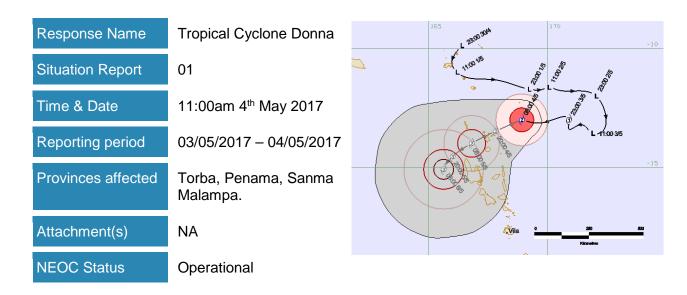


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Situation Report



Situation Overview

As of 8.55am Thursday 4th May the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) has indicated Tropical Cyclone Donna (Category 2) is approximately 175km North-East of Vanua Lava, Torba Province, Vanuatu. The system is moving in a west south-west direction.

Damaging gale force winds of 75 KM/HR gusting to 105 KM/HR will affect TORBA, PENAMA, SANMA and MALAMPA in the next 12 hours. Winds will increase to destructive storm force winds of 95 KM/HR, gusting to 130 KM/HR over TORBA and PENAMA in the next 24HRS.

Damaging and destructive winds and very rough to phenomenal seas with heavy swells will affect TORBA, PENAMA, SANMA and MALAMPA. Heavy rainfall and flash flooding is also expected over low lying areas and areas close to river banks. Coastal flooding is also expected.

The Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) advises people, that Yellow Alert is now current for TORBA and PENAMA provinces, while Blue alert is now current for SANMA and MALAMPA provinces.

General Coordination

The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) has activated the National Emergency Operations Centre and is coordinating the response. The Joint Police Operations Centre (JPOC) has been activated and the Vanuatu Police Force and Vanuatu Mobile Force are on standby to support operations. Provincial Governments are activating Provincial Disaster Committees.

The NDMO hosted the first inter-agency meeting at 2pm on May 3rd 2017 to brief partners on the situation and to discuss preparations and coordination mechanisms. The National Cluster Framework is activating and initial cluster meetings are being held in key sectors on Thursday 4th May.

Community preparedness messaging and forecast updates are being broadcast over the radio. Telecommunications networks are distributing warning messages.

Offers of international assistance have been received from multiple partner agencies. The Government of Vanuatu will inform partners of any requirements as the situation evolves.

Further Information

Weather: VMGD website www.vmgd.gov.vu

Prepared by: NDMO Information Management Unit

Released by: Mr Shadrack Welegtabit, Director, National Disaster Management Office

Next situation report: Friday 5rd May 2017