

## **CwC Meeting 23 February 2016**

### **Minutes**

**Chair:** Internews

**Round of Introduction:** BdM (Better days for Moria), Internews, ActionAid, MSF, Red Cross, Humanity Crew, Oxfam, DRC, Mercy Corps, Save the Children, IRC.

### **Follow ups:**

1. Oxfam: Assessments have been frozen for now until they pass and see if there is sufficient buying of it from the authorities in Moria. Red Cross items included on NFIs in the tent of Oxfam pointing things that are available.
2. Internews: Radio show started with two different organisations already. If any partner organisation is interested please contact Maria Karpodini from Internews. The radio station is called Aiolos (92.8 FM).

### **Round of updates:**

**BdM:** They are putting up a large colourful welcome sign on the Olive Grove side in Moria in different languages and refugees are painting it. The info board is up and if anyone is interested in putting up information please communicate with Camilla from BdM.

**Internews:** There has been very positive feedback on the radio shows, both from NGOs and from the local community (audience). People are asking a lot of questions and it seems to be working. Audio packages are ready and Internews apologises for the delay. A lot of audio messaging can be applied in different situations and are easy to extract and get separately so anyone can use them as a resource. The script will be uploaded on the shared drive.

**-Action Aid:** Signs of products they distribute of NFIs have been set and put up in collaboration with Oxfam.

**-MSF:** Thanks Internews for the radio show. Mantamados written version of the audio messaging will be prepared, printed and distributed in strategic places where refugees can see them in the site.

**-RC:** The "Walkie-Talkie" program has been finalized for Apanemo site. The PS (psychosocial) program in English and Arabic will be ready this week. They started promoting the RFL program. Messages from the RC rescue teams at the shoreline with info in Arabic to calm down people in the response of boat arrivals are being prepared. Meeting with the Hellenic Coast Guards has been set for approval of this messaging on their boats and in the shoreline to be distributed through a megaphone with a USB stick. The previously circulated communities' engagement document in Greek has been corrected and will be distributed once again.

**-Humanity Crew:** Continuing the Arabic lessons in Pikpa that are open for all and everyone is welcome to join. Update on having signs with useful Arabic terms on the shoreline with boat arrivals-this has changed since other organisations will take care of it. However HC will put the psychosocial aspect of this kind of messaging at the placards signs that are being prepared. They will do a movie night-screening of two Palestinian movies in Pikpa which are candidates for this years Oscar awards. Everybody is welcome to join.

**-IRC:** Working on the information kiosks in the sites.

**-Save the Children:** Will start engaging more with the CwC at a national level so staff will move to Athens. Nutrition consultants are on the island for information on young children feeding practices and behavioural communication packages and promotion of no formula distribution. If anyone sees distribution of formula please refer it to Save the Children.

**-DRC:** They request to talk with the municipality concerning the issue of the local busses. More information on the schedules, if there is any hotline as to get an idea in general of their capacities. Also there should be a set-up of a meeting since a lot of volunteers have had bad experiences with the constant frustration of the bus drivers. An idea would also be to share the existing audio messages on those buses too. They are getting tickers for the ticket numbers display concerning registration in Moria that will be in a digital version. The PA system should be set by the end of this week for the audio messages in Moria. They requested an updated ferry schedule of March from Internews.

**-Oxfam:** They are hoping to recruit information officers. Where can they get verified information? The UNHCR data website but also as Internews replied information can be found on different sources from different partner organisations. Are there any guides on people's rights? UNHCR has a leaflet on Asylum etc. Internews can circulate it around the partner organisations. Oxfam is launching a voucher program for access to restaurants near the port not only for food but also for a warm shelter. Developing a leaflet to disseminate key messages and information.

#### **AoBs:**

**-BdM:** Water still cut off in Afghan Hill. MSF and IRC are helping to restore it hopefully by Friday. The authorities from Moria that cut it off said "The services of BdM are no longer needed".

**-University of the Aegean:** It is a point of reference for many and various groups that are provided by the University of the Aegean in Lesvos. Many students volunteer and work for the organisations on the island and are available to help. The university would like to have a better idea on how the whole thing/response to the refugee crisis work and how it can support. There is a clear problem and gap with communication and the point of view of the Greek people in the provision of help and support to the refugees since there is a clear problem on the ground and they can assist in finding ways of dealing with these issues. The university can help and they are trying to find out how. Internews suggested a meeting with the university that would be a first step to start familiarizing with each other. The cultural technology department with a lot of people specializing in these activities could help in many ways and things could be done. Also the university has a radio.

**-BdM:** On 27 February the International Refugee March day will be also held in Lesvos like all across Europe to promote and ask for safe passages for the refugees.

**-Humanity Crew:** Refugees try to describe what happens to them with the buses in the Greek mainland. Food distribution was kept from them by the bus drivers in some cases. Buses leave them in the middle of nowhere while boarding the buses from the Piraeus port to Idomeni. Borders that are now closed should be communicated to the refugees before they board the ferries here in Lesvos so not for them to buy direct tickets from Lesvos to the Greek-Macedonian border. All organisations should communicate with the refugees about the changing situations on the borders. Save the Children replied that they inform them and mostly warn them of the big issues and risks they might face at the borders or during the route to the borders. BdM said that it is difficult to give them information since things change constantly with the authorities at the Pireus port. Furthermore they say that the refugees cannot rely on getting information online since lately there is no WIFI and coverage in Moria, so they have to be informed face to face. DRC confirms that there are a lot of

people in Athens that stay for long periods of months and face a lot of problems with drugs and smugglers.

-Internews: Introduced Sue Folger the new team leader of the project in Lesvos and asked to the partner organisations that if there are any ideas or organisations they know in Germany to please share them with the team of Internews that will be continuing/expanding the project in Germany.

-RC: Asked about the boxes for feedback and accountability that were in previous meetings discussed to be placed in the camps. Oxfam replied that they are talking with UNHCR and trying to get permission from the local authorities on placing them in Moria and Kara Tepe.