Although the majority of the households in Cyclone Nargis-affected areas have returned to their pre-cyclone situation, immediate efforts are still required to address needs in shelter and livelihoods one year after the cyclone, despite progress being made in all sectors. That is the key message of the Periodic Review II launched by the Tripartite Core Group in Yangon today.

Building on the Periodic Review I (PR I), the Periodic Review II report is an analysis of data collected between 7 May 2009 and 2 June 2009 from 2,931 households in 105 communities in the Ayeyarwady and Yangon Divisions. “The findings are presented in three interlinked chapters – Healthy Lives, Productive Lives and Protected Lives – which are in line with the PONREPP. They cover eight sectors: Livelihoods, Shelter, Education, Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Disaster Risk Management, Environment, and Protection and Vulnerable Groups.

The Periodic Review II once again proves that the aid reaching the cyclone-affected people have helped them build back their lives. However, more efforts are needed in order to ‘build back better’, especially in the shelter and livelihoods sectors. Although 87% of households reported returning to their pre-cyclone compounds, 74% of all respondents still considered adequate shelter as one of their most pressing needs. Ninety per cent of the households do not consider their shelter safe from another cyclone. Data from the livelihoods sector show a high unemployment rate among casual labourers of which 90% could be in the agriculture sector. There is also a concern that casual labourers would find fewer jobs with farming families due to the scarcity of capital and farming input in this sector.

The full Post-Nargis Periodic Review II report is available online at: www.asean.org/CN.htm and http://yangon.unic.org

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Note: The Tripartite Core Group (TCG) was officially established on 31 May 2008. It comprises high-level representatives from ASEAN, the Government of the Union of Myanmar, and the United Nations.