# Minutes of the Health Working Group Meeting

# 23 March 2021 via zoom

* **Agenda**

1. Welcome & Introduction

2. Updates by partners (3W)

3. Assessments and what's next? - Presentation: Save the Children International

4. What are we doing in NK?

5. COVID-19 update

6. AoB

# Attendance

* The meeting was attended by 15 members from different partner organizations:

Save the Children International, WHO, AUA, IOM, OCHA, MDM, ICRC, UNHCR, World Bank, UNDP.

* The meeting was chaired by WHO and MoH

# Introduction and Partner updates (related to health):

* IOM represented by Nune Asatryan

Providing primary health care as well as MHPSS services to affected population via two mobile clinics, 40000 people were screened, free of charge blood analyses for hormons were carried in Izmirlyan Clinic for further treatment in primary health centers. Continous work on health compaign.

* ICRC represented by Gegham Petrosyan

Activities related to MHPSS in Syunik Marz will start in mid-April. Ongoing activities with

assessment hold due to increase in spread of Covid.

* OCHA represented by Fernando

Negotiations continue with high level partners for access to NK. Still no substantial

progress on it.

* MdM represented by Elsa Flipon

Planned a new training for front line health workers, also new trail of ToT. Open to further hand over of Help the helper activities to interested representatives from mental health cluster. (bilateral discussion with Lidiia to follow) Mapping services available in Armavir, Ararat, Kotayk and Yerevan areas.

* UNDP represented by Anna Gyurjyan

Pilot of mobile clinic service in Amasia region will be finalized and report on it will be shared. The efforts could have chances for replication in other regions as well.

* MoH by Gabriel Tepelikyan

A joint project was implemented with UNDP aiming to assess capacities of primary health care facilities in Armenia. The report will be released in 2-3 weeks.

300-400 repetitive positive Covid cases were spotted.

The identifications of corps of soldiers via DNA analyses will be completed in the coming week, the searches of bodies or fragments in NK continues.

* **HIGHLIGHTS**
  + **Presentation by Iren Sargsyan from Save the Children International “NK Rapid Needs assessment”** (shared in Dropbox **– for our eyes only!)**
* **What are we doing in NK?** Discussion around who is doing what, access, proxy projects, local partners. The access to NK remains critical and not achievable for most of the partners in the group.
  + *Organizations with access to NK:*

ICRC, MSF – health, Save the Children Int., , Teach for Armenia-education, Halo Trust-clearing landmines

* + **The number of spontaneous arrivals from NK in Armenia** is subject to various discussions, sometimes with big difference in numbers, NK reports 24.400 individuals and respective sources in Armenia report slightly over 65.000. No final data on this since the number is progressively changing due to returns to NK.
* **COVID-19 UPDATE** 
  + **COVID-19 update** we are moving towards a third wave (are already in it), the numbers of confirmed cases are growing, large scale of community transmission is observed, no variances have been sequenced in Armenia yet, however, this does not mean it has not entered the country. (shared in Dropbox)
* **ADMINISTREATIVE PART**
* All partners are highly encouraged to visit dropbox and elaborate on their activities in our internal 4Ws, this is important since it is planned to prepare a visual map of all activities.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/zgwouue8aoun59h/AACIgyVYOp_xpEzVRVy5Yme4a?dl=0>

* Time for gradually putting together 5Ws and sitrep templates for IA reporting by partners for **March.** Suggestions on format are welcome.
* WHO offers Armenian printed posters (MoH approved) about correct mask wearing. Posters available for pick up by anyone.
* **AoB**
* Preparedness was mentioned at the HWG evaluation: Ask to partners to elaborate; Contingency planning and preparedness is something that often lacks behind in organisations and at (health care) facilities. Preparedness is cheap compared to response!
  + ICRC has done pre-assessment and maybe some activities will be taken towards this in the future.
* **Sitrep for February** is finally out! (uploaded to dropbox)
* **IOM and UNICEF received funds from Japan**, new projects shall be be rolled out, IOM plans rehabilitation of 3 Community collective Centers.

**A good week to all!**