

Zaatari Protection Sector Working Group Meeting
Thursday 22 May 2014
Minutes

Agencies present: NRC, UNHCR, Oxfam, UNICEF, SCI, WCUK, UN Women, WFP.

Agenda:

- 1) Updates from last meeting
- 2) WFP updates
- 3) Protection statistics/ updates
- 4) Presentation of Oxfam perceptions survey
- 5) Protection issues arising within districts
- 6) Research guidance and review of proposals

1) Updates from last meeting

UNHCR electrician updates the group. General problem across the camp – two main approaches. Exposed wires on the ground –mostly in the eastern districts. In the western districts mostly off the ground. Previously, turn off the electricity, if lifted off the ground, electricity turned back on. Part or all of the district is disconnected until wires are lifted from the ground. A consistent message to the refugees is to remove wires off the ground. Infrastructure – new electrical supply infrastructure – brings electricity closer to people’s homes, the distance and length of wires on the ground decreases – so easier to lift off the ground. Infrastructure approach continues. Ringroad lighting in. going to install lighting on internal roads. Incidents are very rare, currently, but these are safety measures.

2) WFP updates (submitted by email)

World Food Programme
Input for Camp Coordination Meeting 20 May 2014

- The 1st distribution cycle of May 2014 was completed on the 4th of May and total of 84,340 beneficiaries has been fed through GFD and 84,298 received vouchers according to SCI distribution reports
- The 2nd cycle of may started on the 18th of May to cover around 93,579 according to UNHCR manifest
- WFP reduced the daily bread quantity from 20.200MT to 19.600 MT to cover the camp needs
- School feeding Programme is ongoing in three schools in Za’atari; the highest number of distribution in both shifts during the reporting period was 10,904.
- WFP continue distributing welcoming meal packages in Roba Al Sarhan reception center along with 2KG of Dates.
- The four CBOs listed below pending a financial review effective immediately with the distribution cycle starting 18 May.
 - Aisha Ummul Momneen Association for Orphans’ Care
 - Al-Haramain Al-Sharefian Charitable Association

- Za'atri Cooperative Association
- Za'atri Sports Club

This means that the four CBOs will not be able to accept WFP vouchers until their financial documentation and accounts have been examined by an accounting firm.

3) Protection statistics/updates

Raba Sarhan / new arrivals updates

- 2,079 individual processed in Raba during the reporting period (19% decrease compare to previous week). 87% new arrival and 17% re-entry which shows increase in the re-entry compare to last week.
- 53% are children.
- 93.4% entered through eastern border crossings.
- Area of origin: 36.1% from Dar'a, 15% from Aleppo, 14.8% from Homs, 8.8 from Ar-raqqa and 7% from Rural Damascus Governorates.
- Cumulative as at May 17, 2014: 53,484 individuals cumulative processed in Raba since the opening date (29 December 2013) - 10% re-entry and 90% new-arrivals.
- Summary accumulative population in Azraq as at 17 May:
 - Total population: 5,597
 - Place of origin: Dar'a 28.3%, Aleppo 20.0%, Homs 14.9%, Rural Damascus 8.5%, Ar-raqqa 8.3%
 - Total children: 54.9%

Other updates

- Birth certificates received from Civil Registry so far: 997, including 466 from the government exemption)
- Government-organised returns: 548

Zaatari verification updates (cumulative)

- 113,629 individuals have been totally called for verification since Jan. 28.
- 80,700 individuals have been totally processed as at May 19, 2014.
- 72,595 are active and 8,105 individuals have been totally inactivated since the starting date. This makes so far 10% of verified inactivated. In addition to this, 18,755 have been so far inactivated as they did not show up after 10 days from the initial scheduled interview and their documents have been sent back to Raba. This brings the total cumulative inactivations to 23.6%.
- As of today, 6,021 individuals are on hold, pending inactivation, which happens 10 days after the initial no-show date.
- 57.6% of the active individuals are children.
- 14,467 (19.9%) under 5 years old cumulative active processed.
- The SRAD backlog remains about 7,600 individuals.

4) Oxfam perceptions survey

(see attached presentation)

The key findings will be discussed at the next meeting, and solutions discussed by the ZPSWG. Partners to identify three key issues to discuss at the next meeting. A service guide is still under development, and Chair will ask for the latest draft of the new arrivals leaflet.

A central finding of the survey was that there is a lack of trust between humanitarian personnel and the refugee community in Zaatari. One of the major recommendations of the Oxfam report is to increase visibility and accessibility of district teams within the districts, to help foster closer and more trusted relationships between the community and ngos.

The district meeting schedules are distributed to the CMC mailing list.

5) District team – protection issues

Hester Clark, UNHCR Field Officer, presented a list of protection issues arising in the districts, on which the district teams require guidance from the ZPSWG. Issues included:

- water supply
- access to services to minorities in the camp (next meeting)
- bestiality in the camp
- protection cases brought to the authorities that result in refoulement
- asylum seeker certificates rather than ration cards
- early marriage preferring not to register for fear of refoulement or not being placed on the same ration card.

6) Research guidance

The development of the research guidance is ongoing, and will be circulated at the next meeting. The ZPSWG agreed to create a small Research Proposals Review Committee. Martha Mellum (NRC), Geeta Kuttiparambil (UN Women), Majida Rasul (

Action point	Who is responsible?
Share Oxfam Powerpoint and report	Chair
Identify three key issues from the Oxfam report, and bring them to the next ZPSWG meeting	Partner
Circulate district meeting schedule	Chair
Circulate UNCHR contact list for complex protection cases	Chair