

**INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE-WORKING GROUP
XLII MEETING**

New York 14-15 September 2000

General briefing on the humanitarian situation in Indonesia

Geneva, 3-4 August 2000

On the basis of a power point presentation (see attached), Mr. Rajan briefed OCHA, the IASC and donors in separate meetings on the latest developments in the hotspots in Indonesia, with particular attention to the situation in the Maluku provinces.

Mr. Rajan explained that the causes for the present unrest in some areas in Indonesia are both communal and separatist in nature. The country that has a total of 210 million inhabitants is at serious risk of decomposition due to these tensions in Aceh, Irian Jaya (Papua), Malukus, West Timor. If the separatist efforts were to succeed it would have a significant impact on neighbouring countries such as Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines. The coming week will be marked by the important political event of the accountability speech of Wahid to the MPR which will decide if he will survive as President. The stakes for the international community in Indonesia's maintenance of its integrity are high as well, as it wants to see the transition process to democracy be successfully implemented for the regional stability. Against this background, the nationalist tendencies are growing, some of which are linked to what is perceived as the residue of the East Timor experience. The RC/HC further explained that most of the IDP outflow, totaling between *800,000 or close to a million* people in the whole of Indonesia, was a reversal of decades of transmigration policies. The centralized and unitary form of Government had been taking resources from the remote regions for Java without appropriate compensation.

IDP movements and recipient areas:

- *the Maluku*; total IDP outflux 331,900 people to North Sulawesi (17,000), Irian Jaya (4,800), South/East Sulawesi (118,300), Java and West Timor (191,400)
- *Aceh*; total IDPs 72,600 to North Sumatra, South Sumatra, West, East and Central Java.
- *East Timor*; 170,000 IDPs to West Timor (118,300), South Sulawesi (25,260), Buton (4,500), Alor and Flores (13,100), Bali (3000), West Nusa Tenggara /Lombok (5000).
- *Palu*; total IDPs 23,000 of which 15,000 in Palu and Donggala. Other to North Sulawesi (3,800), Poso (1,900), North Luwu (2,500)
- *Sambas, Pontianak in West Kalimantan*; total IDPs 40,000 to West and Central Java.

- *Bengkulu*; 37,300 people returned home, reconstructed homes or remain with family following the earthquake in June 2000.
- *Kendari and Buton*; 36,500 people returned home and/or rebuild houses following the floods in 1999.

The Maluku situation:

The Maluku provinces are in many ways the stage where all Indonesia's internal tensions are fought out. The causes of the Maluku conflict include ethnic and religious motives, political, military and external influences. The creation of two separate provincial structures in 1999 has added power struggles to the already tense situation. The North Maluku province was originally populated by 70% Muslims, the Maluku province by 60% Christians. The Government has taken a three-pronged approach on the situation, endeavoring to reestablish security, reconciliation and rehabilitation. Due to sensitivities of internationalization of the conflict, foreign access is not allowed with the exception of humanitarian workers who have access to 80% of the provinces. The UN will provide assistance in rehabilitation activities and possibly reconciliation but the necessary security guarantees for the humanitarian workers are not fully met by the GoI. The reconciliation will be based on the work of local women groups as the traditional conflict resolution mechanisms have collapsed due to a generation gap between the youth and the older. The arrival of Laskar Jihad fighters to the Maluku have heightened tensions even further and the GoI has thus far been unable to reverse their presence.

The UN has opened two resource centers in Ambon city (where OCHA, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP and WHO are present) and Ternate (OCHA and UNDP). They will provide emergency assistance within the next weeks and will fulfill a monitoring role in IDP affected areas. They will also be leading the field efforts on post-conflict and rehabilitation activities. The CAP has been funded for 50% but the implementation has been hampered by the security situation. Now that the UN has reestablished its presence and will be focused fully on the effective implementation of emergency assistance.

North Maluku / Ternate Resource Centre:

Tobelo: access remains to be negotiated for assessment.

Tidore: International access obtained. Detailed sectoral assessment of 12,000 IDPs required (total pop. 43,000).

Galela: International access difficult, need to develop response according to assessed needs. Access in Tobelo and Galela will be more easy to advocate once the UN has shown it is a good "implementation partner" in areas to which it has full access.

Ternate: Total IDPs 73,000 out of 105,000 total population. International access okay, Resource Centre will proceed with detailed needs assessment.

OCHA, UNDP presence. Monitoring presences might be set up in major recipient areas such as Manado, Palu, and Poso.

Maluku Province/ Ambon UN Resource Centre:

Ambon: 150,000 IDPs out of total population of 350,000. Access unreliable. UN Resource Centre will ensure access, assessments and delivery. OCHA, UNDP, WFP, UNICEF, WHO presence.

Buru: Total IDPs 25,000. Detailed needs assessment to be carried out.

Seram: 30,000 IDPs out of total population of 50,000. Inter-Agency needs assessment in week of 7 August.

Tual/ Kai Islands: 19,000 IDPs out of 74,000 total population. Needs in shelter, reconstruction, rehabilitation and income-generation projects.

Manado: 22,000 IDPs Inter-agency needs assessment in week of 7 August.

Palu: 15,000 IDPs. Inter-agency needs assessment in week of 7 August.

Poso: 26,000 IDPs. Inter-agency needs assessment in week of 7 August.

West Timor: 1,500 IDPs from Maluku to Kupang.

West Timor:

During Mr. Ravi Rajan's presence in Geneva, the GoI convened a meeting on the situation in West Timor during which they came with a proposal to relocate the IDP camps along the West Timor border (Atambua and surroundings) to the East Timorese side of the border with the assistance of the military. Both UNTAET and CNRT would be requested to assist in the relocation. They estimated that about 50,000 of the estimated 113,000 people would move back to East Timor during this process. They further estimated that 30,000 would choose to be resettled in West Timor. This was to be done with the help of UNDP. Another group of about 15,000 people consisting of TNI and militia was to be removed to other areas in Indonesia. UNHCR expressed its concern about the establishment transit camps across the East Timorese border.

Donors:

CAP has received almost 5 million out of a total of 14 million requested. The CAP will need to be revised according to the needs identified in the coming weeks and months.

Both DFID and the Netherlands are major donors to the UNDP/World Bank Governance Fund for Indonesia. The Netherlands has committed to provide 25 million USD for all conflict programmes in Indonesia. USAID has indicated it is not able to channel donor contributions through the UN.

During the donor meeting, questions focused on the timetable for the implementation of the operational activities, the prioritization of the activities, the issue of access, the use of local capacity, and the relation with ICRC.