PRELIMINARY NOTE ON THE RWANDA APPEAL PROCESS

21 October 1994

During the discussion on Rwanda at the 23 September meeting of the IASC, there was agreement that work on the consolidated appeal for 1995 should be initiated, in order to have it ready well before the expiry of the current appeal (31 December 1994). There was general agreement that this appeal should be prepared on a regional basis and should address emergency relief as well as the rehabilitation and reconstruction requirements of the country.

Inter-agency discussions will take place in Rwanda this week (led by Jim Baker, Director of the Complex Emergency Division) on some elements of the appeal preparation for Rwanda. At the most recent meeting of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Rwanda (held in Geneva on 13 October), there was agreement that there were a number of issues related to defining the parameters of the regional dimensions of the appeal which should be clarified and it was recommended that these be taken up by the IASC-WG on 21 October.

Among the issues which should be reviewed are:

- •How will the decision be taken as to which rehabilitation/recovery activities appear in the Appeal and which are presented through the UNDP Round Table to be convened in December. (There will also need to be a review on the ground of how these elements relate to those elements of the SRSG's Normalisation Plan which may not yet have been fully funded. The major issue here being the presentation to the international community of a coherent UN strategy for recovery in Rwanda).
- •Should projects such as those to counter environmental damage resulting from massive refugee flows be incorporated (e.g. reforestation activities in Zaire and Tanzania)?
- •To what extent should needs in countries of asylum, not directly related to the Rwanda crisis be integrated into the appeal (e.g. locally affected populations in Tanzania and or Zaire who are in need of food aid/other types of assistance)
- •It has been noted that the situation in the Rwanda region, involving large scale displacement of persons creates conditions which encourage and accelerate the spread of HIV and destroy the means of caring for those with AIDS. As pointed out by WHO, at

the very time the emergency funds the spread of AIDS in an area with an already extremely high incidence of the disease, prevention and care are at their weakest. Should projects/activities which address this problem by incorporated into the appeal?

•Should the time frame of the appeal be 6 or 12 months (several agencies will be preparing their own budgets based on 12 month requirements).

As preparation of the 1995 Regional Appeal will be one of the first major activities to be undertaken by the new Humanitarian Coordinator, it is most important that an agreement on the framework so that a specific strategy and time-frame for its preparation by finalized. We would request that IASC-WG representatives come to the meeting in Rome prepared to discuss and take a decision on these matters.