



Protection  
Working Group

## Meeting Minutes 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016

# Protection Working Group Jordan

**Agencies present: ARDD-Legal aid, DRC, FCA, IMC, IOM, NICCOD, NRC, IRD, JCLA, UNOPS, UNRWA, UNWOMEN, WFP, NCFA, VDT, QUESTSCOPE, Swiss Agency for Dev., MPDL, NHF, TDHI, UNFPA and UNHCR**

### AGENDA:

- **Updates:**
  - **Urban Verification**
  - **Situation At the boarder/Berm**
- **Emerging Issue: Work Permits**
- **JHF Proposal Review Panel – Selection of Members**
- **NCFA Presentation on the National Protection Technical Committee**
- **Agencies Announcements**
- **AoB**

#### 1. Updates:

**Urban Verification Exercise:** The Syrian identity document return process which is part of the UVE remains on hold due to ongoing work by GoJ/UNHCR at Rabaa Al Sarhan to organize remaining documents. The document return process has been on hold for much of the last month although it is hoped to be able to resume in June.

As of early May the GoJ has issued 342,270 new MoI as part of the UVE, of which 329,000 are to registered UNHCR refugees in host communities. There remains no change in UVE parameters and UHCR registered refugees must hold an Asylum Seeker Certificate (ASC) to enable them to start the process. Registered refugees who left the camp after 14 July 2014 without a bail out are unable to regularize their status in host communities.

**Situation at the border/Berm:** Sector chair updated members on figures, scaling up of assistance and protection services including registration that are ongoing at the Berm. An increase in the numbers of new arrivals was recorded since 9 March to Azraq refugee camp (up to 300 persons per day) with ongoing discussions amongst operational partners at both camp and Amman level in relation to new arrivals support and Village 5.

#### 2. Emerging Issue: Work Permits:

Participants discussed the latest developments with regards to the waiver of fees for three months and some administrative procedures for Syrian nationals to apply for work permits. UNHCR shared some basic FAQs in the last month.

Members shared some perspectives and analysis from the field noting obstacles regarding the overall regulatory framework (i.e. work permits connected to an employer, obligation of employer to pay social security, quota systems in terms of Jordanian and Syrians etc) and fears of some refugees to lose their ability to access humanitarian assistance. The situation with regard to registered Syrian refugees in camps is also unclear in terms of whether they can apply and leave the camps to access outside employment opportunities.

The PWG noted the need to strengthen coordination with the Livelihoods WG given the protection implications for the latest livelihoods developments.

**Action Points:**

PWG co-chairs to approach and strengthen coordination with Livelihoods WG. PWG members to continue to share information and analysis on challenges faced by Syrian refugees.

**3. JHF Proposal Review Panel – Selection of Members**

Sector Coordinators called for volunteers to be part of the projects proposal reviewing committee (UNOCHA guidelines require at least 2 UN Agency members and 2 NGO who have not submitted proposals in addition to sector gender focal points).

A number of agencies nominated themselves during the meeting. The final committee is UNHCR, UNWOMEN, IOCC, and AVSI.

Sector gender focal points: MPDL and The American Refugee Committee.

**Action Point:**

Reviewing committee panel to meet on Wednesday 11th of May to review Protection Sector proposals.

**4. NCFA Presentation on the National Protection Technical Committee**

National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) protection officer gave a brief presentation about the NCFA organization mission, vision and objectives, a summary on some of the NCFA initiatives like the national framework for family protection in 2016, Accreditation and Quality Assurance System for Family Violence Services in Jordan that was developed in 2014 and the Family Violence Automated Tracking System was introduced during the presentation.

The national protection technical committee is Family Protection Technical Sub-Coordination Committee (PTC) under the umbrella of the National Team of Family Protection (FPT) in Jordan aims to provide a forum for coordination and collaboration between all actors working at the policy level, and national and international organizations working on the technical level (field level) on protection issues

The scope of the work includes the prevention and response to protection issues in Jordan, the membership of that committee Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Labor (MoL) Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), Ministry of Health (MoH), Family Protection Department (FPD) NCFA, UNICEF, UNHCR and UNFPA. The committee may invite international and/or national organizations to attend as needed in order to discuss any related matters within the committee's scope

Committee meetings will be held on a monthly basis, and will be scheduled on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in order to ensure that discussions will feed into the meetings of the FPT

For more information or to view the NCFA publication please visit [www.ncfa.org.jo](http://www.ncfa.org.jo)

## **5. Agencies Announcements:**

### **Footballs Available from United Muslim Relief –**

UMR has received a donation of several thousand footballs, which they would like to distribute through PWG members working with refugees and Jordanian host community members. They are particularly interested in **providing footballs to support efforts towards improving peaceful coexistence** – any agency interested or for more information, please contact Ahmad Al-Ahmar at UMR, +962 78 9880 952 / [aalahmar@umrelief.org](mailto:aalahmar@umrelief.org) for details.

### **German Jordan University – Postgraduate Program**

Professional Diploma in Social Work: Migration and Refugees (PDSMR): GJU Associate Professor Department of Social Work made an announcement the PDSMR a specialized postgraduate programme focusing on treating the challenges of refugees and migration. It offers an understanding of refugees and migrants in context of conflicts and socio-political change. In addition, the program brings together national, regional and international aspects and perspectives to encompass the current pressing issues of .refugees

The programme, comprises five months of structured academic teaching and training. 120 days of .assessed practice learning — during this time you will be supervised on job – if working - or as interns in .governmental or nongovernmental / voluntary organization

Course will start on 8th May – 22nd June 2016 in GJU Amman

For further information on Professional Diploma in Social Work: Migration and Refugees (PDSMR) - applications, tuition fees, requirements interties, and course lines – members to contact Dr. Sahar Makhamreh. - E-Mail: [sahar.makhamreh@ju.edu.jo](mailto:sahar.makhamreh@ju.edu.jo).

**Next PWG meeting will be on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2016**