

MINUTES –National Refugee Protection Working Group (NRPWG)

Date	27 th June 2019	Venue	UNHCR
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening remarks (OPM and UNHCR) • Review of previous minutes • Protection Updates • Briefing on Call for Expression of Interest by UNHCR Programme unit • Presentation on Gender Mainstreaming by UN Women • Discussion on Rule of Law and Security Working Group • Updates from Sub-Working Groups • AOB 		
Attendance	UNHCR, OPM, LWF, FCA, UNDP, UNICEF, Tutapona, HI, TROCAIRE, WAR CHILD HOLLAND, UN WOMEN, CECODEP, IAU, SCI, WVI, CARE, CAFOMI, HIJRA, BRAC, IAS		
Facilitator	Patience Kyomuhendo (OPM), Margaret Atieno (UNHCR)		
Note Taker	Duncan Mato (UNHCR)		
	Opening Remarks	Recommendations/Action points	Responsible
OPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Refugee Day celebrations for Kampala will be held at Old Kampala Secondary school on 28th June 2019. • The administrative suspension of registration for South Sudanese in Kampala has been lifted. South Sudanese can now be registered in Kampala by OPM. • OPM is monitoring the DRC situation considering renewed clashes between the Hema and Lendu. 		
	Review of previous minutes		
UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity info training: UNHCR information management focal point is currently conducting training in the South West. Trainings for Yumbe, Moyo and Pakele are expected in the 3rd quarter of the year. • UNHCR Position on Returns to South Sudan was shared with the Group. • The issue regarding the 7000 Congolese was discussed at the Inter-Agency coordination meeting. • Sharing PSEA SOP's: The SOPs are being discussed by the newly established PSEA task-force. • Partners conducting similar programmes on mental health as well as those interested in collaborating on the “the heroes journey” project should contact Tutapona. • IJM is taking the lead on advocating for the inclusion of refugees in the legal aid bill, 	MINUTES ADOPTED	

	Protection Updates		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of new arrivals from the DRC as of 24th June has increased to 7,467. Renewed clashes between Hema and Lendu groups have driven people into Uganda at a rate of 311 a day. Return intentions survey to South Sudan (SSD) was conducted in Arua, Yumbe and Adjumani in April. The findings show that the majority of South Sudanese are not willing to return to SSD. The 3rd Refugee Engagement Forum (REF) bringing together 32 refugee leaders from all settlements (except for Moyo due to RWC election) and Kampala will be held between 26 - 27th June 2019. UNHCR is in the process of finalising a data management strategy that will allow partners to feed case management and assessment activities into the proGres system to enhance assessment of vulnerability and evidence based assistance. <p>Meeting Schedules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested that the Rule of law working group should be merged with the NRPWG. To cut down on the number of meetings it was proposed that the NRPWG could meet on either a bi-monthly or quarterly basis with a provision to meet ad hoc in case urgent issues arise. It was noted that the number of meetings and sequencing of meetings made it difficult for some staff to attend and at the same time be present in the field. As such, it was suggested that certain working groups should be merged or hold meetings on the same day. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide update on REF for next NRPWG - SWGs to discuss this within respective groups - Conduct survey to inform merging and sequencing of working group meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CBP & CRRF - All SWGS - UNHCR
	Call for expression of interest		
UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The call has been launched on the UN partner portal. The portal is an independent platform that is not managed by UNHCR. It was emphasized that general questions or queries specific to technical areas such as protection can be emailed to the Protection Sector Coordinator or more general queries sent to ipmc@unhcr.org. The call targets international and national NGO's as well as CBO's. The call is not for Government and UN agencies. <p>Questions raised and clarifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applying in two areas under one concept note: partners should apply under both sectors. However, it was emphasized that partners should demonstrate real added value (not necessarily in budgetary terms) as a potential multi-sector partner. It was also noted that multi-sector partners must submit a separate concept note to each applicable sector because the weighting of the technical evaluation of each sector may differ. 		

- Geographical lots: It was reiterated that applications across the geographical lots will be favoured considering UNHCR's attempt to rationalize partners. However, applications for settlements within overall lots will be taken into consideration.
- Partners were encouraged to coordinate amongst themselves for example under sub-contractual agreements to cover the entire geographical region. The onus is on partners to show UNHCR what their rationalization looks like. However, it was noted that rationalizing cannot be under a consortium as per UNHCR policy
- There is no limitation on sub-contracting, however, it should be kept to a minimum.
- Although UNHCR is focusing on the need to rationalize partners, UNHCR also recognizes the need for specialized services from organizations with set expertise. The call does not exclude a submission by a specialized agency for a given thematic area. Partners may submit one specialized application for themselves as well as apply as part of a wider protection sub-contractual application.
- It was noted that when submitting a concept note, only one zipped file or document can be uploaded. This is a disadvantage to the portal that UNHCR has raised with the respective UN Partner Portal focal points.
- Deadline for submission of the call is **20th July 2019**. The Government is updated throughout the entire process. There are three components to the call (i) the **technical evaluation** which is done internally by UNHCR (sector leads and technical teams), (ii) the **financial evaluation** undertaken by UNHCR project control and (iii) the **procurement capacity assessment** which refers to the procurement queries within the concept note template.
- These three components are presented to UNHCR's partnership management committee. The partnership management committee chair then recommends to the Representative. A decision on the recommendation is made by the Representative. Recommendations can either be agreed, disagreed or sent back for another open Call for Expression of Interest if it is felt that no best-fit partner/actor applied.
- It was noted that there is a word limit on the problem statement. This makes it difficult for partners to apply for the entire protection sector considering the diverse thematic areas of intervention. It was highlighted that partners can attach additional supporting documents or annexes to the problem statement to expand. However, it was noted that the more documents the more time taken to review, therefore it was suggested that the highlights be specified in the concept note while references can be made to further supporting documents.
- It was highlighted that the call for transit centres and reception centre management (and NFI distribution) is included within those now launched. For community mobilization and engagement, each sub office and each geographical lot is coming up with their own specific strategy either by settlement and or geographical location. There may be some further launches around these areas. However, any additional calls will be shortly posted.
- If there is not a call as above, sub offices will engage in discussions and possibly conduct a smaller selection exercise where agreements are envisaged to be under 100,000 USD. This may look to target more national NGOs and CBOs. More clarity will be sent out regarding this call.

Presentation on Gender Mainstreaming

UN Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was proposed that a gender working group comprising of focal points on gender from each organization should be established to ensure greater integration of gender perspectives into all frameworks/ programmes and sectors. • It was highlighted that at the national level there is a Protection Advisory Group (PAG) and SGBV working group currently handling issues regarding protection mainstreaming. • Given the numerous structures in place and the need to rationalize them, it was proposed that mainstreaming should be generalized as protection mainstreaming that includes disability mainstreaming, child protection, SGBV among others. UNHCR is currently in the process of developing an Age, Gender and Diversity Action Plan which will incorporate diverse elements. • It was highlighted that CARE is introducing a new aspect to its gender in emergencies package called women leading in emergencies that focuses on gender analyses on power dynamics. It is being piloted in West Nile and DRC. • It was reiterated that gender mainstreaming would go beyond SGBV mainstreaming as it cuts across all sectors. As such, it would need expertise beyond SGBV. There are opportunities for a training of trainers with UN women. • It was proposed that organizations compile a list of their sector leads and gender focal points. Organizations that do not have gender focal points can forward contacts of staff interested in benefitting from the training co-facilitated by UNHCR in Kampala, Adjumani and Yumbe. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Share information on women in emergencies - Identify focal persons and sector leads within each agency and Share with UN Women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Michelle (CARE) - UN Women
Updates from Child protection Sub Working Group			
UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sub-working group is in the process of developing a refugee child protection strategy. Consultations are ongoing across refugee hosting districts (including Kampala). Child protection partners are taking the lead to ensure that quality feedback is received from across the country. • The working group is trying to ensure that the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD) will take the lead in the strategy's development. • A 2nd joint meeting with the education and child protection sectors will be held next week. • There is a lack of clarity regarding the rollout of proGres v4. Some partners are unsure of whether they should transition from CPIMS to CPIMS plus or whether they should await the roll out of proGres. The lack of clarity revolves around technical issues such as data migration, timelines and training among others. The issue is listed as a standing item agenda on all child protection working group meetings. • In the 2nd week of July, UNHCR will organize a 3 day workshop on alternative care in refugee settlements that includes all child protection partners. • It was noted that UNHCR has prioritized the roll out of the proGres v4 child protection module. UNHCR has dedicated one staff member to work full time on the roll out of the module. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A briefing on the policy proposed for the next NRPWG meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF and MoGLSD
Discussion on the Rule of law Working Group			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was highlighted that during Inter-agency coordination meetings, the Commissioner for Refugees (OPM) reiterated that the Rule of Law working group should be revived. There have already been suggestions that the rule of law working group should be a part of the NRPWG and as such be included as a standing agenda item as opposed to a separate working group. It was highlighted that there are Legal Working Groups in Arua and Adjumani. Issues related to rule of law are discussed at the meetings. It was also highlighted that the Uganda Law Society (ULS) has a rule of law working group. However, the composition and subject matter of discussions (refugee matters) are unclear. It was reiterated that the NRPWG has to agree on the composition of the proposed working group and how this will feed into the NRPWG. 	- Coordinate and provide update for the next meeting	- UNDP, UNHCR and OPM
Mental health and Psychosocial support (MHPSS)			
Tutapona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MHPSS technical working group has been formalized. A leadership structure is in place and TOR's have been developed and approved. A draft MHPSS strategy has been developed and the MHPSS TWG has provided inputs. The working group is undertaking a national mapping exercise of all MHPSS actors across the country and not just in refugee settlements. The exercise is likely to be concluded within the next month and will be circulated when finalized. Any organization that is interested and has MHPSS programming is invited to join the technical group 		
Urban Working Group			
UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A coordination meeting that focuses mainly on agencies working with the urban case load is being developed. Partners that are interested in being a part of this meeting should share their contacts with UNHCR. 	- Share contacts with Ramsey (UNHCR)	
AOB			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the individuals camped outside UNHCR premises are refugees from the settlements and a few from the urban who come to UNHCR Kampala seeking assistance. The refugees have been advised on where and how to seek assistance before approaching UNHCR Kampala. It was further emphasized by members of the meeting that camping outside of the premises constitutes trespass and should be strongly discouraged. There is need for enhanced sensitization on the issue. 		
NEXT MEETING 25th July 2019			