



# ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်အမျိုးသားကောင်စီ

## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE UNION OF BURMA

### NCUB REQUESTS ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF CYCLONE NARGIS 07 May 2008

The National Council of the Union of Burma (NCUB) calls upon our friends within the international community to provide generous assistance for the victims of Cyclone Nargis, which devastated millions of lives throughout the Irrawaddy Delta and much of Rangoon, Burma.

Now, in the aftermath of the cyclone's destruction, over one hundred thousand people have died or remain missing, approximately one million people are homeless, and ten million people continue to suffer without basic needs such as clean water, food, or shelter. The cyclone ripped through Burma's major agricultural region, demolishing fields of staple food supplies such as rice and other crops. The victims living in the affected areas not only have to dig out from underneath the cyclone's destruction but also have to suffer price gouging on basic food staples and gasoline. Gas prices are reported to have risen to \$10/gallon, while the cost of basic food supplies has tripled.

Food, medicine, and money are all urgently needed by the cyclone's victims. Without immediate donations and assistance, conditions in these disease-prone areas deteriorate quickly, causing many thousands of additional victims to suffer and die unnecessarily.

The Burmese military regime, the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), continues to abandon and ignore the needs of the cyclone's victims as it fails to respond to the international community's attempts to provide critical assistance, and if history is any indicator, the SPDC will not take any effective and meaningful steps to alleviate the victims' suffering. Where the Generals fail to aid and assist their countrymen, women, and children, we must not fail.

To render in-country assistance to our countrymen, the NCUB and our established internal networks are working in coordination with the *National Health and Education Committee*<sup>1</sup> (NHEC), a well-respected independent humanitarian organization that provides medical and educational assistance to the people in Burma. To succeed, however, we urgently need help from you and all of our friends in the international community.

The *Burma Institute for Democracy and Development (BIDD)*, a tax-exempt charitable trust located in Washington, DC, is coordinating relief efforts with NCUB and the NHEC. Our friends living in the United States seeking to assist the victims of the cyclone may make tax-exempt donations to BIDD. BIDD will, in turn, coordinate with NCUB and NHEC to provide immediate, in-country assistance to the cyclone victims.

- ▶ To make a secure online donation, please go to: <http://burmainstitute.org/support.html>
- ▶ BIDD's mailing address is: PO Box 96503 #68330, Washington, DC 20090-6503, USA.
- ▶ BIDD's office location is: BIDD-SEIU, 1800 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 2005-C, Washington, DC 20036, USA.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.nhecburma.org](http://www.nhecburma.org)