

MHPSS Working Group Minutes of Meeting
August 20th, 2014 – Ministry of Health, Amman
Chaired by Ahmad Bawaneh (IMC) and Zein Ayoub (WHO)

1. **Introduction & Member Updates**

Introductions, no new member updates.

2. **Guidelines on MHPSS Projects:**

IMC and WHO presented draft Guidelines on MHPSS Projects for discussion and feedback by working group members. The guidelines outline fundamental components in designing, implementing and evaluating MHPSS projects, with the following aims:

- Outline a common understanding of the MHPSS approach according to global standards and recommendations.
- Support the identification and standardization of common terms, interventions and principles of good programming and best practice.
- Provide guiding criteria in reviewing and appraising MHPSS projects submitted for technical evaluation or funding appeals.

The document includes the following components:

- Aim and rationale
- MHPSS approach and guiding principles
- Common definitions and terminology
- MHPSS interventions
- M&E considerations

*** The draft document has been reviewed by the nominated task force, and is attached for your further review and feedback. All comments should be sent to Zein Ayoub (ayoubz@who.int) and Ahmad Bawaneh (abawaneh@InternationalMedicalCorps.org) by **COB Thursday 28 August**. The final guidelines will be circulated to the group after feedback is compiled.*

3. **ARDD - Legal Aid Presentation**

ARDD - Legal Aid delivered a brief presentation on their activities, and introduced the group to their **Psychosocial Support Unit**, providing the following rationale for the unit:

- Mere legal assistance is often not enough
- Experience of psychological reactions
- Better understanding of legal situation
- Support in making decisions and choices
- Enhancing likelihood of case success

The presentation was followed by further discussion of their services and referrals system.

*** Please see attached presentation for further details.*

4. **Follow up on the Gender Focal Point nomination:**

Following the call for gender focal point nominations announced during our last meeting, the MHPSS WG has nominated **Dr Lina Darras (ARDD- Legal Aid Psychosocial Support Team Leader)** to represent the WG at the Sector Gender Focal Point Network.

*** For more details on this role, please find attached the Sector Gender Focal Point TORs.*

5. **Any Other Business:**

IMC announced their plans to initiate mental health services in the south, targeting Syrian refugees. Activities will be conducted in Ma'an, Tafilah and Karak within primary health care facilities.

6. **Training Calendar:**

The MHPSS Working Group maintains a shared Google Calendar to track their training activities. This calendar can be accessed with the following information:

Link: <<https://accounts.google.com/>>

Username: mhpsworking.group.jordan

Password: MHPSSworkinggroup

The next working group meeting will take place on **Wednesday, September 17th at 1:00pm** at the Ministry of Health.