

People displaced by the flood water in al-Btairah in MissanBaghdad 22 April 2019 – To respond to the needs of the Directorate of Health in Missan following recent flooding affecting the area, WHO with the support of donors, arranged delivery of a second consignment of emergency supplies to support the Directorate. The shipment was transported on 17 April 2019 to Missan governorate, 304 kilometres south east of Baghdad. The shipment included emergency and medical supplies, inflatable boats and life jackets.

Missan was adversely affected by the floods that were caused by heavy rain. Flood water is still covering a wide area, leading to displacement of residents, damage to propery, death of livestock and destruction of agricultural crops in many villages and the marshlands.

Mr Ali Dawai, the Governor of Missan, explained that the situation was critical. "We are keen to ensure this crisis will not leave behind casualties. Financial damage is compensable but not lives – quick action saves lives." He voiced concern about the expected outbreaks due to the floods and their potential impact on health and the environment. He also noted that international organizations had responded quickly and effectively to the crisis. He urged organizations to continue their support and address the health and environmental impact on affected areas. He expressed appreciation for all support that had been provided in responding to the needs of the people.

The WHO Representative in Iraq Dr Adham Ismail provided reassurance that WHO would be available and ready at all times to support the Directorate's efforts to control post floods in relation to communicable diseases. Dr Ali al-Allaq, Director-General of Missan's Directorate of Health said that plans had been adequately reviewed, amended and updated according to the emergency. "We will continue to provide health services and ensure a strong response to emergency needs." He thanked WHO for its continued efforts and support to regular programmes and the quick response and coordination with the emergency health team.



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