can currently be described as a typical post-conflict country. The emergency phase is over, and the country is now in a phase between transition, recovery and development. While a CAP on transition was issued last year, a United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) was developed for this year. However, although the focus is on transition, there is still a very high degree of vulnerability.

For many actors involved it is quite challenging to change from doing emergency relief to working with transition activities. For example, different funds exist for emergency relief and development, and the mechanisms have to be adapted to the new circumstances.

There is a need to do an inventory of all the projects to be realized, which should be done jointly by the government and the humanitarian/development agencies involved. While the agencies have implemented parts of what they had originally planned, the government has not implemented much at all. One of the tasks is now to advocate for the continued implementation of these projects.

Since the war ended, about 4 million people, including IDPs, refugees and demobilized soldiers, have returned back home. The challenge is now to assure for refugees to be in a better situation in the camps than they are in their locations of return.

Although Angola is a generally rich country, with large resources of diamonds and oil, the majority of the population does not have access to the wealth of the country. Also, there is a significant difference between the capital and the provinces, which are still neglected by the government.

Food security remains a problem, as the agencies had to decrease their food services because of a lack of funding.

In terms of HIV/ AIDS, Angola might be an exception in the Southern African region, as the prevalence rate is still lower than 5%. However, some regions, especially border regions, have already much higher rates.

With regard to protection, intolerance and political discrimination has increased. General elections are planned to take place in 2006. There is a lot of interest in certain privileges, and corruption is widespread.

Although Angola is one of the few countries that managed to get back to peace, there has not been an international donor conference. Angola is engaging in building more south-south partnerships. Some countries, e.g. China, have invested significantly in reconstruction efforts. Especially the oil production sector is of big interest. The oil exploration/production is expected to double by 2007. However, it remains unclear where the profits will go and who will benefit from them.

In the discussion following the briefing, participants referred to the outbreak of the Marburg virus and the vulnerability shown. Further, the importance of elections for the stability of the country was discussed, whereon Mr. Lazzarini explained that the elections are not the overall priority of the people, as they are still concerned with their basic needs and basic social services. Concern was expressed about the risk to return to the old scenario, or to move to a new scenario of civil unrest.

IRIN made copies available of its recently produced movie on Angola's refugee return ("The long journey home"). A lower resolution version is also available at the IRIN web site:

<http://www.irinnews.org/webspecials/rr/default.asp>

## **2: Briefing on the Tsunami Response in Aceh Jaya** (by Zuhail Ayoub, OCHA)

Ms. Zuhail Ayoub, Humanitarian Affairs Officer in OCHA Geneva, briefed on the Tsunami Response in Aceh Jaya on the North western coast of Sumatra where she had been deployed for several months based in the town of Calang. Ms. Ayoub's briefing was based on a display of photos taken in the affected area.

The photos displayed the vast destruction of the area, where 102 out of 160 villages had been wiped out by the Tsunami. In Calang about 90% of the inhabitants had been killed. Because of the destruction much of the assistance had to be brought in by helicopter. The harsh conditions also meant that not many internationals were present in the area.

By way of the photos Ms. Ayoub touched upon a number of issues related to the relief effort and early recovery in the area. A major problem is the saltwater contamination, which has affected the drinking water as well as the soil, making proper planting impossible for a period of several years. On housing, the barracks buildings suffer from bad drainage. Garbage disposal poses another great challenge.

Ms. Ayoub underlined the communities' ability to recover, telling and showing the participants that already in mid-February the first cafes and markets began reopening.

One of the biggest challenges is to face the widespread feeling of boredom and to create employment opportunities. In this respect, there is frustration in the communities that the Indonesian government has deployed the army to

the area as a labour force instead of using locals. Another challenge, exemplified by a picture of a fish salesman in Calang coming from another, and less affected, area, is the psychosocial effects of the Tsunami. Fishermen in the worst hit areas are traumatised and afraid of going out to sea again.

In the discussion following the briefing focus was on the issue of creating job opportunities in the affected areas.

**3: IASC Standard Briefing**  
(by Marilena Viviani, IASC Secretariat)

There were no events to be announced.

**IASC Weekly Meeting**  
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**List of Participants**



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