

Emergency Operations Center Situation Report #6 Chile Earthquake

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will travel to Chile today to express his solidarity with the Government and people in the wake of the recent earthquake and to assess the humanitarian assistance effort.
- The UN inter-agency disaster technical team (UNETE) will meet today for the first time at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in Santiago.

HEALTH SITUATION

- The PAHO/WHO Representative in Chile, accompanied the Minister of Health, is on an assessment mission to the affected area.
- The Minister of Health has assured the population that medicines will be available in the disaster areas of the country. The ministry's central depot has sent additional supplies by land and sea to cover projected shortages. Despite damage to the cold chain, the Minister stated that the government has ensured an adequate supply of vaccines and that dialysis services will be available in hospitals as well as insulin.
- The Minister also indicated that there have been no epidemic outbreaks, although he stressed the need to heighten surveillance, especially because some areas are still without safe drinking water and garbage is accumulating in street, leading to unsanitary conditions. The Ministry is stepping up prevention and risk communication measures.
- The Ministry of Health ordered the closure of the Félix Bulnes Hospital (Santiago) due to severe damage. Coordination with other hospitals has ensured that specific emergency needs (pediatrics or obstetrics) will be covered and some facilities have expanded their hours to meet the demand. The emergency field hospital donated by the government of Brazil was sent today to the western part of the capital to fill the gap in health services left by the closure of the Feliz Bulnes Hospital. It will be set up on land provided by the municipality in this sector of the city. The table on the next page presents the status of affected hospitals.



Region	Hospital	Status	Level of Complexity ¹	Beds
Metropolitan	H. Félix Bulnes	Non-functional	High	522
V	Claudio Vicuña	Severe damage	High	164
	Psychiatric Hospital (Dr. Pinel)	Severe damage	Medium	415
	Putando	Non-functional	Low	27
VI	R. de Rancagua	Limited capacity	High	518
	Sta. Cruz	Evacuated	Medium	82
	Chimbagoro	Evacuated	Low	38
VII	Regional Hospital of Talca	Some damage - partial relocation to field hospital	High	544
	Curicó	Evacuated	High	386
	Hualañe	Non-functional	Low	27
	Parral	Non-functional	Medium	122
	Cauquenes	Damage	Medium	144
VIII	H. Martin (Chillán)	Damage to one tower. 277 beds available	High	506
	H. Grant Benavente (Concepción)	Partially functional	High	940
	Complejo Víctor Ríos Ruiz	Reduced capacity. Internal relocation	High	430
	Lota	Evacuated	High	100
	Laja	Severe damage	Low	52
	San Carlos	Severe damage – partial evacuation	High	150
	H. Curanilahue (Dr. Rafael Avaría)	Severe damage	Medium	106
	Penco-Lirquen	Severe	Low	99
	Lebu	Evacuated	Low	62
IX	Angol	Non-functional	High	195
	Temuco	50% functional	High	733

PAHO / WHO RESPONSE

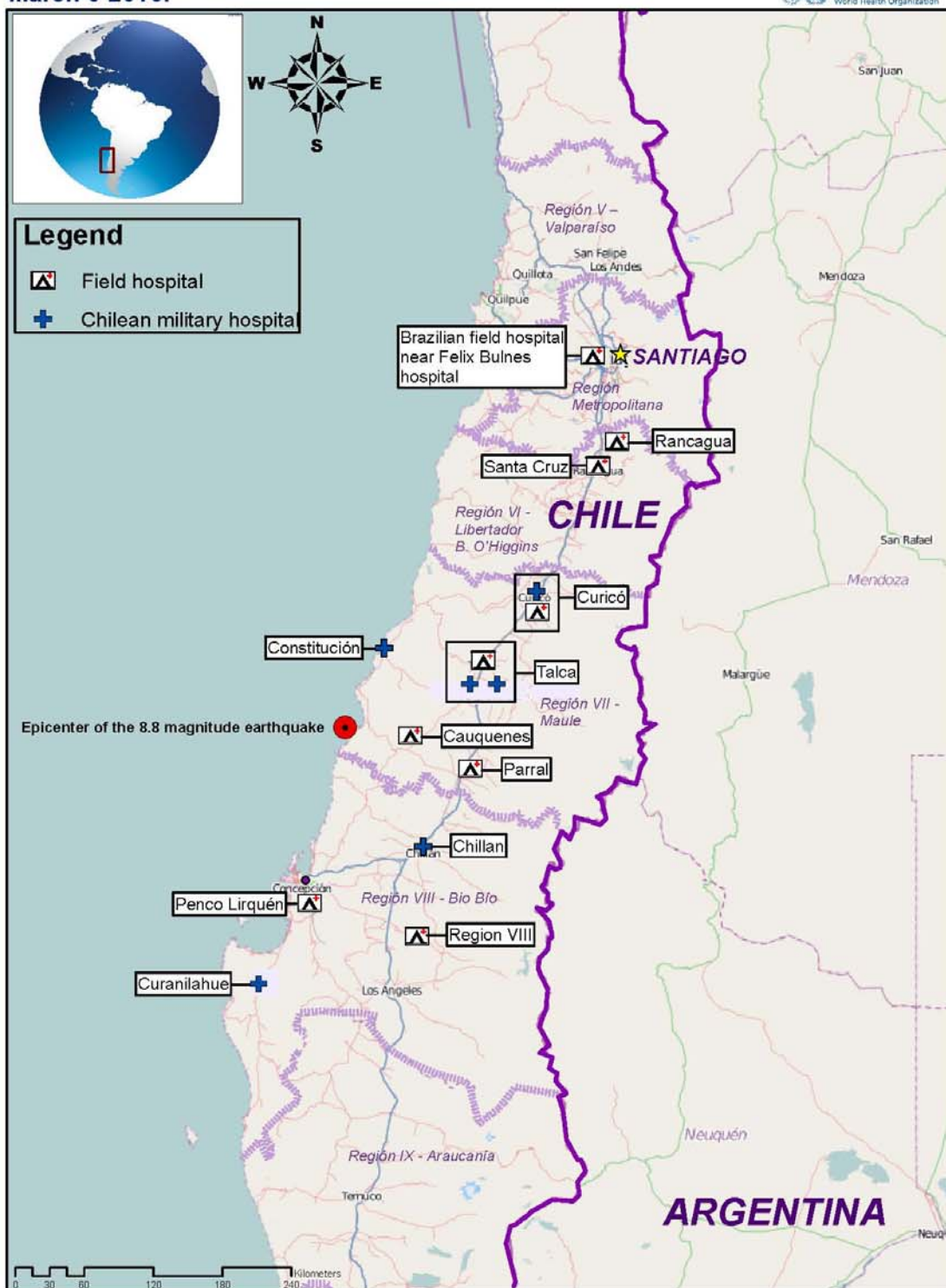
- The Ministry of Health has requested PAHO/WHO's support in the following specific areas:
 - Coordinating technical aspects (including specifications and gap analysis) related to mobile field hospitals.
 - Deployment of structural engineers (and most likely architects) to assess health infrastructure.
 - Communications and information management in the affected areas, including preparation of a short-term strategy and plan of action. Two experienced members of the PAHO/WHO Health Emergency Response Team are being deployed to Chile to cover these aspects.
 - Technical support in the area of management of dead bodies.
 - Coordination of international health aid arriving from other countries. A determination will be made as to whether it will be necessary to mount the LSS/SUMA system (humanitarian supply management).



PAHO/WHO guidelines on developing and executing a communications plan in a disaster response setting.

¹ Chile's Ministry of Health uses a series of criteria to differentiate between the levels of complexity of a hospital. However, for the purpose of this report, **high-complexity** hospitals have full surgical and intensive care capability (ICU); **medium-complexity** hospitals have surgical capability and limited ICU services; **low-complexity** hospitals have neither surgical nor intensive care capabilities. They are generally community hospitals limited to general medicine.

Field and military hospitals in Chile.
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Generated by PAHO/WHO
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Source: Ministry of Health, Chile; OpenStreetMap