THE RED CROSS RED CRESCENT AND THE BALI CONFERENCE

The Red Cross Red Crescent is calling for adaptation to take a more central role in the international community’s approach to climate change.

Specifically we are calling for the following:

1. **For a decision to be taken in Bali to prioritize adaptation assistance for the most vulnerable countries.**

Those who contribute the least to the problem – the poorest of the poor – are suffering most, yet they have the fewest resources to protect themselves. In many developed countries substantial resources are now being spent on domestic strategies and programmes for adaptation. But the scale of funding for adaptation in the most vulnerable countries is woefully inadequate.

2. **For a target for adaptation and climate risk management funding, and a plan on how to mobilize and implement those resources to be included in the Post 2012 agreement.**

New funding to help vulnerable communities adapt to and manage these new risks is needed urgently.

Initial calculations by the World Bank, UNFCCC, OXFAM and lately the UNDP suggest that the cost of adaptation in developing countries will be in the range of US$ 10–80 billion per year. Since 2005 industrialised countries have committed themselves to only US$ 450 million annually for climate change programs in developing countries (which also includes funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions).

It is vital that developed countries express their political will to include quantifiable, predictable and adequate financial resources and mechanisms in the post 2012 agreement.

3. **For a decision to be taken in Bali on an immediate increased investment in adaptation for 2008-2012**

Before the implementation of the new agreement in 2012, additional resources are needed in the interim to help address the immediate consequences of climate change, and to help communities become more resilient.

We believe that a dramatic increase in the US$ 450 million committed annually to climate change programs in developing countries (a budget that is supposed to address mitigation as well as adaptation) is needed during this transition phase. The mainstreaming of climate change risk assessment and adaptation within existing frameworks (like the Hyogo framework for disaster risk reduction), sustainable development strategies to meet the MDGs and expanded cooperation will be the most efficient methods of scaling up during this period.

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