

**Winter Cash MEB Meeting
Athens, Greece**

Date:	26 July 2016	
Participants:	Mercy Corps, CRS, UNHCR, DRC, Diakonie-katastrophenhilfe, CARE (inputs sent separately)	
Co-Chair:	Rami Beirkdar CRS, Carla Lacerda UNHCR	
Agenda:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items in Standard Winter Package (e.g. which ones to monetize and which to keep in-kind) • Winter MEB top-up amounts (e.g. for cash transfers) • Duration and Frequency (e.g. monthly or one-off) • AOB 	
Summary of Agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Winter Task Force to be created. NFI/ Shelter WGs started compiling a list of items with equivalent monetized amounts from previous winter. ○ Winter MEB was agreed at 200 EUR one-off per person to cover four months (November 2016-February 2017) – consider two offs of 100 EUR. ○ Thermal blankets will NOT be monetized as there are over 100,000 of them in stocks/ warehouses from previous winter. ○ UNHCR family tent winterisation kit (including a tent liner, partition, chimney sleeve, insulating floor mats and floor protection for a stove/oven – actual heating source NOT included) will also NOT be monetized. 	
Agenda item(s):	Discussions:	Action points:
1. Items in Standard Winter Package	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleeping Bag • Raincoat • Scarf • Jacket • Covered Shoes • Warm socks • Gloves • Fleece • Insulating Floor Mat • Plastic sheeting Tarpaulin • Rubber Boots/ Wellingtons • Hats (beanie type) • Thermal underwear • Onesies (for babies) • Food increase • Blankets (in-kind) • Winterization kits (in-kind) • Heating (in-kind and provided by site) • Flooring (services provided in site and in-kind) • SPHERE food standards for winter e.g. from 2,100 kcal to 2,400 kcal <p>See SPECS attached WASH/ NFI/ SHELTER WGs MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE COMPOSITION OF BASIC NEEDS KITS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All agencies to align to this Standard Winter Package (cash and in-kind). • Food WG to input Food MEB for winter.

<p>2. Winter MEB top-up amounts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Items add up to a rough calculation of 200 EUR per person (adult/ child) for a duration of 4 months. Newborns between 0-24 months will be provided with 50% of that per individual. • The following items will not be included in the winter top-up of the multi-purpose cash MEB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ thermal blankets (high stocks of UNHCR blankets), ○ UNHCR family tent winterisation kit (including a tent liner, partition, chimney sleeve, insulating floor mats and floor protection for a stove/oven [actual heating source NOT included]), ○ raised insulated timber tent/RHU flooring as used for winterisation 2015/16 – Sub floor structural frame (e.g. recycled timber palettes) with 1 x layer of 3 – 5 cm foam insulation + top layer of hard flooring – minimum 12 mm thick (e.g. Oriented Strand Board), ○ internal heating source (both devise and fuel). • The reasons for this are as agreed by consensus between the Shelter NFI WG and CWG below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ current context of a predominantly stabilised population; most of whom who have already received at least one direct distribution of thermal blankets ○ environmental and fire safety impact of excessive ‘blanket’ distributions of thermal blankets – example for former issue being the landfill waste on Lesvos and latter where PoC use blankets for ad hoc privacy screens between shelters. ○ there is currently a huge stock of UNHCR blankets in country (over 150,000 medium thermal and over 12 000 high thermal) and it would be best to set 50 000 aside as a contingency winterisation stock for needs-based distributions dependant on site + shelter context. ○ the current intention among humanitarian actors, in support of the MoMP, is for tented camps nominated for long-term occupancy to be replaced with containerised accommodation by November/December, inclusive of adequate thermal protection during winter. ○ for sites that will remain tented, both the family tent winterisation kit and the raised insulated flooring solution requires a skilled professional to achieve their implementation – therefore a simple swap for cash value will not suffice. ○ The Greek Government has received specific funding from the EU to cover utility bills for the added PoC population and thus ECHO will not be supporting the payment of electricity, gas and water supply etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agencies to harmonize cash top-up amounts for winter (e.g. 200 EUR per person one-off for 4 months – 0-24 month olds receive 50%).
<p>3. Duration and Frequency (e.g. monthly or one-off)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly, one-offs and two-offs were considered. • One-off was decided for two simple reasons: (1) in order to allow POCs to purchase their winter needs in one go at the beginning of winter and (2) ease of delivery/ distribution for all (plus less transaction costs). Two-off might be re-considered to mitigate any risks of e.g. smuggling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate this in the cash SOP (e.g. top-up are for pre-registered individuals receiving monthly MPGs)
<p>4. AOB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECHO proposals will need to have harmonized amounts. • A Winter Task Force needs to be created to ensure standards and coverage is coordinated. • Consider potential rental amounts for people living in tented sites after January 2017. Expectations that people will be living out of camps by no later than November-December 2016. • Discuss contingency planning stocks for unexpected harsh winter/ weather conditions and deterioration of site conditions. • Check meteorological organization for temperature and altitude maps. • Liaise with UNHCR Geneva Winter Cell. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Inter-Agency/ Inter-Sector Winter Task Force to be created.