Minutes of the BHASAN CHAR INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION MEETING
Wednesday, 31 August 2022, 09:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
UNHCR Sub-Office, Cox’s Bazar and Online on Microsoft teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chairperson(s)</th>
<th>Allen Gidraf Kahindo Maina, Snr Public Health Officer, UNHCR</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>UN Agencies: UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, WFP, IOM, WHO, UNDP, UNWOMEN, I/NGOs: IRWORLDWIDE, Friendship, BRAC, MSF, HELVETAS, YPSA, IRB, MOAS, ACTED, BDRCS, Welthungerhilfe, Action Aid, SESAME.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minutes prepared by</td>
<td>Hazera L. Khanam, Senior Protection Associate, UNHCR</td>
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</table>
| Agenda for the meeting | 1. Introduction  
2. Operational Update  
3. Update on BC needs assessment  
4. A.O.B |
| Contact | Contact: Galiya Gubaeva, Head of Field Office, UNHCR, Bhasan Char  
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Kiri Atri, Associate Inter-Agency Coordination Officer (Bhasan Char), UNHCR  
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Summary of Proceedings and Action Points

1. **Opening Remarks** (As presented by Allen Gidraf Kahindo Maina, Snr Public Health Officer, UNHCR)

2. **Operational Updates** (As presented by Galiya Gubaeva, Head of Field Office, UNHCR, Bhasan Char)
   - Population as of end July 27,451 individuals / 7,452 households.
   - 17th round of relocation (since 2020) of 395 individual refugees to Bhasan Char took place on 25 August.
   - As the weather condition improved, family visits resumed. About 1200 refugees (Since November 2021) were able visit their families in Cox’s Bazar Camps. Refugees continue to submit application for family visit to Office of Camp in Charge office.
   - In support of the efforts by Camp in Charge (CiC), a complaint, feedback and response desk managed by BDRCS will be functional in coming month, to provide refugee with a clear, transparent procedures for to voice their complaints or provide feedback and to address their issues.
   - A monthly Coordination meeting was convened by CiC and chaired by the ARRRC. Agencies were asked to seek relevant approval before beginning a program in Bhasan, and they were encouraged to coordinate their efforts and avoid duplication.

3. **Protection update**
   - UNHCR protection continued the monitoring of newly arrived refugees on Bhasan Char.
   - UNHCR, and UNICEF jointly conducted a SEA Risk Assessment to better understand the perception of partners, refugees, volunteers, community leaders and authorities’ perception of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH).
• UNHCR and UNFPA will support the women and girls with Dignity Kits, distribution to begin in September.
• UNFPA funded RTMI (NGO) to hire a midwife to assist women and girls in BRAC-managed safe spaces for sexual and reproductive health services.
• Refugee have expressed concerns about room allocation to UNHCR and this matter has been brought to the attention of ARRC.
• 11 refugees suspected of acting as brokers in irregular departures from the island have been arrested in Bhasan Char and brought before the Hatya Court.
• A session on Accountability for Affected Populations (AAP) was conducted by UNHCR for the protection actors to incorporate feedback and complaint mechanisms in their programs.

4. Health & Nutrition update

• 1 hospital and 2 community health centres and 3 health posts are operational at Bhasan Char. ARRC agreed on the facility-based health meetings with the communities, this will allow the community representation and will enhance the service quality.
• A Referral SOP for Bhasan Char is developed, and medical referral committee is formed. Medical referral Committee will review the non-emergency cases for referral outside Bhasan Char based on the availability of the treatment.
• With thanks to WHO a “Kobo online based outbreak alert system” introduced to facilitate disease surveillance and timely reporting.
• UNFPA conducted a training on Clinical Management Rape-Intimate Partner Violence for all health partners. Arranged sessions on family planning with Imams and cluster focal.
• The World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) was observed in August led by BRAC in collaboration with Friendship and GK. To strengthen the suicide prevention response, MHPSS and Protection teams discussed on way forward to address the root cause.
• In July Nutrition survey was conducted and results will be shared with all the relevant partners for further follow up. Based on the findings, there are some recommendations for further follow up: to strengthen WASH and health and nutrition, community outreach activities, joint monitoring and ensure quality treatments and hygiene promotion. Provision of more diversified and nutritious food baskets to be distributed and strengthen Multisectoral approach to address the nutrition situation at Bhasan Char.

5. Food Security update

• Later this year, WFP plans to pilot an e-voucher outlet for fresh food distribution similar to the one in Cox’s Bazar. As of August, WFP began supporting general food assistance through its partners.
• WFP is tracking food distributions through Blockchain Enabled ID Management system called Building Blocks. Food distribution often takes longer due to the use of the joint Government of Bangladesh-UNHCR database and other data bases for mobilization. Because WFP’s pipeline was disrupted, other organizations stepped in to distribute food after receiving approval from the authority.
• WFP resubmitted a letter to RRRC and project director in Cox’s Bazar regarding the transfer of the warehouse management and shared a draft transfer agreement.
• The authorities have built a new guardhouse to increase vigilance around the warehouse, in view of the theft incident in Warehouse 1.

6. Livelihoods and Environment update

• There was no sector meeting in August due to some unforeseen circumstances. A meeting on the livelihood, environment, and skills development has been scheduled for September. More emphasis will be placed on the sectors’ strategic outline and reporting. Skills development is critical to ensure sustainability.
• Among the key achievements of the sector partners, ACLAB continues vegetable cultivation, and collection of eggs on daily basis. 5034 individuals have signed up for the home gardening programme. Qatar Charity provided LPG stove repair services to 213 people from 26 clusters. PRANTIC supports the livelihood activities through activities such as building poultry houses. CARITAS supports the community to prevent mosquito from breeding.

7. Education update

• The number of children attending school is increasing. In August, a 5-day training on Teachers Professional Development (TPD) was organised.
• The distribution of Myanmar curriculum textbooks to all students is in progress. It was found that the monthly parent-teacher meetings helped to keep students in schools.
• Maintaining quality education is a challenge due to the limited capacity and resources of the implementing partners. Currently, one out of 10 partners, has received RRRC approval.
• Finding qualified teachers to deliver the quality education/teaching is a challenge. UNICEF is advocating for the deployment of trainers to train teachers on Myanmar curriculum.

8. WASH update

• International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh conducted a water quality assessment for WASH sector and facilitated a preliminary finding briefing for UNICEF and UNHCR. In September, a draft report will be shared for review.
• Dhaka University has presented the Ground water Study Plan to Navy HQ, and field work for Bhasan Char is currently underway.
• Solid Waste management Standard Operational Procedures (SOP) were presented to ARRRC during the monthly WASH sector meeting. However, one of the challenges is the delay in approving borehole installation at compost site, borehole capping, and incineration. Other standard WASH activities continue.

9. Site Management/Shelter/NFI update

• Site management team supported with the relocation reception in Bhasan Char on 25th August. Service monitoring is ongoing and Focus Group Discussions for Community-Led Projects were held.
• A fire broke out in Cluster 27 due to homemade electrical devices though there was no one injured; this is a growing concern in Bhasan Char.
• All actors are reminded to coordinate planning of distributions with the Sector.
• The NFI SOP is being developed.
10. **Bhasan Char Need Assessment Update**

- Preparation on the Need Assessment Activities of Bhasan Char are ongoing in coordination with sector focal points. Preparation of assessments survey, questionnaire and report will be shared with sector leads.

11. **Donor engagement & resource mobilization**

UNHCR provided an update on the donor visits and funding commitments to the Bhasan Char operation.