

Statement by the members of the People's Health Movement "MPS-RDC" on the humanitarian situation in the city of Goma - Democratic Republic of the Congo

We, the members of the **People's Health Movement 'MPS-RDC'** - Democratic Republic of Congo, express our deep concern at the humanitarian crisis currently raging in and around Goma.

Background and current situation

Since the beginning of 2025, the city of Goma, eastern DRC (782.000 population) has been faced with an alarming deterioration in the humanitarian situation due to a combination of factors, in particular:

- The intensification of armed conflict in North Kivu, leading to massive displacement of civilians.
- Overcrowding in camps for displaced people, worsening living conditions with limited access to drinking water, sanitation and healthcare.
- Growing food insecurity, caused by supply difficulties and restrictions in agricultural areas.
- A resurgence of epidemics, particularly cholera and measles, exacerbated by the lack of adequate health services.

Humanitarian consequences

The massive influx of displaced people has put pressure on Goma's already fragile health and social infrastructures. Hospitals and health centers are operating beyond capacity, with frequent shortages of essential medicines. Local and international NGOs are struggling to meet the growing needs in the face of insufficient funding.

Our demands

In view of this critical situation, we are calling for

1. An urgent humanitarian response from the Congolese government in support of the Provincial Health Division and international partners to ensure food, health and logistical assistance for the displaced.
2. A strengthening of the health system through an increase in medical resources and the protection of health workers.
3. A greater commitment to peace and security, guaranteeing the protection of civilians and enabling displaced people to return to their homes.
4. Support for local organisations that play a key role in humanitarian assistance, in order to improve the coordination and effectiveness of interventions.

We call on all stakeholders to mobilise immediately to prevent this humanitarian disaster from worsening. The right to health and dignity must be guaranteed for all the inhabitants of Goma and North Kivu.

Goma, February 2025
The members of the Mouvement Populaire
pour la Santé du Peuple ' MPS-RDC