



Protection Working Group Jordan

Meeting Minutes 20th Of January 2016

Agencies present: ARDD- Legal Aid, CARE, CISP, CVT, DRC, Finn Church Aid/ACT Alliance, Handicap International, ICMC, IOM, ICU, IRC, ICMC, IRAP, JCLA, MPDL, NFH/IFH, Questscope, Swiss Agency for Dev & Coop, TDH-Italy, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNOPS, UNRWA, UNWOMEN and ZOA Middle East.

Agenda:

1. Update on Urban Verification Exercise/Document Return
2. Revision of PWG ToRs – attached for your reference
3. Election of PWG NGO Co-Chair
4. ActivityInfo Reporting for 2016 – please see message below from the Coordination Unit on reporting
5. Revision of 2016 Inter-Agency Protection Strategy.
6. AoB

1. Update on the Urban Verification & Document Return Exercise:

Up to 17th of Jan 2016, 291,524 MOI service cards have been issued through police stations since the beginning of the urban verification exercise, 271,345 have been issued to Syrians that are registered with UNHCR.

As for the Syrian document return 144682 documents in total have been returned to Syrians since the beginning of the exercise, remainder were returned through other forms of distributions.

Next areas of document return will be in Amman east and Amman south from 24th of Jan till the 28th of Jan.

Action Point:

- **Upcoming schedule for document return to be circulated by email (by sector chair).**

2. Elections of PWG NGO Co-Chair:

One candidacy was received by NRC. The candidate did a brief introduction about herself and the strategic elements to focus on for 2016.

The new PWG co-chair is Catherine Osborn (catherine.osborn@nrc.no).

3. Revision of PWG ToRs

Members reviewed the ToRs as it needs to be reviewed at least once year. Members provided their suggestions for changes as the following:

- Point 7.a.1 and 17: The coordination meeting should provide oversight to the taskforces including the Zadari Youth taskforce.
- Point 17: Working groups and task forces shall report to PWG and relevant taskforces.
- Point 9: PWG Members are responsible to contribute to the development of the Protection Sector Strategy taking into consideration the needs of the population of concern, the other affected populations
- NRC was added under point 13 as the co-chair

Changes on ToRs were endorsed by all the members.

Action Point:

- **Members to be added as an annex in the ToRs after updating the mailing list.**
- **Sector chair and Co-chair to finalize ToRs and to be uploaded to the PWG data portal.**

4. Activity reporting for 2016:

A list of protection sector 3RP 2016 indicators have been distributed to members for their reference, the monthly reporting deadline for members to submit their inputs is the 8th of each

month, any issue or questions regarding Activityinfo members to contact PWG coordination Associate Ghassan Shehadeh (shehadeg@unhcr.org).

Action Point:

- **Indicators list to be sent via Email to all members for their reference.**

5. Revision of 2016 Inter-Agency Protection Strategy:

2015 Inter-agency strategy document was circulated among members, the document was updated from the Child Protection and SGBV sub working group's side.

Members were divided on 2 groups for 30 minutes to review the strategy and propose/highlight the changes and areas to focus in regards of Objective 1 & 2.

- ✓ Objective one: Access to territory and rights :
 - Voluntary returns to Syria and ways to provide more counseling to the population that is returning.
 - Situation at the Berm
 - Finding out alternative ways to protect the people that have no bail out from the camp and trying to find ways to advocate with the government to try to facilitate issuing a bail out for individuals as there is no bail outs since beginning 2015.
 - Urban verification – providing ways to help the refugees that are still struggling with issuing MOI service card.
- ✓ Objective two: strengthening communities and families for self-reliance empowerment:
 - In 2016 there will be a specific focus on enhancing referral systems and improving the quality and response for protection referrals and to support persons with specific needs access to specialized services
 - The Protection Sector will continue to prioritize interventions that support the empowerment and engagement of Syrian refugee women, girls, boys and men and affected host communities in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programmes
 - Protection sector partners will promote community-based activities aimed at alleviating social tensions, supporting the economic empowerment and resilience of Syrian refugees and affected Jordanian host communities.
 - Livelihoods and legal income earning opportunities will be enhanced within national legal frameworks for both Syrian refugee women and men.

- Community centered approaches will be supported including building new and expanding existing community spaces offering multi-sectoral services to both vulnerable Syrian refugees and Jordanian host communities.
- Protection actors will support the involvement of Jordanian authorities, civil society and partners in the planning and delivery of humanitarian assistance through national services and systems, and to promote social cohesion through resilience-based initiatives that involve refugee and host communities
- In formal camps, protection sector partners will support vulnerable Syrian refugees to be engaged in camp development and participate in livelihood opportunities in coordination with the Syrian Refugee Affairs Directorate and camp partners. In particular, youth continue to be identified as a target group with specific protection needs and programmes will focus on activities such as mentoring, conflict prevention, technical training and tertiary education, tailored to the specific needs of male and female youth including raising awareness on reproductive health, S/GBV and civic engagement

Action Point:

- **Update the strategy after amending the proposed changes and tables for 2015 and circulate it among members.**
- **Finalized strategy to be discussed in the next PWG meeting.**

6. AOB

➤ **Evolving Situation at the Border**

- Advocacy continues on the issue.
- Security is being used as justification to restrict access.
- Registration at Hadalat and Rukban complete as of 7 January. Over 13,000 registered, giving a good understanding of the character of population. Urge caution in disseminating the registration information, as information previously shared confidentially has already been passed to journalists.
- Upscaling of response taking place, with different actors taking on responsibility within their areas of expertise. Operational coordination particularly important – UNHCR is establishing a presence in Rwaished.
- Access for humanitarian actors remains a challenge, not only in terms to traveling up to the berm, but also in relation to crossing the berm to where the refugees are staying. There are protection concerns associated with the lack of humanitarian and security presence beyond the berm.
- Deaths at the berm could be prevented if there is access to proper medical facilities.