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**Subject:** PAK FLOOD SIT REP 0037

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E.O. 13526: N/A  
TAGS: EAID, ECON, PREL, PREF, SENV, SOCI, SNAR, MOPS,  
CASC, UN, IO, PK  
SUBJECT: Flooding in Pakistan - SITREP 37

1700 (Islamabad), October 6, 2010

REF: A) Islamabad 002678  
B) Islamabad 002608  
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SUMMARY

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1. (U). Displaced persons continue to return to areas of origin throughout the country. The Government of Pakistan (GoP) has told us that it no longer needs US fixed wing air support to transport relief supplies. New UN Special Envoy Soysal arrived in Pakistan October 6. END SUMMARY.

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I. SITUATION UPDATE

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OVERVIEW

2. (U) According to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), water continues to recede in flood-affected areas and displaced persons are returning to places of origin. The GoP has also begun temporary repairs to damaged infrastructure in flood-affected areas. In addition, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) continues to register flood-affected individuals and distribute relief debit cards, valued at approximately \$230 each. As of October 5, NADRA had distributed 290,000 cards. New UN Special Envoy Rauf Engin Soysal (Turkey) arrived in Pakistan October 6.



## KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA, FATA, GILGIT-BALTISTAN

3. (SBU) Access to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's (KP) northern districts continues to improve and assistance is reaching most areas, with the exception of remote parts of Kohistan, Swat, and Upper Dir districts. An October 5 winter contingency plan meeting of the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) determined that in the coming six months 34,000 families in Swat, 16,000 families in Kohistan, and 2,000 families in Shangla will need food assistance. Food supplies are being stocked at various locations in Swat, Shangla and Kohistan.

4. (SBU) KP officials predict that the provincial disbursement of funds to flood affectees will be completed within three months. In the weekly KP PDMA General Coordination meeting, officials confirmed that approximately 4,000 families are still living in 88 schools across KP. Twenty five of these are in Charsadda district. A province-wide campaign against polio and measles has vaccinated approximately 1.3 million children.

5. (SBU) According to NDMA, 98 percent of displaced people in KP Province have returned to their place of origin. However, the UN indicates that people that remain displaced in the Tank and D.I. Khan districts reportedly remain without access to adequate health, water, sanitation, and hygiene support, due to security concerns and insufficient capacity in the districts. The UN plans to conduct a security and rapid needs assessment in South Waziristan to ascertain the feasibility for people currently residing in these districts to return to places of origin in South Waziristan.

## PUNJAB PROVINCE

6. (U) News media and Post contacts around Punjab continue to report growing food price inflation, particularly for vegetables, across the province. In Multan - southern Punjab's commercial and transport hub - prices of tomatoes increased 60 percent over the previous one-week period (from 50 to 80 rupees per kilogram) and bean prices rose 50 percent (from 60 to 90 rupees per kilogram). Media attributed the price

hike to floods destroying staple food crops, including tomatoes. Post has previously reported inflation due to both crop damage and, more acutely, to transportation issues.

7. (U) Punjab Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PbPDMA) officials told ConGen Lahore that PbPDMA would complete its updated Provincial Damage Needs Assessment (PDNA) survey around October 11, and distribute it to donors at that time. Officials confided that the updated assessment revealed far less damage than was reported in their first PDNA; housing damage, for example, was down almost 50 percent.

8. (U) According to NDMA, 95 percent of people displaced in Punjab Province have returned to places of origin. The NDMA has also indicated that receding floodwaters in Punjab Province will allow many farmers to plant the Rabi winter crop. While irrigation infrastructure has sustained significant damage, Punjab authorities note that the Rabi crops may require little to no irrigation.

#### SINDH PROVINCE

9. (U) Sindh PDMA Director General (DG) Sualeh Faruqui on October 5 told Karachi CG Martin and visiting Rear Admiral Harris that Sindh has entered the early recovery phase with water receding and some IDPs returning home. The immediate challenge is resettlement and restoration of livelihoods, especially rehabilitation of irrigation canals. The Government of Sindh is exploring the possibility of using IDP labor to perform many of the projects on a food-for-work or cash-for-work scheme.

10. (U) Areas of Sindh Province, such as Dadu and Qambar Shahdakot, remain flooded and an unconfirmed number of people remain stranded on small islands formed by floodwaters. Subsequently, according to the NDMA, only 14 percent of people displaced in Sindh Province have returned to places of origin.

11. (U) Violent protests occurred in Shikarpur, Jacobabad, Sukkur, Shandadkot, and Kotri over the delayed disbursement of the relief debit cards. Jeay



Sindh National Movement, a Sindhi Nationalist party, announced anti-government protests for October 9.

12. (U) A UN Humanitarian Aviation Service (UNHAS) helicopter made a forced water landing on October 1 in Dadu district. All on board survived. A nearby Pakistani military unit quickly assisted in the rescue and recovery, and UNHAS representatives commended Pakistan Army aviation and army personnel who responded for their quick and professional response.

#### BALUCHISTAN

13. (U) On October 1, the Baluchistan Provincial Assembly legislators criticized the federal government's lack of response. On October 5, hundreds of people from Jaffarabad and Naseerabad blocked the National Highway in Quetta for three hours demanding relief goods. Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam, National Party, and the Labor Union of Baluchistan led the demonstration and criticized ineffectiveness of international NGOs and government in providing relief in the province. Aid organizations are having trouble reaching some districts due to restrictions by the military and Frontier Corps, distrust by local tribes, or security concerns that prevent them from sending personnel.

14. (U) Relief agencies have reported secondary displacement in some areas after returnees were unable to access their homes due to standing water. Railway connections with Quetta have been suspended for 40 days, preventing banks from receiving deliveries of cash.

#### GROUND LINES OF COMMUNICATION (GLOC) FOR US SUPPLIES

15. (U) The flooding no longer affects the transit a US/ISAF cargo to Afghanistan. However, the Torkham border crossing are closed to US/ISAF cargo.

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II. US RESPONSE  
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16. (U) On September 30, USAID/OFDA's 23rd relief flight delivered 650 rolls of plastic sheeting to Multan District, Punjab Province, and to Sukkur and Hyderabad districts, Sindh Province. Overall USAID/OFDA has provided 12,113 rolls of plastic sheeting for emergency shelter for more than 363,000 people.

17. (U) On October 3, the 24th and final USAID/OFDA-funded relief flight delivered an additional 84 metric tons (MT) of Plumpy'Doz to Pakistan for the UN World Food Program. USAID has transported enough Plumpy'Doz to protect more than 120,000 children from acute malnutrition for a period of 30 days.

18. (SBU) Citing repair to damaged roads, the GoP said it no longer required the use of international fixed-wing aircraft for delivery of relief supplies to flood-affected areas nationwide. As a result, the US military ceased operating C-17 and C-130 aircraft. However, relief agencies are concerned the GoP's position may reduce WFP's ability to preposition food and relief items in northern Pakistan prior to the onset of winter. The UN Logistics Cluster formally requested the GoP to continue using the C-17s and C-130s for delivery of relief items throughout the coming months but have been denied. When the UN Logistics Cluster asked about rotary support, the GoP said that US support would continue in the north for two to three months or more with an assessment being conducted monthly.

#### HELICOPTERS AND OTHER AIR SUPPORT

19. (U) Cumulative Totals to Date:  
IDPs - 21,264 evacuated  
Rotary Wing - 8,984,482 pounds moved  
Fixed Wing - 5,894,348 pounds moved  
Total pounds moved - 14,878,830 pounds

20. (U) US Military Aircraft presently in Pakistan:

Ghazi Air Base:  
(8) UH-60 Blackhawks  
(10) CH-47 Chinooks

Pano Aqil Air Base:



- (4) CH-46
- (4) CH-53

Chaklala

- (2) KC-130
- (1) C-17 (Not mission capable)

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III. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS  
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21. (U) On Thursday, September 30, the Ambassador, BG Nagata and DART Team Leader Berger spoke with Washington Post columnist David Ignatius about USG flood relief activities in Pakistan.

22. (U) Also Thursday national publications, such as "Dawn" and the "Daily Tribune," covered CG Karachi's press briefing on flood relief.

23. (U) Friday, October 1, Embassy issued a press release detailing USG's continued commitment to Pakistan. In addition, CG Karachi conducted interviews with GEO TV and JOSH FM 99 on flood relief.

24. (U) On Saturday, October 2, Acting OFDA Director Mark Ward participated in a media roundtable. "Dawn," "Express," "APP," "The News" were among media that participated. .

25. (U) Sunday, October 3, local media covered Director Ward's meeting with farmers in Nowshera to discuss USAID's \$21 million seed program for KPk. Ward also conducted an interview with Express TV that evening.

26. (U) Monday, October 4, Embassy released photos of flood aid being unloaded from a US military helicopter. Members of ABC news flew from Ghazi Air Base to visit a US military unit.

27. (U) Tuesday, October 5, PAS distributed a press release about the completion of the mission for U.S. C-130 and C-17 aircraft supporting flood relief.

28. (U) Wednesday, October 6, CG Karachi was interviewed by Aaj TV on flood relief.

PATTERSON