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Situation Report on Aceh Province

11 June 2003

Highlights

- Military Administrator Maj. Gen. Endang Suwarya asked HDC on Monday (9 June) to leave Banda Aceh as they were no longer mediating a peace process in Aceh. (no one from HDC is present in Aceh at the moment)

- Military spokesperson reported on Tuesday (10 June) that 7 TNI soldiers were killed and 7 others injured in Matang Kumbang village, Peusangan sub-district, Bireuen District. Military claims that this was the largest scale fighting since the beginning of military operation.

- As many as 76 village heads have been reported resigning from their jobs on Sunday (8 June) due to continuous threats and intimidations. The government announced that they would be immediately replaced with new ones. TNI expressed its readiness to supply soldiers to fill the empty posts. Meanwhile, some 23 other village heads have been reportedly abducted by GAM since 3 June.

- Coordinating Minister for Political and Security Affairs Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono stated on Tuesday (10 June) his office would meet internally to discuss recommendations to be forwarded in the cabinet meeting chaired by the president on Thursday, 12 June on the government’s policy to temporarily ban tourists from traveling to Aceh and regulate the work of international NGOs and foreign journalists in Aceh.

Security

- 3 GAM members were reported killed during the fighting with TNI forces in Kampung Besar village, Bendahara sub-district, East Aceh on Sunday, 8 June.

- Military officials reported that 2 GAM members were killed in 2 separate clashes on Monday, 9 June in Lambong village, Meuraksa sub-district, South Aceh and another in Cut Kuta Village, Seunagan sub-district, Nagan Raya District.

- TNI spokesperson reported that 2 GAM members were gunned down by TNI forces during gunfire in Durian kaway village, Kluet Utara sub-district, South Aceh.

Emergency Health Information System Report

- With the assistance of WHO, Crisis Center (CC) in the Provincial Health Office (PHO) has established an Emergency Health Information and Management system. Information from districts are compiled, analyzed and reported accordingly. Based on the situation and needs, proposals are prepared and emergency assistance provided based on available resources as emergency response. The following are information-received form the Crisis Center as of 10 June 2003.

Affected Population

- There are now 5,879 families, totaling 22,780 population of which 764 infants, 2,894 children age between 1 to 5 years, 830 pregnant women and 681 elderly are displaced as IDPs in Aceh Jaya, Aceh Tengah, Aceh Barat, Aceh Selatan, Aceh Tamiang, Aceh Timur, Aceh Bireun and Aceh Tenggara districts.

Casualties

- There are total of 98 injured cases admitted to the hospitals of which 88 were males and 10 females. Total of 116 deaths were reported from the hospitals and health facilities of which 115 were males and 1 female. 115 male and 1 female deaths based on the CC, PHD data as of 9 June 2003 in Aceh province.

Health facilities damaged

- A total of 32 Health Facilities were burnt and damaged in Bireun, Pidie, Aceh Timur, Aceh Jaya and Aceh Tamiang. These were, 2 Health Centers (Puskesmas), 5 Sub-Health Centers (Pustu), 2 Attached Sub-Health Centers (Pusling) and 23 Health Post (Polindus).
Outbreak of Diseases

- In Kota Lhokseumawe, out-break on diarrhea was reported and total of 111 persons age between 5 to 44 suffered from moderate dehydration and 2 school children were treated with intravenous infusion. No death was reported. A team from the PHO is now visiting the site to investigate the event.

- It has been reported that scabies outbreak has been increasing especially in the affected villages and IDP camps affecting 50% of the population. WHO and Communicable Diseases Control (CDC) unit of the PHO has prepared an emergency response plan and proposal to combat the scabies outbreak in selected areas of the province where the security is stable as an initial phase, during the crisis period.

WHO Assisted Emergency Preparedness and Response Programme in Aceh

Emergency Preparedness

Health as a Bridge for Peace Project

With the assistance of WHO, three training workshops on Health Workers in Conflict Situation were organized during the month of August and November 2002 and 26 doctors, 24 Nurses and midwives and 25 health workers from different districts were attended. The main purpose of the training workshop is to buildup the capacity of health workers in conflict management and identifying their vital role in such situations.

Psychosocial and Mental Health Survey

With the assistance of WHO, a qualitative and quantitative survey was conducted in 2002 in Aceh Province to get baseline information on the magnitude of the problem based on the conflict, cultural, tradition and religious values. It has provided recommendations and follow-up action points for future programming in supporting mental health related activities in the conflict areas and affected population.

Emergency Health Contingency Plan

With the support of WHO, Emergency Health Contingency Plan (EHCP) for Aceh Province was developed. It was presented to the Minister for Health at the coordination meeting organized for the heads of district hospitals and district health offices on 1 June 2003 at Banda Aceh. Disaster management and the role of health sector were also discussed and needs and difficulties at the field levels were discussed.

Minimum Essential Health package

With the assistance of WHO, Minimum Essential Health package for the affected population especially for IDPs is under developing stage and will be shared with partner agencies and donor communities for assistance and support. Based on the package, essential medical services and supplies will be provided to back-up the emergency health kits support programme. The package also include emergency immunization programme.

Emergency Response

Emergency Health Kits

Based on the EHCP, with the cooperation of WHO and UNICEF, (20) Emergency Health Kits to serve 200,000 population were ordered on 14 May 2003 and complete set was received in Banda Aceh on 6 June 2003. WHO assisted the Conflict Center at the PHO to manage the supplies based on Emergency Supplies Management Standard Procedures. A special transit store was allocated at the PHO and supplies were stored systematically. The store was visited by the Minister for health and gave satisfactory remarks. The supplies were checked, re-listed as there were no list in the boxes especial for the supplementary units and translated into Bahasa Indonesia as requested by the doctors from the district within 3 days. Supplies are now under distribution to the 16-affected district in Aceh Province.

ATLS, BTLS and BLS Training

Based on the EHCP, with the technical assistance of WHO, MOH organized Advance Trauma Life Support, Basic Trauma Life Support and Basic Life Support trainings in Banda Aceh from 30 May to 1 June 2003. Total of 25 facilitators from different provinces of Indonesia came to Banda Aceh to conduct the course and 140 health staff including doctors, nurses and paramedics attended the training. The Emergency Health Kits were used in the training and health staff found it very useful because they have advanced training on the supplies that they will be receiving at their respected facilities. The Minister and the Governor closed the training.

Emergency Resuscitation (ER) Units in Hospitals
As part of the EHCP, WHO in cooperation with PHO and Hospitals, have initiated the ER units in District Hospitals and are standard emergency management procedures and essential equipments needed for the units were identified and assisted based on the available resources.

**Specialist support**

As part of the EHCP, 24 specialists form Jakarta were sent to Banda Aceh on 6 June and will be providing services at the district hospitals. They will be part of the crisis Brigade team formed at the Provincial General Hospital. WHO is providing technical assistance to the team analyzing and prioritizing the needs and preparing proposals for the donor communities.

**Hygiene kits for the communities**

As part of the EHCP, with the cooperation of UNICEF, WHO and PHO, 20,000 family hygiene kits were ordered to cover 100,000 IDPs in Aceh Province. These are expected to be arriving Aceh at the end of June 2003.

**Major problems encountered and needs**

1. Local transportation is impaired.
2. Telecommunication is cut off time to time.
3. Electricity is uncertain.
4. Health staffs were threatened in affected areas.
5. Shortage of essential medical supplies including oxygen supply to the hospitals.
6. Lack of funding for transportation of supplies and transferred of patients.
7. Limitation of International organization to assess the situation, monitor the supplies and activities.
8. Safe water, lack of sanitation and hygiene support, food and cash for the affected communities.
9. Limited accessibility to health services in affected areas.
10. Lack of reliable data and information.

**Education**

UNICEF received information from the Provincial Education Department that from 19 May to 10 June, 504 schools have been burnt in Aceh province. Out of this number, Pidie-259, Bireuen-138, Aceh Besar-36, Aceh Timur-37, Aceh Jaya-18 and the rest in 6 other districts.

UNICEF has ordered school teaching and learning materials called school in box, and school tents to support the damage schools.

**Food Supplementation**

WFP has release 10,000 metric tons of rice for the population in need with the help of PMI, Indonesian Red cross and Crescent Society.

**Humanitarian Actors in Aceh**

UN: OCHA, UNICEF, WHO, WFP
NGOs: CARDI, ICMC, OXFAM, PBI, SC US
Other Organizations: ICRC, PMI
Government: SATKORLAK PBP, Provincial Departments of Health, Public Works and Social Affairs.

**Some Abbreviations**

CARDI Consortium for Assistance to Refugees and Displaced in Indonesia
ICMC International Catholic Migration Commission
PBI Peace Brigades International
JSC Joint Security Committee
GAM Free Aceh Movement
SATKORLAK PBP Provincial Coordinating Unit for the Management of Disaster and IDPs/Refugees
TNI Indonesian Armed Forces
CC Crisis Centre
(PHD) Provincial Health Department (PHD)
PMI Indonesian Red Cross

(WHO FHA Indonesia Sitrep on Aceh 11 June 2003)