



Her Majesty The Queen sends private donation to storm-ravaged Fiji

The Royal Commonwealth Society welcomes the generous private donation from Her Majesty The Queen to help the people of Fiji suffering in the wake of Cyclone Winston.

Cyclone Winston has caused mass devastation across the islands of Fiji and is the worst natural disaster ever to hit the islands.

The cyclone is the strongest recorded in the area and has left at least 43 people dead, destroyed thousands of homes, and left 62,000 people living in evacuation centres.

Her Majesty today pledged a donation to charities working to help those families affected. The Queen sent the following message to the people of Fiji: “As the people of Fiji recover from the devastating impact of Tropical Cyclone Winston, I send my sincere condolences to those who have lost loved ones. My thoughts are also with those who have seen their homes and property ruined and are starting the hard work of rebuilding. I know how resilient and resourceful the people of Fiji are.”

Director of the Royal Commonwealth Society, Michael Lake, CBE said: “It’s in times of natural disaster such as that caused by Cyclone Winston that it’s so important that the Commonwealth comes together to offer support. As Head of the Commonwealth, Her Majesty’s best wishes and donation will be most gratefully received.”

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

The Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS), founded in 1868, is a network of individuals and organisations committed to improving the lives and prospects of Commonwealth citizens across the world. Working through a range of educational, civil society, business and governmental networks, the RCS addresses issues that matter to the Commonwealth citizens. www.thercs.org

Media Contact:

Carolyn Jack
Carolyn.jack@thercs.org