SESSION 5 – FLASH ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT TOOL

SCENARIO 1 – AIRPORT

Given the widespread damage to the infrastructure of Sundara, the airport on the edge of Atma is the main receiving point of international aid and supplies. Airlifting operations have been running on a very tight schedule due to recent unfavorable weather. Airlifts have not been possible for the past few days and forecasts predict only a small window of a few days of calm weather before a return of heavy rains and wind. To capitalize on this opportunity, a large backlog of goods was delivered to the airport staging hub and is now sitting in the open awaiting distribution.

Following another strong aftershock, the District Disaster Relief Committee (DDRC) contacted the UNDAC team leader with reports of a possible fuel leak at the airport. The DDRC asks for an assessment of the situation and emphasizes the airport must stay open at all costs. You and your team are sent to the airport to assess the situation and report your findings back to the DDRC.

Upon arrival at the airport, you find the staging hub area and are met by the staging hub manager and a food security cluster representative. The manager asks you to supply some pumps to keep the rain water flowing from the airports storage area from flooding and ruining the aid supplies. You notice water running around the aid and food supplies has a “sheen” to it.

When you examine the airport storage area, you find it consists of the airports fuel tank farm and storage for deicing fluids. You notice one of four large fuel storage tanks appears to be buckled and the containment berm is overflowing with what appears to be a mix of rainwater that filled the berm and fuel as evidenced by an obvious “sheen.”

You know that more rainfall is forecasted for tonight. Hills, valleys, and numerous drainages are in close proximity to the airstrip. These waterways drain into the River Dura, the main river that runs through Atma and is used by locals for drinking water, cleaning and bathing needs. The surface waters are also a source for irrigation and agriculture.

* What are your key findings?
* Who do you coordinate with? How?
* What are your recommendations?