

## Health Sector Working Group

### July 2023 Meeting

### Minutes of Meeting

**Date:** 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Place:** UNHCR Amman Branch Office

**Chaired by:** Adam Musa Khalifa (UNHCR) and Saverio Bellizzi (WHO).

**Attendees:** Rasha Shoumer (IOM), Merza Abubaker (Medair), Alaa Aljawabreh (CDE), Jamal Abu Hantash (SAMS), Sawsan Nooman Khalaf (IOCC), Tala Dabbas (JHAS), Ali Al-Gharabli (UNFPA), Isra'a Abujamouse (SCJ), Ibraheem Abu-Siam (UNHCR), Ala'a Al-Shaikh (WHO), Ahmad Bawaneh (IMC), Nisreen Aljaridi (ICRC), Gharam Abu Qurs (IRWJ), Basheer Al-Qaseer (AMR), Ehab Theyban (IMC), Rami Hijazeen (UNICEF), Hosam Hassan (CVT), Ala'a Abu Salhiyeh (JRC), Bayan Abu Kwaik (Health Appeal), Baraa Odeh (HI), Dina Jardaneh (UNHCR) and Hiba Abu Zaghlan (UNHCR).

#### **Major Discussion Points and Action Points:**

##### Action Points from June and July meetings:

- WHO to share the draft budget for the measles outbreak response with HSWG members to hear their feedback and share it with MOH collectively. – not shared yet, draft budget was shared with MOH before dissemination (non-selective vaccination campaign most probably to take place in September)
- UNHCR to share outcome of Global Consultation on the Health of Refugees and Migrant Workers with HSWG members. – received from Geneva recently and will be shared shortly.

##### WHO:

- WHO provided a brief on the Refugee and Migrant Health System Assessment Initiative with MOH, that had the objective of supporting the development of informed and evidence-based health interventions that build on existing capacities and opportunities. The presentation talked about the strengths, areas of improvement, and preliminary recommendations for different areas; Health Systems, Public Health Emergency, RCCE, and Research, in addition to further recommendations.

##### UNHCR:

- UNHCR Stressed on budget cuts that are affecting both urban and camp refugees, with a 20% budget reduction expected next year. This will affect health programming in Jordan.
- There are ongoing talks with MoH on reducing the price of the hemodialysis sessions to 30 JODs, however there might still be an issue with MoH capacity to absorb these new patients.

##### IMC – MHPSS:

- There has been an increased number of suicides attempts by refugees due to reduced support from UN agencies and other NGOs.

- WHO and IMC usually take the lead on updating the 4Ws, now they are looking towards expanding into CBOs and focus more on what MOH and MOSD are doing in terms of provision of MHPSS services. This exercise is still in its early stages but was announced among the WG members.
- There have been some initiatives taken by MHPSS actors in the camp to educate and train organizations providing MHPSS on integration of services and on using IASC's newly announced tool for suicide prevention.
- WHO announced some tools that can help with MH and integrate them with primary healthcare services.
- Regarding the MOI-announced law on criminalizing suicide attempts, with the National Council For Family Affairs, IMC are trying to provide training for court judges on how to identify MH cases and refer them. In order to issue a reduced punishment that offer referral to available mental health treatment/ support centers.

#### UNFPA:

- IYCF WG meeting will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August for July.
- UNFPA in collaboration with other actors have conducted the second workshop on Social Determinants of Health Integration and Equity for SRH Programming focusing on maternal mortality, specifically on the First Delay. The research's objective is to address social determinants when it comes to maternal mortality that will advise policy makers on how to address Maternal Mortality.
- UNFPA are conducting a regional review on testing how MOH responds to SRH during emergencies.
- World Bank are conducting an assessment with MoPIC on JORISS system, they will reach out to HSWG members to hear their feedback on using the system.

#### UNICEF:

- There is a new JFDA regulation now that plumpy'sup is being handled by drug, and not food, directorate which has caused issues with releasing the shipments. UNFPA are working with other actors; IMC, UNHCR and WFP regarding this issue. UNFPA expects that by mid-August they will have it released. In the meantime, WFP are advocating for the use of the date bar for at least one month until approvals are issued.

#### IMC:

- July: more than 13,000 PHC consultations and more than 12,000 emergency consultations were provided in the camps, around 1,100 MH consultations were provided inside and outside the camps. 15,000 acute health consultations and 2,400 chronic health consultations were provided inside the camps.
- Azraq hospitals: there were 232 admissions, 62% of these were for deliveries.
- Referrals: 872 referrals were done from both camps, while there were 234 ER obstetric referrals.

#### IOM:

- In the past three months, IOM has conducted 6,000 health assessments, 3,500 refugees were resettled to over countries, mostly to USA. 15 MAF cases were assessed, which brings the total number in 2023 to 62.
- IOM provided medications and NCD support services to around 300 patients.
- 26 medical escorts travelled with complicated cases to ensure their safe arrivals.
- Regarding H2 services, a tabletop exercise was done for Jabr Port of Entry in collaboration with Jordan CDC and MOH, to test SOPs and Public Health Response Plan to Communicable Diseases, MOI attended this training and stressed on staff on the need to adhere with the SOPs.
- IOM previously did a population activity across the border for truck drivers and now there are plans to conduct the same training for medical tourists.
- IOM did a training for MOH and CDC to help them analyze the data that was collected from the first activity.

#### CDE:

- Consultations are being done to screen children for the cardiac mission in August.
- CDE have started collecting cases for lower limb surgeries for a mission in September.
- CDE are doing a partnership with 10 CBOs and CSOs in Amman, Irbid, Mafraq, Ajloun to start conducting awareness sessions related to DDH on a monthly basis.
- CDE will conduct a monthly screening campaign for babies 1 day to 20 months old, which will include consultation, physical examination, examination by ultrasound and provide treatment plans accordingly.
- CDE will support MOH in activating and applying the DDH screening protocols, with trainings targeting MOH doctors are expected in November.
- CDE will initiate a project related to Congenital Cardiac Disorders.

#### Islamic Relief:

- Islamic Relief covered the costs of hemodialysis sessions for Azraq Camp patients for one month, while they continue to support Zaatari Camp patients till 15<sup>th</sup> August.
- There are upcoming missions to provide medical equipment, dental mission, among others.
- IR are in the data collection phase for the campaign for PWD and are now accepting referrals.
- IR are supporting 10 urban cases with hemodialysis till the end of the year.

#### ICRC:

- On Detention, a Circulation was issued from MOH that validated the formulation of a fixed committee consisting of representatives from MOH, District Health Offices and the Correctional Rehabilitation Centers Directorate to have monthly joint visits to the prisons until mid-2024.
- In prisons, ICRC are working on implementation of Hakeem. This was done in previous years in Al Bashir and Suwaqa, and there was an agreement with MOH to implement it in three new locations hopefully by the end of 2023. It will be implemented in Marka, Zarqa and Juwaida Women prisons.
- On Detention, ICRC have finalized the hunger strike medical protocols and it was approved by MOH and MOI and should be finalized and launched shortly.

- On Family of Missing Persons, ICRC provide mental health support for families of missing people through an integrated approach that include protection, legal, and administrative assistance. There are plans to scale up on the number of families assisted, for this year the target is around 220 families, and for next year around 240. Clinical cases are being referred to IMC.
- Reduction of budget is expected, and the focus will be on Detention and Family of Missing Persons.