

Press Release

Humanity First Canada



Monday, January 24, 2011

Brazil Floods Death Toll rises above 800

Humanity First dispatches Disaster Team for Relief Work

Concord, Ontario, Canada – The recent floods and mudslides -- the deadliest natural disasters in Brazil in the past 40 years are reported to be severe enough to change the geography of the region. The death toll from Brazil's devastating flooding has topped 800, with hundreds more missing, in the country's deadliest natural disaster on record.

According to local authorities the number of bodies counted has reached over 800 in the mountainous Serrana region north of the city of Rio de Janeiro.

According to the National Civil Defence agency and Department of Health, in the worst-hit town of Nova Friburgo near Rio de Janeiro 389 deaths have been recorded and in the neighbouring Teresopolis the toll rose to 324. A total of nearly 14,000 people have been forced to abandon their homes in the region, either because their homes were destroyed or deemed unsafe.

Humanity First has been closely monitoring the situation and has decided to dispatch its Disaster Response Team to the flood hit areas to provide emergency relief.

Humanity First is also accepting donations for the relief work. People may go on our website www.humanityfirst.ca to donate online or they can send cheques to *Humanity First*.

Humanity First has also recently responded to natural disasters in Haiti, Bangladesh, Philippines and Indonesia. During the relief work, food water and medicine were distributed to victims of flood and earthquake.

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Notes to editors:

Humanity First is an International Non-Profit Charitable Organization established to promote and safeguard the preservation of human life and dignity.

Humanity First is a non-political, non-sectarian international relief and development agency that works with communities around the globe to improve the quality of life for some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.

Directors, Officers and Aid Workers of Humanity First are unpaid volunteers. Humanity First has been granted a special consultative status with the United Nation's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

For further information please visit our website <http://www.humanityfirst.ca>

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