

JOINT STATEMENT
BY
THE CRUZ VERMELHA DE MOCAMBIQUE (CVM),
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC)
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES (IFRC)
ON THE
RED CROSS RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT RESPONSE TO HUMANITARIAN NEEDS
IN CABO DELGADO PROVINCE, MOZAMBIQUE, AFTER CYCLONE KENNETH

Background

Cyclone Kenneth made landfall on the night of 25 April 2019, affecting Cabo Delgado and Nampula Provinces in northeast Mozambique. In Cabo Delgado, the province worst affected by the disaster, it is estimated that 168,000 people have been affected, 37,000 houses damaged or destroyed, and 31,000 hectares of farmland lost. Cyclone Kenneth was the second cyclone to hit Mozambique within six weeks. The first, Cyclone Idai, made landfall on 14 March, affecting 1.5 million people in the central provinces, and caused the worst humanitarian crisis in Mozambique's recent history. The Cruz Vermelha de Mocambique (CVM), with the support of the IFRC and the ICRC, has been at the forefront of the response to both disasters.

Cabo Delgado has been affected by armed violence since October 2017, which has caused deaths, injuries, displacements of population, as well as the destruction of houses, health and education facilities. Cyclone Kenneth has affected the same areas that were already facing the humanitarian consequences of armed violence and extreme poverty. As a result, the humanitarian response to Cyclone Kenneth is more complex, and access to the affected areas is a challenge for all actors.

The CVM has a provincial branch in Pemba, Cabo Delgado Province. The ICRC has a sub-delegation in Pemba and has been working in places of detention. The ICRC and the CVM have been collaborating in Pemba. Prior to the cyclone, the ICRC worked with the authorities, local hospital staff, and supported CVM to be better prepared to address the consequences of a cyclone. In the past three weeks since the disaster, ICRC, CVM and IFRC have been working together as one team, conducting joint assessments and distributions for the response, under ICRC's logistics and security support.

Movement Coordination

On 6 May 2019, a meeting of the Movement Coordination Platform was held at the headquarters of CVM in Maputo, to discuss the Movement's response in Cabo Delgado and agree on the structure and modus operandi for the response. The following was agreed:

- In line with the spirit of the initiative to strengthen Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC), ICRC, CVM and IFRC will work together following the principles of 'one response, one team, one plan', reinforcing the importance of complementarity, coordination and coherence in the joint response to Cyclone Kenneth in Cabo Delgado.
- Together, the CVM, ICRC and IFRC plan to assist 3,000 families with essential household items in the emergency phase of the response. Based on ongoing assessments, the ICRC also plans to rehabilitate the health centre and the prison in Macomia, which were damaged by the cyclone.
- Given the high sensitivity and volatility of the context in Cabo Delgado Province, additional focus is put on the need for timely and effective Movement Coordination.

- An Agreement is being established between IFRC and ICRC in Cabo Delgado to integrate the IFRC response team into the ICRC structure, including practicalities such as respective contributions of relief items to the response, which is implemented jointly with the CVM.
- A security management agreement is being put in place, outlining roles and responsibilities between ICRC and IFRC, in support of CVM, pertaining to security of this joint response.
- In terms of communications and information, the importance of ensuring close coordination of internal and external communications was agreed. This will include coherent messaging across the three components of the Movement, with common emphasis on providing increased visibility for CVM.

On 6 May, the IFRC issued a Revised Emergency Appeal, increasing the Cyclone Idai Appeal to also include the response to Cyclone Kenneth, seeking a total of CHF 32 million. The ICRC is using its existing 2019 operational budget for Cabo Delgado which was robust enough to respond to the additional needs following the Cyclone Kenneth. National Societies which wish to support the Movement response in Cabo Delgado are asked to contribute either to the IFRC Appeal or ICRC annual budget.

Beyond the emergency response, the ICRC will maintain its presence in Cabo Delgado province and continue to address the consequences of armed violence, in partnership with the CVM. The IFRC will also continue its support to CVM's provincial branch in Cabo Delgado, as part of its broader support in National Society development.

Representing the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, we take this opportunity to express our feelings of solidarity with the people of Mozambique facing the consequences of two major cyclone disasters. We commit to provide our support to meet the most urgent needs of the affected populations to the best of our capacities, and we would like to thank all partners for their contributions to the response to both disasters.

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Felipe Donoso
Head of Mission, Mozambique
International Committee of the Red Cross



Alfredo Libombo Tomas
Secretary General
Cruz Vermelha de Mocambique



Dr Michael Charles
Head of Country Cluster Office for Southern Africa
International Federation of Red Cross and Red
Crescent Societies

Contact details:

CVM: Alfredo Tomas, Secretary General: Email: alfredo.tomas@redcross.org.mz Mobile +258 823351123
ICRC: Felipe Donoso, Head of Mission Mozambique: Email: fdonoso@icrc.org Mobile +258 84 960 3542
IFRC: Dr Michael Charles, Head of Country Cluster Office for Southern Africa: Email: michael.charles@ifrc.org
Mobile +278 34132988