**Myanmar: Humanitarian Update No. 2 on Monsoon Season Floods, 27 July 2017**

**Situation Overview**

Myanmar rains and increased water levels in major rivers have caused seasonal floods in Myanmar, primarily affecting Magway, Sagaing, Bago, and Ayeyarwady regions and Mon State. Mandalay Region, Chin, Kayin, Rakhine, and Shan states are also affected by flood and flash floods in small-scale floods. Displacements are reported at this stage. As of 25 July, the cumulative number of people who have been temporarily displaced/displaced/displaced since the beginning of July in flood-affected areas and regions was reported to be almost 245,000, according to the Government of Myanmar’s Relief and Rehabilitation Department (RRD) in Nay Pyi Taw. At least three people are reported to have died due to flooding. In some areas flood waters have crepted and people have returned to their homes. As of 25 July, out of a total of 269 evacuation sites, 207 had been closed again, mainly in Sagaing, Mon, Rakhine and the Union Territory. In addition to those displaced/displaced/displaced between 25 and 27 July, thousands more have been affected by flooding. People who are displaced are staying in monasteries, in temporary shelters or with host families or relatives.

Most seriously affected states/regions (displacement figures as of 25 July)

Magway remains the most severely affected region with over 32,000 people reported to have been temporarily displaced/displaced/displaced in seven townships, with Paukseik, Yangoon and Thanlawadi townships the worst affected, according to RRD. Flood waters in some of these townships are reported to be receding and people returning to their homes. However, the Ayeyarwady regional RRD reports that many of the most severely affected areas along the banks of the Ayeyarwady River may be displaced/displaced/displaced multiple times as flooding is likely to recur in areas over the course of the monsoon season. Some families, who live in low-lying areas, remain displaced as flooding continues to affect their homes. As of 25 July, a total of 35 evacuation sites in Magway remained open. In Sagaing Region, more than 25,000 people were temporarily displaced/displaced/displaced. However, all temporary evacuation sites in the region are now reported to have been closed and most of those displaced/displaced/displaced are reported to have returned to their homes after flood waters receded, according to RRD in Sagaing.

In Bago Region, over 10,000 people from eight townships have been temporarily displaced/displaced/displaced, while more than 6,700 people in nine townships in the Ayeyarwady Region are being accommodated in evacuation centres or staying with host families. In Mon State, some 9,000 people were displaced/displaced/displaced by floods over the past week but many have since been able to return to their homes. Floods also temporarily displaced/displaced/displaced 2,400 people in Rakhine State and strong winds, heavy rains and swollen rivers have destroyed 75 homes and damaged another 100 homes in Mrauk-U, Minbya, Kyauktaw, Toungoo and Ann states since 24 July. Some of these displaced/displaced/displaced have since been able to return to their homes. In Mandalay Region, thousands of people affected by rising river levels have reportedly moved to safer locations on their own accord as a preventive measure.

**Response**

The Government of Myanmar is leading the flood response. RRD, in coordination with local authorities and different government departments, is responding to the immediate needs of displaced families by providing cash to purchase rice rations and distributing drinking water and relief items. Assistance is being provided in areas recently affected by floods, including Bago, Ayeyarwady and Mon. The Union Minister of the Department of Social Welfare, Relief and Rehabilitation Department visited Kyaukphyu Township in Mon State on 23 July and provided immediate assistance to flood-affected/displaced households, as well as shelter and life jackets to the township authorities. RRD is also providing cash to repair and rebuild houses that were damaged or washed away. Meanwhile, RRD has provided temporary assistance to temporarily displaced/displaced/displaced families, such as food, drinking water, warm clothes and blankets, mobile health clinics, as well as supporting flood preparedness measures, evacuations and clean up in a number of flood-affected areas. In collaboration with the Township Health Department, local authorities are organizing chlorination of water sources and pond cleaning/removal of debris in areas where flood waters have subsided.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCs) is providing evacuation services in affected townships, assisting with water and sanitation in evacuation sites. MRCs is also providing food, drinking water, emergency tarps and shelter kits, hygiene kits and mosquito nets, as well as first aid and emergency healthcare services. INGOs have provided water and water sanitation support, including chlorination of water sources and distributing water purification tablets in Sagaing Region. UN agencies continue to closely monitor the situation and remain in contact with local and national authorities and stand ready to support the Government’s Response, if required.

**Weather Outlook**

The Government of Myanmar’s Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMM) has issued flood warnings for a few townships in Ayeyarwady and Bago regions as the water levels of rivers have reached above danger levels and advised people living in low-lying areas close to rivers to take precautionary measures. MMRD reported on 27 July that rains or thunderstorms will be widespread in all states and regions with increased rains in Tanintharyi Region, as well as in Kayin and Mon states.

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