

FLOODS RAVAGE PARTS OF NAMIBIA

The number of flood victims in Namibia stands at 65 000 with more people expected to be displaced as the floodwaters are showing little sign of receding.

So far 4 000 people from the worst affected areas have been relocated. Many schools were closing because of rising water levels.

Towns like Oshakati are experiencing over crowdedness and as a result, new areas are being sought for the displaced. Some of the flood victims are presently accommodated at Oshakati Independence Stadium and the Ongwediva Trade Fair.

Amidst all these, health concerns have been expressed because of the overcrowded conditions at these centers, as more people were left homeless and fears for disease outbreak increase.

Subsequently, the President of Namibia, H.E. Hifikepunye Pohamba called on the international community to assist with blankets, food and tents in the short term, while serious reconstruction of bridges, schools and medical facilities will be needed in the long run.

One of the affected areas namely, Engela in the Ohangwena Region, has already experience the outbreak of cholera.

In the midst of the cholera outbreak, which so far had claimed at least two lives, health officials last week announced a shortage of water purification tablets.

Government had so far supplied food worth N\$221 000 to the needy while non-food items have amounted to N\$5,3 million.

The private sector has donated N\$690 000 in kind and N\$1,13 million in cash.

The Red Cross Society and the Namibia Disaster Relief Fund has also made donations.

For more information on the effects of the floods and how you can help, please contact Mr. Manasse Katjivena at the Embassy at 01/402 9371/2/3

Thank you for your kind support in assisting the government of the Republic of Namibia provides for the flood victims.