

See below details circulated by the Nicaraguan Embassy in London:

## **State of Calamity and Disaster declared in Nicaragua October 2011**

My dear friends,

As many of you may know, Nicaragua and the whole Central American Region have been hit by the Tropical Depression 12E. This phenomenon has caused, in Nicaragua alone, intensive precipitations, inundations, mud slides, overflow of rivers and lakes, resulting severely affected ten out of fifteen Departments, the loss of human life, ten thousand of people homeless, hundred of thousand affected at different levels, but also has damaged severely the rural economy, the environment, agricultural crops, and vital infrastructure, mainly networked roads and communications.

On 17<sup>th</sup> October, the State of Calamity and Disaster was declared by President Daniel Ortega. The Government of Nicaragua, by means of the Executive Secretariat of the National System for Prevention, Mitigation and Attention of Disasters (SE-SINAPRED for its Spanish acronym) along with the local governments, have been taken all the preventive measures and response in the concerned regions and municipalities to avoid human loss and to ensure the attention of the evacuated people housed at temporary emergency shelter.

The Government of Nicaragua, through the incumbent Ministries of State, Decentralized entities, and the solidarity of international community, is carrying out actions aimed to the rehabilitation of services to the population and reconstruction tasks, to rapid remedy the negative effects produced by the collapse of communications, the destruction of homes and infrastructure.

I kindly request your assistance in circulating the attached Communiqué with an appeal from the Nicaraguan people for humanitarian aid.

Here a brief about the situation in Nicaragua.

- President Ortega has issue an executive decree declaring the State of Calamity and National Disaster in the whole country (attached a Comunicqué)
- 70 municipalities (500 diferent places) have been affected:
  - Capital: Tipitapa, El Crucero and San Francisco Libre (the most affected) but also Ticuantepe, Mateare, Ciudad Sandino, San Rafael del Sur and Villa El Carmen.
  - South west: Masaya, Masatepe, La Concepción, San Marcos, Diriamba, Granada (45 homes flooded by Malacatoya River), Diria, Nandaime, San Juan del Sur, San Jorge and Potosi.
  - North West: Santa Rosa del Peñon, El Jicaral, El Sauce, Achuapa, Malpaisillo, Nagarote, La Paz Centro, Telica.Chinandega, Somotillo, Villanueva, Santo Tomas del Norte, San Francisco del Norte, Corinto, Cinco Pinos, Puerto Morazan, El Viejo, Posoltega, Chichigalpa and El Realejo.

- North Central: Madriz, Totogalpa, Somoto, San Lucas, San Jose de Cusmapa, Palacaguina, Telpaneca, Ocotal, Macuelizo, Santa Mariam Quilali, San Juan de Limay, Pueblo Nuevo, Condega , San Nicolás, Matagalpa, Matiguas, Sebaco, Ciudad Dario, San Isidro, San Dionisio, Esquipulas, Waslala, La Concordina, San Sebastian de Yali.
- East Central – Juigalpa, Chontales and Boaco.
- 15,000 families, representing 133,858 people have been affected by rains at different levels.
- Some ten thousand families have been evacuated to a 100 temporary emergency shelters across the country.
- temporary emergency shelters across the country.
- 8 people has been reported dead
- 4097 homes have been flooded and damaged at different levels: 335 destroyed and 1235 partially destroyed.
- The red alert has been issued.
- 5,000 members of the National Army are working on the emergency.

If the heavy raining continues the emergency will over pass our capabilities. Particularly worries the raising of the water level of the Lake Xolotlan (Managua). If it raises 43 mtrs over sea level, we will need to evacuate and attend with shelter and food to more than 600 families (around 3000 persons) living near the coast. At the moment, the lake is at 42.40 mtrs over sea level. We still monitoring this situation, but all steps have been taken to be ready to evacuate and attend the families living near the coast of the lake.

My best regards,

**Guisell Morales-Echaverry**  
**Minister-Counsellor**  
**Chargée d'Affaires a.i.**

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