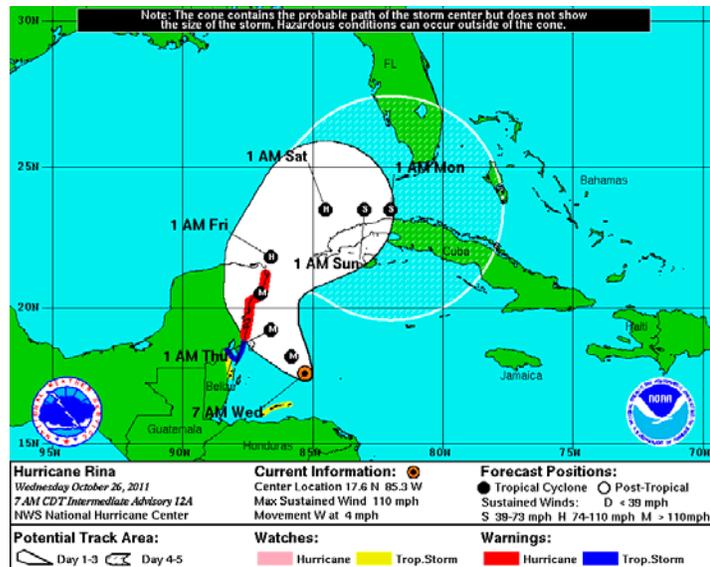


26 October, 2011 – 4:00 pm

## PAHO/WHO EOC SITUATION REPORT #5

### Summary – Hurricane Rina

Rina is expected to reach the Yucatán Peninsula of Mexico by Thursday as a category 1 hurricane. Strong winds are anticipated in the northeast coast of the peninsula from north of Punta Guesa to San Felipe, producing 8 to 16 inches of rain. A hazardous storm surge may raise water levels by 2 to 4 feet above normal tide in the coast. High winds will also likely affect the northern coast of Belize, including Belize City, and the Honduran Bay islands of Roatan and Guanaja.



Source: NHC NOAA

### Mexico

The Government of Mexico has activated the health crisis committee in the state of Quintana Roo, and has declared a state of alert in the health sector. Several fishing towns on the Caribbean coast have already been evacuated to shelters, and further evacuations are scheduled in preparation for the coming hurricane. Mexico is also mobilizing an integrated team from the Ministry of Health to support the situation.

### Belize

Ministry of Health has activated the first phase of the disaster plan. The National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) in Belize has activated its EOC that coordinates the response and information sharing. Residents of several coastal villages and island of San Pedro and Cay Caulker were moved to shelters inland. Shelters in Cayo District are on standby and will open if Belize City residents must evacuate.

The Situation Report is produced by the PAHO/WHO Emergency Operations Center regarding recent developments in the region. New editions will be issued as the situation requires. To subscribe or unsubscribe to these reports please [visit this page](#).

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## **Summary – Floods in Central America**

Floodwaters are gradually receding but it will take time to repair the damages incurred by the countries in Central America after 11 days of torrential rain. OCHA estimates that 1.2 million people were affected overall. Priority for assistance is to provide emergency shelter, drinking water, materials for sanitation and hygiene, food, and health care.

### **El Salvador**

The Government of El Salvador is working to meet the needs of the affected population by a continued activation of the National Emergency Operations Center. The departments of Civil Protection and Disaster Prevention and Mitigation are also activated. The Central American Integration System has formed an advisory group for regional reconstruction and rehabilitation. The results will be presented to financial institutions by December 16.

- 15 new establishments were reported damaged, bringing the total to 257. At least 28 facilities are severely damaged and 52 show moderate damage.
- Health care in the hospital in Sonsonate has been restored between 80% and 90% with the support of other health facilities in the area.
- Visits for acute respiratory infections, dermatitis, diarrhea and gastroenteritis declined.
- Medical care was provided and medicines were distributed to 100% of the population in shelters.

The number of people in shelters has dropped significantly to 3,324 people remaining in 61 emergency shelters throughout the country after evacuees were cleared to return to their homes. The United Nations launched an emergency appeal to support relief operations for USD \$15.7 million intended to assist 300,000 people from October until April of next year.

### **Guatemala**

The Ministry of Health and Welfare, in coordination with the CONRED, has provided healthcare to more than 3,250 people across the country. The Ministry of Health has reported 167 diarrhea cases. The Ministry is providing necessary medications for treatment and checking sanitary conditions in the shelters.

There are 149 shelters enabled throughout the country as evacuees have been cleared to return to their homes.

### **Honduras**

Honduras has reported 29 deaths and 69,000 affected due to the emergency. 12,600 people have been evacuated and 6,960 are still in emergency shelters. The UN system and humanitarian agencies are coordinating with the government to carry out needs assessments and support the early recovery of livelihoods of the affected population.

## **Nicaragua**

The UN office in Nicaragua has reported that 133,000 people have been affected and 17 died due to floods and rains. Venezuela has donated 16,113 tons of humanitarian aid to help the relief efforts of the Government of Nicaragua. Flash Appeal is being drafted to meet the emergency needs in affected areas.