

Rwanda

## Ministerial Order relating to Assisting Actors and Volunteers in case of Disaster Response

Ministerial Order 1 of 2018

Legislation as at 25 June 2018

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# Ministerial Order relating to Assisting Actors and Volunteers in case of Disaster Response

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## Rwanda

# Ministerial Order relating to Assisting Actors and Volunteers in case of Disaster Response

## Ministerial Order 1 of 2018

Published in Official Gazette 26 bis on 25 June 2018

**Assented to on 21 June 2018**

**Commenced on 25 June 2018**

*[This is the version of this document from 25 June 2018.]*

### **The Minister of Disaster Management and Refugees;**

Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 2003 revised in 2015, especially in Articles 121, 122 and 176;

Pursuant to Law n° 41/2015 of 29/08/2015 relating to disaster management, especially in Articles 15 and 25;

After consideration and approval by the Cabinet, in its session of 11/04/2018;

### **ORDERS:**

## **Chapter One General provisions**

### **Article One – Purpose of this Order**

This Order determines the following:

- 1° modalities to mobilise volunteers and their functioning;
- 2° requirements for disaster assisting actors who seek facilitation in case of disaster.

### **Article 2 – Definitions**

In this Order, the following terms have the following meanings:

- 1° **Minister:** Minister in charge of disaster management;
- 2° **Ministry:** Ministry in charge of disaster management;
- 3° **volunteer:** a natural person who provides services, skills and knowledge for the benefit of other people on voluntary basis and without financial or any other personal gain.

## **Chapter II**

### **Volunteers in case of disasters**

#### **Section One – Mobilisation of volunteers**

##### **Article 3 – Mobilisation of volunteers**

The Ministry cooperates with Districts and the National Platform for Disaster Management to mobilise people working as volunteers in case of disaster response.

##### **Article 4 – Call for volunteers in case of disasters**

The Ministry basing on the needs during disasters, calls volunteers to intervene in the response.

##### **Article 5 – Criteria of selection of volunteers**

To be selected as a volunteer, a person must:

- 1° be at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- 2° have an identity card or any other document to replace it;
- 3° be physically fit;
- 4° accept to work without remuneration.

##### **Article 6 – Duties of a volunteer**

A volunteer has the following duties:

- 1° assist victims of disasters;
- 2° support existing Government efforts to help communities to prepare for disasters, mitigate gravity of disasters, respond and recover from disasters;
- 3° cooperate with other stakeholders intervening in case of disaster response;
- 4° avoid misuse of available resources earmarked for the assistance of a disaster-stricken people;
- 5° subordination;
- 6° consideration of vulnerable people;
- 7° impartiality;
- 8 ° teamwork.

##### **Article 7 – Assignments of volunteers in case of response**

In case of response, volunteers carry out the following assignments:

- 1° to gather information;
- 2° to evacuate people in case of disaster;
- 3° to assess the needs in case of disaster;
- 4° to provide victims with material support;

- 5° to provide victims with medical care;
- 6° to provide victims with psycho-social support;
- 7° to assess needs for recovery and rehabilitation.

## **Section 2 – Functioning of volunteers**

### **Article 8 – Commencement and end of volunteership**

The volunteership begins with disaster response and ends at the end of rehabilitation.

Volunteership also ends when it is no longer needed.

### **Article 9 – Training of volunteers**

The Ministry and Districts, in collaboration with the National Platform for Disaster Management, provide trainings to volunteers to enable them to carry out their duties.

### **Article 10 – Volunteers equipment**

The Ministry and Districts in collaboration with the National Platform for Disaster Management provide volunteers with the necessary equipment to enable them execute their duties.

### **Article 11 – Deployment of volunteers**

Volunteers operate at Cell, Sector, District and at national levels.

At each level, volunteers elect among themselves a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary.

The Ministry and Districts in collaboration, with the National Platform for Disaster Management, establish the volunteer clubs at Cell, Sector, District and at national levels.

### **Article 12 – Response action instructions**

Before commencement of response action, every volunteer is given rules of conduct and modalities for their implementation.

### **Article 13 – Facilitation granted to volunteers**

The Ministry facilitates volunteers in transport, meals and accommodation.

## **Chapter III**

### **Facilitation of assisting actors in case of disaster**

#### **Article 14 – Requirements for assisting actors who seek facilitation**

An assisting actor who seeks facilitation must fulfill the following requirements:

- 1° sufficient knowledge that helps him or her in execution of his or her duties effectively, determined by a degree relating to his or her qualification and an experience in assisting victims of disasters;
- 2° sufficient budget for planned activities and necessary and sufficient equipment to be used during the period of assistance.

**Article 15 – Documents accompanying the letter of application for facilitation**

The letter of application for facilitation must be accompanied by the following documents:

- 1° a copy of identity card;
- 2° a document indicating that the applicant carries out activities related to rescue.

**Article 16 – Modalities of granting facilitation**

If the Minister analyses the application requesting for facilitation and finds it compliant with requirements, he or she requests in writing the competent authority to grant the requested facilitation.

**Chapter IV  
Final provisions****Article 17 – Repealing provision**

All prior provisions contrary to this Order are repealed.

**Article 18 – Commencement**

This Order comes into force on the date of its publication in the Official *Gazette* of the Republic of Rwanda.