

## Terms of reference

### Deployment of one UCPM associated expert to the UNDAC team in Dominica – Disaster Waste Management Expert

#### 1. Emergency Context:

Category 5 Hurricane Irma hit the Caribbean in early September 2017, devastating Barbuda and Anguilla, St Maarten, parts of the Turks and Caicos Islands and the Bahamas and seriously affecting the British Virgin Islands and St Kitts and Nevis. The UN system deployed a UNDAC team, initially based in Barbados but subsequently redeploying across various islands. Category 5 Hurricane Maria hit the Caribbean shortly after Hurricane Irma, making landfall in Dominica on 18 September. 15 deaths have been reported in Dominica and flyovers confirm that 80-90% of buildings have damaged to varying degrees. There are countless road blocks due to fallen trees and boulders and there is an acute need for clearing of roads and management of debris, sediments and disaster waste. Approximately 75% of trees are reported blown down or having foliage and branches stripped. The Government of Dominica has requested through the Caribbean Disasters and Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) the support of one disaster waste management expert, to be affiliated with the UNDAC team, providing support to the Government of Dominica on disaster waste.

#### 2. Mission objectives:

The following describes the key responsibilities and required background and skills of the disaster waste management expert. Needs may vary and evolve according to the emergency.

- Support the initial damage and needs assessments, identifying relevant disaster waste management issues and their potential interaction with humanitarian needs across the different sectors / clusters;
- Provide on-site practical advice and guidance to the Government, UNDAC team, CDEMA, and sectors/clusters as appropriate, by proposing solutions to minimise environmental and health impacts of disaster waste;
- Assist local authorities in the development of a disaster waste management plan/system, including guidance on proper management of existing waste disposal sites, logistics of waste collection services, and optimisation of recycling and re-use options;
- Liaise and coordinate with other mechanisms and entities involved in disaster waste issues such as the IASC<sup>1</sup> clusters<sup>2</sup> for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Shelter and Early Recovery (and other clusters or coordination mechanisms as appropriate), and agencies such as PAHO (WHO), UNDP and UNICEF;
- Coordinate with all other actors undertaking activities related to waste management, either directly or in the framework of sectoral activities, to promote synergies and best practice and avoid overlap;
- Pay particular attention to waste collection and disposal in shelters, especially concerning household waste, sanitation, drinking water and recycling;

<sup>1</sup> Inter Agency Standing Committee: <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc/>

<sup>2</sup> Cluster Approach: <http://www.humanitarianreform.org>

- Provide advice and guidance to national and international aid organisations with disaster waste management issues if requested;

### 3. Expected Actions:

Undertake, in close collaboration with the relevant local and national authorities and international emergency responders, an overall assessment of the disaster waste situation, including:

- Identify any needs for further technical assistance, as well as medium and long term needs for capacity building;
- Assess the existing local capacity for addressing disaster waste management issues;
- Identify specific risks posed by asbestos, health care waste, hazardous materials, agricultural or industrial chemicals / pollution and other environmental legacies impacted by the hurricane and/or the subsequent response;
- Disseminate and promote the use of the Disaster Waste Management Guidelines<sup>3</sup>;
- Communicate rapidly and regularly all findings to the UNDAC team, the local authorities, the United Nations Resident Coordinator, and the JEU as appropriate;
- Document, in electronic form, the assessment results, recommendations, and mitigation measures implemented, if applicable;
- Provide advice and support to any Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) or similar process, if appropriate;
- Support any coordination groups or agencies promoting work programmes such as cash for work involving waste clearance, to ensure that those activities minimise risks to people and the environment and do not generate longer term environmental legacies.

Note: Contact with media, including interviews, should only be undertaken with consent of the government and in consultation with the UNDAC team, the United Nations Resident Coordinator and the JEU.

### 4. Experts Profile

- University degree in a relevant discipline, such as environmental science and/or civil engineering;
- Background in solid and/or hazardous waste management issues with at least ten years of experience;
- Experience in environmental impact/risk assessment;
- Knowledge of disaster waste management;
- Working experience in a disaster-affected environment and/or developing countries an asset;
- Ability to work under stressful circumstances and/or in hardship conditions for up to three weeks;
- Availability for additional follow-up, collaboration and editing of mission report after the official mission deadline, if required;
- Fluency in English, oral and written;
- Flexibility to work across multiple countries and territories, with different governments, agencies and needs, considering the diverse characteristics of the countries and territories affected;
- Knowledge of MS Windows and MS Office and ability to operate standard IT and communications equipment.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://dwmg.eecentre.org/index.asp>

### 5. Mission:

- Expert should be self-sufficient in terms of mission equipment for field work (tents, sleeping bags, etc).
- Estimated departure from country of origin of the experts: 27 September 2017.
- Deployment duration: Three weeks. There could, however, be a need for a longer deployment into the recovery phase. In this case, the modalities for extension and/or additional deployment will be separately discussed.
- Operating base and logistics: Dominica, with travel to affected areas. Transport within the country region to be organised by CDEMA or member states, using either their own resources or humanitarian or military transport.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: 26 September at 12:00 BRUSSELS TIME