

# MARAWI OPERATIONS UPDATE No. 3

As of 6 June 2017



ICRC



## Situation update

- Fighting continues in Marawi City. Authorities declared a four-hour humanitarian ceasefire on 4 June 2017 to facilitate the evacuation of trapped civilians, but it was immediately lifted after shots were fired from an unidentified source. They hope to continue negotiations to open up more windows for humanitarian ceasefire and safely evacuate civilians in the upcoming days.
- Damage to civilian properties are evident in Barangay Basak Malutlut where the hostilities started, and in Barangay Banggolo and Mindanao State University commercial center. There are also reports of damages on buildings and properties across Agus Bridge.
- More than 200,000 people have been displaced by the fighting in Marawi, based on the latest update from the regional authorities. Thousands are scattered in different evacuation centers, while the majority has sought shelter with relatives. There are some evacuees who have tried to enter Marawi City to collect their valuables in their houses, which puts them at risk to be caught in crossfires.

## Humanitarian needs and issues of concern

### On trapped residents:

- Circumstances are dire for those who are left behind in Marawi City as the fighting enters its fifteenth day. They have very limited food, drinking water and access to healthcare; and face serious danger to their lives.
- There is a serious concern that some of these trapped residents are being held by armed men against their will.
- Those who try to leave Marawi City often do not have means to move out of the city; and rely on relatives, authorities, or aid organizations such as the Red Cross for this.

### On protection of civilians:

- We are extremely concerned about the impact of the ongoing hostilities in Marawi City on the civilians. Our priority is to address the humanitarian needs of people affected by the situation. We are coordinating closely with the local authorities and the Philippine Red Cross (PRC).
- We are also seriously concerned about reports of civilians who were killed or deliberately targeted, and those who are being held against their will. Civilians are not part of the fighting and should be protected.
- We are engaged in close dialogue with all those involved in the fighting to ensure the protection of civilians and respect for civilian properties, in fulfillment of their obligations to respect the International Humanitarian Law (IHL).
- We plan to focus on areas closer to the conflict where the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has an advantage because of its contacts with all stakeholders and its ability to operate.

## ICRC actions to date



Assisted the safe evacuation of around 654 people, including handicapped, sick, wounded civilians and families with young children, from Marawi City to nearby municipalities



Additional medicines and medical supplies given to: the RHUs of Balindong, Balo-i, Saguilaran and Piagapo; Piagapo Provincial Hospital; Balindong and Tamparan District Hospitals; Adventist Medical Center and Gregorio T. Lluich Memorial Hospital in Iligan; Saguilaran Health Center; and the Provincial Capitol Infirmary in Marawi City

Provided 10 folding beds and oxygen supply in support of the mini-hospital within Saguilaran RHU grounds

Distributed 22 first aid bags for the local rescue teams and PRC



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### On displaced families:

- Limited food and drinking water supply, and access to sanitation facilities, remain as the most urgent humanitarian needs of the displaced families.
- Some evacuation centers are underserved due to the surge in numbers of displaced people and limited personnel according to the regional authorities.
- Access to the west and east side of Lake Lanao remains a challenge for humanitarian actors, which limits the delivery of assistance in those areas.
- Evacuees suffering from stress related to their ordeal are in need of psychosocial support.
- Rural health units (RHUs) observe an influx of diarrhea, upper respiratory infection, hypertension and fever cases among the displaced population as evacuation centers continue to get crowded.



Supported the PRC in their following activities:

- Continuous supply of drinking water to more than 10,000 displaced people through the two water bladders installed at the evacuation centers in Saguilaran and Marawi City (Provincial Capitol)
- Installation of eight portalets in Saguilaran evacuation center



Provided 160 body bags and 50 sets of personal protective equipment (i.e. gloves and masks) to the authorities for the proper retrieval of human remains



Distributed food packs, and essential household and hygiene items to 3,157 displaced families (approx. 15,700 people) in Saguilaran and Piagapo

*The ICRC is a neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian organization that protects and assists victims of armed conflict. It has an international mandate to promote knowledge for and respect of IHL.*

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