

No. 110/12/73 - DRC - II

Rawalpindi, October 15, 1975

Mr. Georges Birchler
Chargé d'Affaires of Switzerland
a.i.
Embassy of Switzerland

I s l a m a b a d

Sir,

Referring to the conversations which took place in Islamabad between representatives of the Embassy of Switzerland and of the Government of Pakistan, I have the honour to inform you of the following.

1. Taking into account the efforts of the community of States to strengthen and make more effective international disaster assistance, the Government of Switzerland and the Government of Pakistan have agreed to establish the conditions under which the Swiss Disaster Relief Unit (hereinafter referred to as the Swiss Unit) could be made available by the Swiss Government, upon request of the Government of Pakistan in the event of a natural disaster or a catastrophe of same nature occurring in the territory of Pakistan.
2. The intervention of the Swiss Unit in the territory of Pakistan shall always be decided jointly by the two Governments.

./..

2819

- 2 -

3. The two Governments shall take necessary measures to ensure that the members of the Swiss Unit, together with their equipment, material and relief supplies, are sent promptly to the stricken areas.
4. Visa formalities will not be entirely waived; however, the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Switzerland would be directed to issue visas to the members of the Swiss Unit liberally and promptly. Moreover, members of the Unit would be exempted from registration and reporting of their movements to the police, once they reach Pakistan.
5. The appropriate authorities of Pakistan shall grant the necessary overflight and landing authorizations in respect of aircraft used by the Swiss Unit for the purposes of the relief mission. Such aircraft shall be permitted also to depart from and to land at other airports than custom airports. However, the initial landing of the aircraft would have to be at a custom airport. Details of each flight would be furnished to aeronautical authorities in Pakistan before a flight is undertaken. While relief operations are being carried out, aircraft used by the Swiss Unit shall be considered as admitted temporarily free of customs duty in the territory of Pakistan; no customs entry will therefore be required.
6. The appropriate authorities of Pakistan shall waive import formalities as well as import duties and charges relating to equipment, material and other items brought or consigned by the Swiss Unit for the purposes of the relief mission.
7. The appropriate authorities of Pakistan shall facilitate the use of existing means of tele-communications by the

./..

Swiss Unit or the installation of a relief tele-communications system by such Unit.

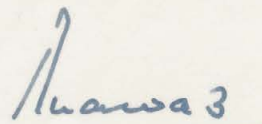
8. The appropriate authorities of Pakistan shall take necessary steps, including the provision of suitable facilities, to enable the members of the Swiss Unit to carry out their tasks in the most efficient manner in the stricken areas.
9. The relief mission to be carried out by the Swiss Unit shall be determined by the appropriate authorities of Switzerland, under the general relief plan of Pakistan, in consultation with the head of the Unit or the person appointed by the Swiss Government. Relief operations entrusted to the Swiss Unit shall be directed by the head of the Unit or by the person appointed by the Swiss Government.
10. Unless otherwise agreed, the costs pertaining to the intervention of the Swiss Unit in the territory of Pakistan shall be borne by the Swiss Government.
11. The foregoing provisions shall be without prejudice to those of multilateral disaster relief agreements in force, or which may enter into force, as between Switzerland and Pakistan.

I would appreciate a letter from you confirming that you concur in the terms set forth above. This letter and your reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, such agreement to be in force for five years from the date of confirmation by the esteemed Ministry; unless it is terminated in writing by either Party at least three months before the end of such period, the agreement will be renewed under the same conditions for additional five years periods.

./..

- 4 -

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Cabinet Division
Government of Pakistan
The Special Secretary :



Mohd. Nawaz

(*Mohammad Nawaz*)
Special Secretary,
Cabinet Division,
Phone: 63515.