

**22<sup>nd</sup> Press Release of the Tripartite Core Group**  
**Initial Findings in a Cyclone Nargis Response Assessment Indicates Positive Progress**  
**Yangon, Myanmar, 5 June 2009**

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Consistently high rates of immunisation among children, especially against measles, have been recorded in a review carried out by the Tripartite Core Group (TCG) in Myanmar. Initial findings of the second of a series of Periodic Reviews of the situation for the people affected by Cyclone Nargis indicate that overall, 88% of children under the age of five in the sample area have been vaccinated against measles. This is at similar levels to the first Periodic Review, with 91% coverage of the sample group.

Preliminary results also show that overall, the estimated school attendance rate remains at 87%. While no improvements were identified at the overall level, within-village comparisons between the two assessments show that the lowest attendance rate increased from 33% to 50%. However, initial results from the shelter cluster indicate that an overwhelming majority consider their shelter as not safe against wind, rain or surge.

“The findings of the Periodic Review II will guide us in our efforts in relieving the sufferings of cyclone-affected people and help us recover their livelihoods,” said U Kyaw Thu, the Chairman of the Tripartite Core Group (TCG) and Chairman of the Civil Service Selection and Training Board in Myanmar.

He and other TCG members thanked the Periodic Review Assessment Teams for their hard work during the past three weeks, upon their return to Yangon today. The teams, comprising 95 people from 15 organisations including government ministries, ASEAN officials, UN representatives and international and local NGOs, were deployed to 102 communities in 30 townships in Myanmar. By interviewing household members, they gathered data that indicates the degree to which humanitarian relief and recovery efforts have succeeded in meeting the needs of people who had their homes and communities destroyed by Cyclone Nargis that struck in early May last year.

“The Assessment Teams have contributed greatly to the work of the TCG in informing stakeholders of community needs and enabling the donor community to better understand the real situation in the Delta when considering further assistance,” said senior ASEAN member of the TCG and Thai Ambassador to Myanmar, Bansarn Bunnag.

“The international humanitarian community continues its important humanitarian recovery and preparedness work in the delta, in good cooperation and coordination with the Government, ASEAN, and local partners in the field. The results from the second Periodic Review will further guide us in the continuing efforts, for which increased donor support is needed for years to come,” said the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Bishow Parajuli.

The outcome of the Periodic Review 2 is expected to be published by the end of July 2009.

*The first Periodic Review can be found at <http://www.asean.org/22120.htm> and <http://yangon.unic.org>*

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*Note:*

*The Tripartite Core Group (TCG) was officially established on 31 May 2008. It comprises high-level representatives from the United Nations, Government of the Union of Myanmar and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.*