• FIGO is an organisation that brings together professional bodies of obstetricians and
gynaecologists from around the world. It is not a relief or political organisation.

• Armed conflicts and occurrences of natural disaster appear to be increasing year on year.

• FIGO should be supportive of societies affected by instances of armed conflict or natural
disaster that increase the risk to women’s and newborns’ health.

• However, FIGO’s resources – both financial and human – do not realistically enable it to
provide the kind of emergency relief and support required on an urgent basis when
instances of armed conflict or natural disaster occur,

• FIGO can offer to mobilise resources from societies in countries/territories not affected
by the conflict or disaster in question (particularly from societies in high-resource
countries/territories).

• Affected societies should be asked what kind of assistance they need.

• FIGO can assist affected societies in seeking support from WHO, UN and other relief
agencies.

May 2012