



## 1.0 OCCURRENCE

**TROPICAL STORM LILI**

## 2.0 DATE OF OCCURRENCE

**SEPTEMBER 22/23, 2002**

## 3.0 AREAS AFFECTED

**MAIN VILLAGES AFFECTED: DENNERY, ANSE LA RAYE, VIEUX FORT.  
MOST OF BANANA PLANTATIONS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.**

## 4.0 IMPACT

### 4.1 Infrastructure

*Roads:* blocked by fallen trees, fallen leaves and debris. Some culverts choked.

*Bridges:* none affected.

### 4.2 Housing

Roofs lost in Choiseul and some buildings affected in Dennery by fallen coconut trees

### 4.3 Critical Facilities and Utilities

*Water:* No damage.

*Electricity:* Electric poles down in several areas



Telephone: No Damage.

#### **4.4 Agriculture**

**The greatest damage from the storm has been to agriculture and particularly to the banana industry.**

**Banana plantations lost from 10% in some areas to 70 % in others all over Saint Lucia.**

#### **4.5 Tourism**

**No damage reported to the hospitality industry.**

#### **4.6 Commerce and Industry**

**No damage reported.**

#### **4.7 Health**

No damage reported, only the need for a larger generator for Victoria Hospital was detected.

#### **4.8 Casualties**

No casualties reported.

#### **4.9 Welfare**

THE RED CROSS PROVIDED SUPPLIES TO ACTIVATED SHELTERS. SHELTEREES WERE ASKED TO TAKE WITH THEM THEIR OWN. THIS WAS NOT DONE BY ALL IN THE CASE OF ELDERLY EVACUEES SO MORE ASSISTANCE FROM RED CROSS WAS NEEDED. COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDS WENT TO THE SHELTERS TO CHECK ON THE OLDER PERSONS IN ANSE LA RAYE AND LA CROIX MAINGOT.



## **5.0 RESPONSE ACTIONS**

**WARNING AND NOTIFICATION ABOUT THE STORM WERE DONE FROM SUNDAY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO MENTION THAT THE NEW HURRICANE PLAN AND ITS EMERGENCY PROCEDURES WERE SUCCESSFULLY TESTED AND WERE VERY USEFUL IN THE ACTIVATION OF THE RESPONSE BY HAVING DETERMINED PREVIOUSLY THE CONDITIONS THAT TRIGGER THE WARNING AND THE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES.**

**THIS ALLOWED TO HAVE A PRE-STRIKE MEETING ON SUNDAY EVENING AND ALLOWED ENOUGH TIME TO GIVE AN ADEQUATE RESPONSE. SHELTER ACTIVATION AND EVACUATION OF ENDANGERED AREAS WAS ARRANGED AND IN OPERATION FROM EARLY MONDAY MORNING.**

**A FINAL PRE-STRIKE MEETING WAS HELD ON MONDAY AT 11 AM AND AN ADDRESS TO THE NATION ISSUED BY THE PRIME MINISTER. ALL OFFICES AND SCHOOLS WERE CLOSED. IT WAS DETERMINED THAT COMMERCE SHOULD CLOSE AT 11 30 AM.**

**EOC WAS MANNED WHILE THE STORM IMPACTED ON THE NIGHT OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> AND MAINTAINED COMMUNICATION WITH NATIONAL AND DISTRICT COMMITTEES. COMMUNICATIONS WORKED FINE AT ALL TIMES. THE EOC COMMUNICATIONS ROOM WAS MANNED BY THE CADET CORPS VOLUNTEERS.**

**AN EXCELLENT RESPONSE WAS MADE BY MEMBERS OF NATIONAL AND DISTRICT COMMITTEES.**

**EVACUATION WAS CONDUCTED BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, RED CROSS, SUPPLY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND SHELTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN DENNERY, ANSE LA RAYE, VIEUX FORT AND OTHER AREAS.**

**SPECIFIC SHELTERS WERE ACTIVATED TO RECEIVE EVACUEES FROM THE ABOVE-MENTIONED AREAS.**

**THE POLICE AND THE FIRE SERVICE CANCELLED ALL LEAVE AND ACTIVATED ALL THEIR RESOURCES TO PROTECT THE POPULATION PARTICULARLY IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED ENDANGERED AREAS.**



**GIS DISSEMINATED INFORMATION AT ALL TIMES THROUGH THE MEDIA ABOUT THE STORM.**

## **6.0 CONCERNS**

**THE FOLLOWING CONCERNS WERE RAISED IN THE NEMO EVALUATION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 5 PM:**

**MOST OF SHELTEREES WERE OLDER PERSONS, YOUNGER PERSONS REFUSED TO EVACUATE, PARTICULARLY IN ANSE LA RAYE. MORE SHELTER MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (SHIFTS) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR THE CASE THE SHELTERS ARE ACTIVATED FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS.**

**SEVERAL ELECTRIC POLES WERE DOWN WITH WINDS OF 30 MPH BY THE STORM. CONCERN WAS EXPRESS IN TERMS OF WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF WINDS WOULD HAVE BEEN HIGHER (60 MPH). LUCELEC SHOULD BE CONTACTED AND INVOLVED IN THE EMRGENCY PLANNING PROCESS IN ORDER TO PERMANENTLY ASSESS AND IMPROVE THE STATE OF ELECTRIC POLES AND REDUCE THEIR VULNERABILITY DURING TROPICAL CYCLONES.**

**SOME BUSINESSES WERE OPEN HOURS AFTER THE PM'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION, THUS ENDANGERING NOT ONLY THEIR ASSETS BUT PARTICULARLY THEIR EMPLOYEES. THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND SMALL BUSINESSES ASSOCIATIONS WOULD BE CONTACTED TO ENSURE BUSINESSES ARE CLOSED WHEN DETERMINED BY THE NEMO.**

**INFORMATION DISSEMINATED THROUGH THE RADIO HAD NO PROBLEMS.**

**REGARDING TELEVISION, ALTHOUGH INFORMATION WAS DISSEMINATED TOO, THERE WERE TIMES AT WHICH PRIORITY WAS GIVEN TO THE BROADCAST OF FOREIGN PROGRAMMES INSTEAD OF DISSEMINATING INFORMATION THAT WAS NEEDED AT THAT MOMENT ABOUT THE STORM.**

**MORE WORK HAS TO BE DONE WITH SPECIFIC COMMUNITIES REGARDING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF TROPICAL CYCLONES, PARTICULARLY WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAS NOT**



**EXPERIENCED A DISASTER. NEMO IS CURRENTLY DESIGNING AN EVACUATION PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF ANSE LA RAYE AND WILL ADDRESS THIS POINT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF SEVERAL NEMO AGENCIES AND, PARTICULARLY, WITH GIS.**

## **7.0 NATIONAL DAMAGE ASSESSMENT**

**NATIONAL DAMAGE ASSESSMENT WAS MADE ON TUESDAY AFTER THE STORM LEFT. IT WAS MADE BY THE DAMAGE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE AND REPORTED TO THE NEMO MEETING ON TUESDAY AT 5 PM. DAMAGE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT WAS ALSO MADE BY DISTRICT DISASTER COMMITTEES AND REPORTED TO THE NEMO ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY.**

**SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT ON ROAD DAMAGE WAS MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, WORKS TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC UTILITIES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. FALLEN TREES, ROADS BLOCKED, SMALL LANDSLIDES IN DRAIN AND CHOKED CULVERTS WERE REPORTED WITH A FINAL COST ASSESSMENT OF 37 150.00 EC DOLLARS**

**DAMAGE ASSESSMENT MADE BY CABLE AND WIRELESS TO THEIR OWN RESOURCES WAS DETERMINED TO BE AS 30 000.00 EC DOLLARS.**

**THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF DAMAGE HAS NOT BEN ESTIMATED YET; IT WILL BE DONE SHORTLY.**

**NO DAMAGE TO THE FISHERIES SECTOR WAS REPORTED ALTHOUGH A FISH-KILL WA REPORTED IN VIUEX FORT AND WILL BE INVESTIGATED FURTHER.**

## **8.0 NEEDS**

### **8.1 Priority Action List**

**TO HAVE A MEETING BETWEEN NEMO, THE SHELTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE RED CROSS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS REGARDING SHELTER MANAGEMENT AND WELFARE.**



**WIBDECO AND WINCROP WILL BE CONTACTED BY MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FOR A MORE DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF THE DAMAGE TO THE BANANA INDUSTRY.**

**TO DETERMINE THE NEED OF A SEAWALL IN DENNERY AND ITS IMMEDIATE CONSTRUCTION THAT WOULD REDUCE VULNERABILITY IN THE CASE OF SEA SWELLS.**

**TO ADDRESS PUBLIC AWARENESS IN ANSE LA RAYE PARTICULARLY REGARDING THE NEED TO EVACUATE BEFORE THE IMPACT OF A TROPICAL CYCLONE. NEMO AND SEVERAL AGENCIES WILL ADDRESS THIS POINT.**

## **9.0 FUTURE ACTION**

**FOR THE NEXT EVENT NEMO HAS SUGGESTED A 'POST-EVENT PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION' IN WHICH THE FOLLOWING WILL BE DESCRIBED: CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TROPICAL CYCLONE, DAMAGE, RESPONSE GIVEN, RESULTS AND LESSONS LEARNED. THANKS WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL THE RESPONDERS FROM ALL ORGANISATIONS AND TO THE COMMUNITIES INVOLVED. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE WILL BE GIVEN. THIS ADDRESS WILL CERTAINLY HELP ALL THE RESPONSE ORGANISATIONS (GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE, SOCIAL) AND THE PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND BETTER WHAT HAPPENED AND WHAT WAS THEIR ROLE IN THE RESPONSE AS A WHOLE NATION. THIS WILL ALSO ASSIST IN GIVING THE POPULATION SOME FEEDBACK ON THEIR ACTIONS AND THEIR RESPONSE THUS INCREASING THEIR AWARENESS AND THEIR PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE EVENTS.**

## **10.0 ASSISTANCE SOUGHT FROM DONOR AGENCIES**

**GOVERNMENT WILL INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF FUNDING BY THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FUND OF SEA DEFENCES.**



## 11.0 SUMMARY

**THE RESPONSE ACTIVITIES: WARNING, NOTIFICATION, EOC, SHELTER MANAGEMENT, EVACUATION, SECURITY, WELFARE AND DAMAGE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT WERE DONE IN AN EFFECTIVE AND TIMELY MANNER. SAINT LUCIA HAS ACHIEVED AN EXEMPLAR LEVEL OF HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS. THE NEMO WILL USE THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THIS EXPERIENCE AND INCLUDE THEM IN THE EMERGENCY PLAN AND IMPROVE EVEN FURTHER THE PLANNING PROCESS PARTICULARLY BY A GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND SPECIFIC COMMUNITIES IN THE EMERGENCY PLANNING PROCESS.**

Summarized by: Arturo Lopez-Portillo emergency planning and mitigation advisor to NEMO

Date: September 25, 2002



## Scenes of Tropical Storm Lili September 23, 2002

Road to Aux Lyon



Dennery Village: Bay Street





Dennery Village (above)

Barre d'Ille

