

STANDING CONFERENCE OF TOWNS AND MUNICIPALITIES

National Association of Local Authorities in Serbia

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To all Local Government Associations in Europe To all international partners of the SCTM

URGENT APPEAL FOR HELP TO SERBIAN MUNICIPALITIES IN THE STATE OF EMERGENCY CAUSED BY SEVERE FLOODS

The State of Emergency has been declared in the Republic of Serbia due to the heaviest rain and worst floods since records began 120 years ago.

Overflowing rivers have burst into towns and villages, cutting off whole communities, while landslides have buried houses.

Thousands are being evacuated and many victims are taken out from the waters. Rescue teams are engaged in a huge number of municipalities and the situation is extremely alarming.

Mayors are appointed as the heads of emergency teams in their municipalities and immediate help is needed.

The Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities – the National Association of Local Authorities in Serbia is most urgently appealing to all its sister organizations throughout Europe to mobilize their member municipalities and ask them to send help in goods and financial resources and channel it through their local government associations and the Standing Conference in order to help the needed goods and supplies to be distributed to the Serbian municipalities.

For the **delivery of goods**: food, baby food, diapers, blankets, clothing, boots, etc. the embassies and consulates of the Republic of Serbia in respective countries should be contacted (attached find the list of Serbian embassies and consulates in respective European countries and their contacts).

As soon as possible, the special account will be opened for the transfer of **financial means**, of which we will inform you immediately.

It is very important that whatever help is sent through your associations and organizations to the Serbian local governments is reported to the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities, so that we can inform of that all our member municipalities, our Government and the citizens of Serbia.

All individual contributions will be very much appreciated.

For any additional information please contact Mrs. Aleksandra Vukmirovic, Head of Unit for EU Integration and International Cooperation (E-mail: <u>aleksandra.vukmirovic@skgo.org</u>, Tel. +381 64 870 3 17), Mr. Ivan Bozovic, Advisor for EU integration, (E-mail: <u>ivan.bozovic@skgo.org</u>, Tel. +381 64 870 33 45), Mrs. Zorica Vukelic, Deputy Secretary General (E-mail: <u>zorica.vukelic@skgo.org</u>, Tel. +381 64 870 33 01) or the SCTM Secretariat (E-mail: <u>secretariat@skgo.org</u>, Tel. +381 11 3223 446, Fax. +381 11 3221 215).

Sincerely,

