



MEMORANDUM

TO: Pastors & Church Boards

FROM: Fraser D. Roberts – General Secretary-Treasurer

RE: Special Missions Appeal – Earthquake Relief (Turkey-Syria)

DATE: February 9, 2023



Photo: Courtesy of ERDO

The General Executive Committee has approved a Special Missions Appeal in response to the aftermath of the earthquakes that occurred in Turkey and Syria. It has been reported that on February 6, 2023, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake and subsequent 7.5 magnitude earthquake was followed by more than 100 aftershocks which continued to cause damage. According to media, it is estimated there are more than 20,000 casualties, making this Turkey's biggest disaster in 100 years.

In response, ERDO has initiated an immediate Emergency Relief effort through its local partners with three (3) mobile hygiene trucks to bring families needed aid, a search and rescue truck which will pick up casualties, and a mobile oven to be used to bring emergency food to affected families. Weather conditions are an issue, with cold and snow impacting the ability to respond. Relief materials such as tents, blankets, clean water, winter clothes, and emergency food are needed.

Donations will be counted toward a global appeal done in partnership with the Humanitarian Coalition, through ERDO's membership with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. This group of charities are working together to bring a much bigger impact to families in both Turkey and Syria. Prayers are being requested for all those affected and for partners involved in the relief effort.

Pastors and Church Boards are encouraged to promote this initiative to our churches. As per usual, all funds should be remitted to the PAONL for tracking and reporting purposes which in turn will be forwarded to ERDO as soon as possible. Please clearly mark funds received as Famine Relief: Turkey-Syria. Your prayerful and financial support of this initiative is greatly appreciated!