

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Tsunami in South Asia

Presidential Statement

On behalf of the Federation I wish to express our deepest sympathy to those who have had lost loved ones in the disaster in South Asia and to offer what support we can to those who have survived.

We applaud the efforts of those involved in the rescue and treatment of survivors of the catastrophe and pledge our help in the recovery and rebuilding phases.

The Federation stands willing to assist in any way we can. Our members have expertise in many areas - such as water supply, water purification, sanitation, food safety, waste disposal, vector control and the management of outbreaks of communicable diseases. We have offered our services to a range of relief agencies already involved.

We will work with other agencies to try to restore living conditions for those affected by the disaster; however we recognise the enormity of this task and the length of time required to achieve it.

“Caring for the Environment in the Interest of World Health” is the motto of the Federation and, with the help of our member organisations, located in 35 countries in all corners of the globe, we aim to try to live up to that ideal by assisting in the provision of safe and healthy living conditions for those affected.

As an immediate token of our concern the Board of Directors of the Federation has pledged financial aid to the relief agencies and we are urging our member organisations and individuals in membership of those organisations to join with us in contributing by way of finance and practical assistance towards the unprecedented humanitarian effort which is now required.

JERRY CHAKA
PRESIDENT

13 January 2005