



European Union

Delegation of the European Commission to Cambodia

Phnom Penh, 27th October 2000

For Immediate Release

European Union provides relief for victims of flooding

The European Union has approved funding worth 1,090,000 euros (US\$904,809) to assist victims of the recent flooding in Cambodia. A further 810,000 euros (US\$672,381) will help those suffering the effects of the flooding in Vietnam.

In Cambodia, the aid, channeled via the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) will enable the International Federation of the Red Cross and non governmental organisations to carry out projects over the next six months.

The funding made available will cover acute emergency assistance to those affected in specific areas and provinces.

Oxfam (GB) will distribute emergency household kits in six of the worst affected provinces; Action Nord Sud will provide food aid in the form of short-term vegetable and rice seed distribution in Battambang; Care International (France) will help ensure access to clean water and sanitation in six provinces; Action Against Hunger will also provide access to clean water and health services to prevent the spread of disease in Kampong Cham; and the International Federation of the Red Cross will distribute mosquito nets, soap and other essential items in the form of household kits.

Through this aid, ECHO will help meet many of the flood victims immediate needs as they strive to rebuild their homes and livelihoods following this devastating flooding.

Founded in 1992 to oversee and coordinate the European Union's humanitarian operations in non-member countries, ECHO has during its eight years of existence distributed emergency and reconstruction aid to areas of crisis in over 60 countries across the globe. Operating in partnership with NGOs, the specialised agencies of the United Nations and other international bodies like the International Red Cross, ECHO helps relieve the effects of all types of crises from natural disasters to civil and ethnic conflicts.

Euro/dollar exchange rate 26 October 2000 : 0,8301

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