



Swiss Re donates CHF 1 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for a water supply project in Ethiopia

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Zurich, 19 March 2008 – On the occasion of this year’s International Water Day on 22 March, Swiss Re is donating CHF 1 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for an infrastructure project in Ethiopia which focuses on providing clean and sanitary water supply to the region’s rural population.

Providing access to clean water, and restored health and sanitation facilities will have a sustainable effect on the livelihood of the population, especially in rural areas. Swiss Re has therefore decided to support the ICRC’s project “Providing clean water in Ethiopia in 2008” with a special donation.

Swiss Re’s donation complements the company’s cooperation with the ICRC as a founding member of the ICRC’s Corporate Support Group, established in 2005. Support of a water-related project also underlines Swiss Re’s Corporate Citizenship commitment to promote sustainable watershed management. Last year, Swiss Re also donated CHF 1 million for an ICRC project in north-western Nepal which provided water supply systems to some 15 000 people, granting them access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.

Peter Forstmoser, Swiss Re’s Chairman of the Board, comments: “Swiss Re considers respect for humanitarian values indispensable to society’s sustainable development. This special donation to the ICRC’s effort to re-establish clean water supply and sanitation systems in areas of tension underlines Swiss Re’s commitment to both humanitarian values and sustainable development.” Swiss Re’s commitment in this field is also expressed by the ReSource Award, an internationally recognised prize for Sustainable Watershed Management, launched by Swiss Re in 2002.

Notes to editors

Swiss Re is a leading and highly diversified global reinsurer. The company operates through offices in more than 25 countries. Founded in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1863, Swiss Re offers financial services products that enable risk-taking essential to enterprise and progress. The company’s traditional reinsurance products and related services for property and casualty, as well as the life and health business are complemented by insurance-based corporate finance solutions and supplementary services for comprehensive risk management. Swiss Re is rated “AA-” by Standard & Poor’s, “Aa2” by Moody’s and “A+” by A.M. Best.