

Haiti Earthquake Appeal



On January 12 2010, Haiti was struck by an earthquake with a magnitude of 7, which caused widespread devastation. The earthquake's epicentre was about 10 miles from Port-au-Prince, the capital city of Haiti. The International Red Cross estimate that a third of Haiti's citizens will need emergency aid. The quake destroyed houses, schools, hospitals, and even the National Palace in Port-au-Prince. Reports have revealed that over 200,000 Haitians have died, including nursing staff, volunteers and other aid workers. The Haitian government estimate that 1.5 million have been left homeless in the Haitian capital Port-au-Prince and are sleeping on the streets without shelter, amidst the debris with tarpaulin covered bodies nearby. They have nowhere else to go as homes and hospitals have been destroyed by the earthquake. Most Haitians are without food, clean water, sanitation or proper medical care.

TUC Aid

TUC Aid is making an appeal to affiliates, union members and to the general public for funds for emergency relief and long-term rehabilitation of the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

You can donate online via the following link:

<http://www.tuc.org.uk/international/tuc-17424-f0.cfm>

The proceeds of the Appeal will be used by the trade union movement in Haiti for emergency relief and long-term rehabilitation of victims in collaboration with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). For further information, please, contact Bandula Kothalawala of the European Union and International Relations Department by telephone on: [020 7467 1257](tel:02074671257) and by email at: bkothalawala@tuc.org.uk

It is clear that Haiti will need long term assistance in dealing with the consequences of the earthquake that goes beyond financial aid. The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) estimates that some 3m people, most of whom have been made homeless, are in dire need of food, clothes, shelter and essential medicines.

Conference welcomes the response from British medical staff, fire-fighters and other emergency organisation volunteers who have flown over to Haiti to offer medical and practical assistance. Conference calls upon the National Black Members' Conference (NBMC) to:

1. Encourage regional Black members' group to seek union and community donation and encourage individuals to pledge their support to the Haitian Earthquake Appeal fund.
2. Encourage regional Black members groups to organise fundraising events.
3. Ask Unison's International Section to identify and contact all organisations/NGO's it has contact with and identify any work within Haiti or the near locality who are able to commit to Haitian Relief for a minimum period of 5 years. In addition an annual feedback is provided by the international section to be made available for National Black members' conference for the next five years.
4. Encourage NBMC to link with organisations identified in point 3 and also encourage Regions and Branches to develop twinning arrangements thus targeting our effort.
5. Recognise the importance of economical, social and infrastructure long term sustainability for the people of Haiti and calls upon the NBMC to liaise with the NEC/Labour link in ensuring the UK government work with other governments/NGOs in addressing the long term infrastructure, economic and social sustainability.

Donate online



