

Health Working Group (HWG) Syrian, African and Iraqi Refugee Response in Egypt Meeting minutes

Date: September 8th 2015

Time: 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Venue: UNHCR Cairo- Zamalek Office, Conference Room

Co-Chair(s): Hani Fares - (UNHCR), Ashraf Azer - (UNHCR)

Participants:

(Gasser Al Kareem) - **WHO**; (Eman El Tahlawy), (Ahmed Bayad), (Nevine Dous) - **UNICEF**; (Mona Attia), - **UNHCR**; (Huda Ali) - **UNFPA**; (Magdy Francis) - **Caritas**; (Amany Sadek) - **MSF**; (Heidi Goubran), (Ahmed Abdel Rahman) - **IOM**; (Magdy Eissa) - **AMU**; (Diaa Tahoun), (Ahmed Sabbah) – **MOH**; (Lucia Oliveira) – **ACF**; (Sali Hatez) – **SCF**; (Sabine Larnbeau) – **Stars**; (Ruma Fanous), (Mona Elhalaby) – **EFRR**;

Agenda:

1. Brief on UNHCR medical assistance criteria.
 2. 2016 upcoming 3RP preparedness.
 3. Announcement of anti-polio & measles national immunization campaign.
 4. AOB.
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Summary of the Minutes:

1- Brief on UNHCR medical assistance criteria:

- This UNHCR presentation touched on the priorities of the UNHCR and also showed the strategic objective for the current period of 2014-2018.
 - A prioritized list of the health care services that UNHCR Egypt provides was also included in the presentation. The list included the following categories:
 - Primary health care
 - Emergency, secondary, and tertiary health care
 - Health care for detainees and victims of human trafficking
 - In line with the services offered a brief description of the criteria for assistance at different levels was presented, these levels included
 - Primary Curative care
 - Chronic diseases
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- Specialized referral care with three levels of approval
- Emergencies and inpatient services
- Partners are encouraged to list challenges that they have been facing.

2- 2016 upcoming 3RP preparedness:

- This UNHCR presentation gives an overview of 3RP so far in 2015 and looks ahead to next year.
- The presentation showed funding allocation by agency, region and by sector.
- The guiding principles of the 3RP were reiterated and include the following points;
 - National ownership should be strengthened and encouraged.
 - Resilience plans and supporting evidence should be better articulated.
 - Budgets should be realistic and credible.
 - M&E and Financial Tracking needs to be improved.
 - Sectors should be assisted to better coordinate and implement programming on the ground.
 - Outreach to and engagement with non-traditional donors and partners should be expanded.
- A quick comparison was given to highlight the differences between the refugee component and the resilience component in 3RP.
- Looking to the future the regional objective for 2016 are included;
 - Improve access to quality PHC.
 - Ensure access to life saving secondary health care and Tertiary health care.
 - Strengthen the national system.
 - Strengthen community based health Response.

3- Announcement of anti-polio & measles national immunization campaign:

- This campaign will target children from the age of 9 months to 10 years.
- The target is 23 million children country wide, including Egyptian and Non-Egyptian children.
- The immunization units will be in fixed locations.
- One shot will be administered in the arm, there will be a 3 week period to receive immunizations once they start.
- There is a tentative start date but media coverage will be present as well as a Ministry of Health press release as well as a community outreach plan.

Others:

Next HWG meeting will convene on:

Date: Tuesday, 27th of October, 2015

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: UNHCR office in Zamalek.