

**ZPSWG Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday 8 May 2014**

**Agencies present:** NRC, WFP, UNHCR, UN Women, HI, IMC, SCI, UNICEF

**Agenda:**

- Updates
  - o Azraq
  - o Religious court in Zaatari
  - o WFP
  - o Zaatari Child Protection Sub Working Group
- Discussion on format of Zaatari Protection Working Group meetings
- Research Proposals Review
- Any other business
  - o Government representation at sectoral WGs
  - o Hazards around Zaatari
  - o Returns
  - o Mine risk awareness for returnees

**1) Updates**

*Azraq opening*

Azraq camp opened on 27 April. From 1 May all new arrivals will be sent to Azraq, by default, except UASC, medical cases. Other special protection cases and some individuals with specific needs such as PWD and elderly persons are being discussed at the moment, to assess best location when relatives are in one or the other camp. An inter-camp transfer SOP is being finalised with the Jordanian authorities. The procedures will need to become more flexible later, depending on the family relations of new arrivals. Inter-camp transfers have not yet started, as the SOP is awaiting approval from SRAD. Currently, there is no indication when SRAD will approve. Operational partners will be notified as soon as the SOPs have been approved.

NRC raised the issue of still receiving cases that are not special needs cases. NRC requested information from UNHCR on the types of cases to be received as a preparedness measure. UNHCR will provide this information as soon as it is available.

*Religious courts*

The religious court opened in Zaatari in April. This is the first time in Jordan that there is a religious court in a refugee camp. There are some adjustment struggles, but UNHCR is providing more training to the judge and his team on refugee protection and an orientation on the processes and facilities within the camp. A clear terms of reference will be finalised. ARDD Legal Aid is currently assisting in preparing some of the cases for the religious court. ARDD Legal Aid working on a brochure to advertise and explain the process by end of May. They are also working on reporting system to monitor which cases have been attended. Currently the judge is present in the camp one day per week. The judge's presence will be increased gradually.

A helpdesk will be established for scheduling purposes, but refugees will have direct access to the religious court. Partners are requested not to advertise the religious court, until the procedures and running are adjusted.

## WFP

WFP's Regional Protection Advisor, Michelle Sanson, is now in Amman. Partners can contact her with any protection-related questions for WFP ([michelle.sanson@wfp.org](mailto:michelle.sanson@wfp.org)).

- The 2nd cycle of April on the 29th, 85,992 received their voucher assistance and 86,088 received Date packages. during the cycle according to SCI reports
- WFP distributes daily to the camp 20.200M to cover the camp needs, SCI average purchase is 400KG.
- School feeding Programme is ongoing in three schools in Za'atari; the highest number of distribution in both shifts during the reporting period was 10,989.
- WFP continue distributing welcoming meal packages in Roba Al Sarhan reception center along with 2KG of Dates.
- During the reporting period NRC had distributed a total of 2139 of date bars to their after school activities.

## CP

The Zaatari CP SWG met on 8 May. SCJ presented their peer educators programme in Child and Family Centres. There was a discussion of camp population participation in working group meetings and a suggestion to conduct the meetings in the field at CFCs etc. The WG's ToRs will be finalised at the next meeting. Members discussed how to coordinate between the CP and Protection WGs, with a focus on awareness.

### **2) Format of protection working group meetings**

The WG agreed that attendance at the meetings must be consistent in order to ensure that the group follows up on issues discussed at the meetings. A new list of key issues will be developed, which should be solutions-oriented and include pre-emptive responses to protection issues. The UNICEF WASH team should present to the Protection WG, UNICEF and Chair to discuss.

There was a suggestion to establish focal points across sectors as a mainstreaming measure and to dedicate one meeting to protection mainstreaming measures. The field team should be present at every meeting to give updates on district reports.

Joint presentations are a good initiative. Next meeting – Oxfam's perception survey. Should be joint meeting with CP.

### **3) Research proposal review**

The Amman level Protection WG is developing general guidelines for external researchers. In the interim, the ZPSWG will review research proposals. UNHCR, NRC

and UN-Women will develop a generic form for researchers to fill out in order to obtain approval. The approval process for external research mirrors that for assessments, but is not incorporated into the Coordinated Needs Assessment SOPs. For external research, SRAD and the relevant sector working group will be notified and should approve. The standard of review applied by the sector working group needs to be agreed, but in the interim, the ZPSWG agreed to apply the following criteria:

- the topic is relevant;
- the research can benefit the sector’s work or benefit refugees; and
- the study is not duplicating previously conducted work.

The ZPSWG also agreed that, following approval, each research project may be assigned to a partner to facilitate the researcher’s visit and to ensure that the responsibility is shared amongst partners within the sector.

Three research proposals were reviewed and feedback will be sent to the researchers by the Chair. The subjects were as follows (summarised concept notes attached), with the ZPSWG’s approval in brackets:

- religious plurality in Zaatari camp (pending data from verification process, not approved within Zaatari; may be better placed in urban setting);
- displacement decisions of refugees (approved, but conditional upon incorporation of recommendations of ZPSWG);
- dispute resolution amongst Syrians in Jordan (approved, with some recommendations from ZPSWG).

#### 4) AOB

- WFP asked if there is national authority representation in the WG meetings. This is an ongoing endeavour, but the Juvenile Police Department has been present in a number of protection and child protection meetings.
- The daily return c. 100 people per day. Returns last year approx.. 400 per day. Daily counselling for people returning – the area of departure shared with community – 4 key messages (re-circulate). Now more structured technical support to authorities to ensure systematic counselling to every returnee. Analysis of protection risk for those not departing.
- The question of mine risk awareness for returnees was also raised. The ICRC provides awareness in several areas, including mine risk, to returnees. Currently, however, UNHCR is not advocating return.
- WFP has waiting tents and distribution tents. Partners with posters and key messaging can be shared here. Partners to contact Naser (WFP).

Action point	Who?
Provide information on types of cases received from new arrivals in Zaatari to NRC	UNHCR
Re-circulate 2 focal point form	Majida (UNHCR) / partners

Re-circulate key issues form	Majida (UNHCR)
Circulate revised inter-agency media guidelines when Comms WG has finalised	Majida
Martha (NRC), Geeta (UN-Women) and Majida (UNHCR) to draft generic research proposal form	Majida, Geeta, Martha (within 1 week)
Follow up on fire hazards with UNHCR electrician	UNHCR
Contact WFP Naser BARDAGHAWI <a href="mailto:naser.bardaghawi@wfp.org">naser.bardaghawi@wfp.org</a> with any key messaging/posters to be shared in WFP waiting and distribution areas	Partners