

CMC Meeting Minutes
UNHCR Base Camp,
Date: 17/12/2013 - 14:00
Chair: Iris Blom, UNHCR



Key messages:

All new activities in the camp MUST be approved and coordinated with: (a) the government (b) camp management. Camp management will approve requests supported by the relevant sector and if they are cost effective, focused, constructive and have the greatest possible impact. All activities in the camp have an effect on overall security, so it is imperative to go through the correct procedures before commencing any activity in the camp. Any organisation that does not respect this condition will have their permission to operate in the camp revoked by camp management.

Contact Sobia Oberg oberg@unhcr.org or Kilian Kleinschmidt kleinsch@unhcr.org

Actions:

Ref	Actions from previous meetings	Who	When	Done?
Emerging issue				
Security				
2/7	Incident reports should be completed for all incidents, and shared with UNHCR FSA	All	Ongoing	Ongoing
Camp Management				
06/08	Any meetings with refugees should now take place in the shared meeting area in the buffer zone. Pedestrian gate is open.	All	Ongoing	Ongoing
03/09	Agencies planning to have a regular physical presence in the compounds should express their interest to UNHCR camp management	Mohamed Jertila@unhcr.org	Ongoing	
03/09	Base Camp Management: Team Connect Contact details across Please Fill RFO in advance of any issues.	Azmi Alhasany Team Connect azmi@team-connect.co 0798021719		
10/09	Meeting rooms to be booked 48 hours in advance	Irene Omondi omondii@unhcr.org 0796324611		
17/09	Electricity contact	John Simpson simpson@unhcr.org 0796304667		
NFI				
29/10	Press Officer/ External Relations	Andy Needham Needham@unhcr.org 0798175813		
29/10	For Environmental Issues Contact	Thomas Palo palo@unhcr.org 0796320102		
03/12	All agencies planning to distribute any NFI item in the camp must get prior approval from camp management.	Sobia Oberg oberg@unhcr.org 0796324737		

The general security situation was tenser than experienced the past 4 months. Severe weather conditions affected many parts of camp. The week was dominated by several demonstrations due to VAC related issues and winterization (heater and gas distribution). A meeting led by the Camp Manager with key leaders took place in order to address the shortage of gas bottles and other related issues in camp. Securing the governance district compounds by SRCD is still an issue with police as they are in lack of man power. Caravan distribution during next week with around 150 per day will have a positive and direct impact to all refugees in the camp. 18th Dec, 1140hrs (50) refugees demonstrated peacefully in front of base camp demanding blankets, heaters and to find a solution for electricity problems in district (3).

17th Dec, 1500hrs disorder at NRC gas distribution center with over 1000 refugees climbing over fence due to gas bottles shortage, NRC and UNHCR staff relocated to base camp. Darak controlled the situation. 16th Dec, 1300 hrs a group of refugees gathered at the registration south gate demanding solving problems with VAC cards. 16th Dec, 1555hrs a fire erupted in 2 tents at district 11, both tents were burnt completely, 4 refugees were severely injured (3rd level burns), civil defence responded to the incidents and were pushed back by angry refugees who threw stones at 3 vehicles which sustained minor damages.

Contingency planning and Emergency Response: Key agencies prepared and continuously reviewing the joint winter response plan to deal with flooding, rain and snow damage or extreme cold identifying available communal spaces and resources to provide additional assistance.

Heater distribution started on 15 Dec and gas cylinder distribution started on 16 Dec. Many challenges related to gas shortage in Jordan. Gas distribution had to be suspended on 18 Dec as it led to tensions.

The second cycle of food distribution started on 16th Dec. This time it is the full food package as it was given before 3 and then 6 JD vouchers were introduced. This cycle will end on 24th Dec and 25th will be the catch up day. School feeding covered 10,900 students as a higher recorded figure in the three schools in both shifts. Taking into consideration that schools in Za'atari have been off since 12 Dec till now only small amount of date bars distribution on 16th Dec in school 2 and 3. The 1st GFD/Voucher distribution cycle completed on 11th December with covered 77,730 GFD and 79,824 beneficiaries. The daily bread distribution is ongoing in 4 sites for WFP with the average of 19.5 MT covering 81,250 beneficiaries.

Caravans/Shelter: 162 caravans were distributed during the week. 1000 Omani caravans are confirmed to start delivery next Sunday. 600 EJC caravans start arriving next Tuesday. One Body Foundation has committed 2000 caravans to also start Sunday. A new Saudi donor will begin 1000 caravans in the same period; 500 Kuwaiti caravans (40/day) are already arriving through the same channel. No details are available yet on the arrival of the 1000 SNC caravans and 150 from Qatar. The rate of caravan delivery will go up to 200 per day next week.

Site planning: Agreement was made with JEN to continue floodwater dewatering operations over the winter period (on-standby), in coordination with UNHCR.

Infrastructure: MoPWH's contractor started the construction of water trucks parking and returnees bus on east side of the camp. Construction of 5 culverts for camp central drainage completed. Construction of Inter district roads, east road by GIZ and maintenance for the service road is ongoing. WVI informed that road and drainage project in old camp will start within 2 weeks. Physical construction of 8 district compounds is completed.

Electricity: Overloads of electrical system due to electric heaters causing major disruptions continues. Continued discussion with refugee community about issues related to electricity. Failures of distribution cables across the camp in parts of district 1, 2, 10, 12 continue.

WASH: Repair of sewage tanks has completed. More tanks are required. Water supply has dropped down to 20%. Reason can be that as the road repair is still ongoing the trucks are facing challenges to enter the camp.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday 24 December 2013, at Za'atari Base Camp meeting room 4, at 12:00.

