

Minutes of the Health Sector Thematic Working Group Meeting Held 26 January 2021 via zoom

Agenda

1. Introduction of new TWG Health Coordinator
2. Presentation of the IARP (Interagency Response Plan)
3. Ministry of Health Dr. Gabriel Tepelikyan - Update and Information exchange
4. TWG and WHO - Update and information exchange
5. TWG Partners - Update and information exchange
6. Presentation of Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring Systems (HeRAMS)
7. Any other business

Attendance

The meeting was attended by 38 members from different organizations

Introduction new Coordinator

The WHO Representative for Armenia Egor Zaitsev introduced Chris HEPP to the partners as the Health Technical working Group Coordinator.

In his response from Chris, gave a brief background of his experience in the humanitarian sector. He then entreated members to participate fully in the meeting and other activities of the health working group.

Update from the Ministry of Health

Dr. Gabriel Tepelikyan provided an update from the side of the Ministry of Health.

- No major changes and there have been a slight decrease in the daily cases.
- Efforts are being made to prevent new entry of the new strain of the covid -19 into the country.

- Continue collaboration with WHO and partners to support people living in refugee like situation especially in the effort dealing with COVID – 19 pandemics as well as responding to the health needs of persons living in refugee like situations.
- Armenia is in the process of procuring COVID – 19 Vaccine.

Presentation on the Inter-agency Response Plan (IARP)

Ms. Denise Sumpf, Head of RCO & Senior Development Coordination Officer, presented an overview to the Inter – Agency response plan.

Highlights

- Possible through the contribution of all partners through the thematic working groups.
- A total budget of \$62mil
- Health component of the budget was a little over \$6mil

Partner Updates

World Health Organization (WHO) response to the people living in refugee – like situation.

- Provided 20 NCD kits to the ministry of Health to support the people living in refugee – like situation as well as the host communities? Each kit is enough to treat 10 000 persons for 3months.
- WHO will further engage with the MoH to identify additional needs to fulfil the needs of people living in refugee – like situation?
- Reporting: reporting requirement for health partners.
 - Biweekly situation report: required to highlight the activities of the health working group to members of the
 - 3/5 Ws reporting: review of the template underway and members will be required to submit data monthly.
 - Contact list: members were urged to update their list of contact in order to continue receiving update from the Health Technical Working Group.
 - Reporting: reporting requirement for health partners
- Technical Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

- The executive board of WHO has in its report made a strong recommendation to member states to improving the right – bases person centred approach to MHPSS in health emergencies including CoVID
- A presentation of the subject attached
- Presentation on Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring Systems (HeRAMS)
- Samuel Patragallo, from WHO Geneva Presented on the Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring Systems (HeRAMS) initiative
 - The purpose is to see how HeRAMS could provide us as the Technical Working Group for Health better information and improving our response. On a wider scale how, it could fit in existing Information systems of the Health partners and the other Technical Working Groups and overall to support the existing Information System(s) within the MoH.
 - He said partner involvement in key to the implementation of HeRAMS

Fernando HESSE from OCHA speaks about the Readiness Plan for NK which is what we should be aiming at start working soon.

AOB

The chair tabled a motion to shift the meeting time from 3:30pm to 3:00pm to coincide with the meeting time of the MHPSS group. Members present unanimously agreed to the motion.

Closing the meeting, Chris reiterated his earlier call on members to come out with innovative ideas to improve upon the meetings and activities of the working group in general. He also announces to members that he will be having bilateral meetings with them to enable him to familiarize himself with their activities and to see how the group can support each other.