

### Kenya Red Cross Society Responds to Naivasha Traffic Tragedy

**Monday, 12 December 2016, Nairobi:** Kenya woke up to terrible news of the demise of a number of lives lost during a road traffic crash on the Nairobi-Naivasha Highway on 10 December 2016. According to the Kenyan government, a total of 40 people perished after a lorry carrying flammable material exploded during the road crash at Karai.

“This is indeed one heart wrecking disaster that Kenya has witnessed this year. We remain committed to offering our full support to the families and friends who have lost their loved ones,” said Dr. Abbas Gullet, Secretary General, Kenya Red Cross Society.

The Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS) Naivasha Sub-County Branch deployed the Red Cross Action Teams (RCAT) to support with rescue and recovery at the site of the incident, and were later supported by the KRCS Nairobi Branch.

The bodies, which were transferred in a refrigerated container donated by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), are now at the Chiromo mortuary pending identification. Of the six individuals who sustained injuries, two were treated of their injuries and discharged from hospitals, while four continue to receive specialised treatment.

During the identification process, the bereaved will go through two sessions of counselling; pre-viewing and post-viewing counselling, done by KRCS and the Amani Counselling Centre and Training Institute.

KRCS has pitched camp at the mortuary grounds where staff and up to 25 volunteers are offering psychosocial support and counselling, tracing of missing persons and First Aid. A total of 36 cases of missing persons were reported at the KRCS tracing and information desk, while 57 individual psychosocial support sessions have been carried out thus far.

The KRCS has provided the following hotline numbers: 1199/+254-700-395-395/+254-738-395-395, to which the public can call and make enquiries, as well as a tracing hotline number: +254-715-820-219, to report missing persons.

The public is urged to donate the following items: water, milk, bread, disposable cups, plates and forks, biscuits, glucose, lunch packs, soda, serviettes, trash bags and sanitizers. Donations can be delivered at the University of Nairobi Chiromo Mortuary. Well wishers can also donate cash through the following: Paybill Number 10,000, Account Name: Naivasha.

The KRCS is working closely with the National Disaster Management Unit (NDMU), the National Disaster Operation Centre (NDOC), the Kenya Police, St. John’s Ambulance, Amani Counselling Centre and Training Institute, among others stakeholders.

**For further information, please contact:**

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