



**UNHCR**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

## Minutes of the Protection Working Group

9 March 2016

Gaziantep

Agenda item	Summary of discussions	Action point / time frame
<b>Welcome and overview of meeting agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss the recommendations of the protection/SGBV workshop and the possible joint protection work-plan for the group.</li><li>• Feedback from provincial coordination initiatives</li><li>• Information on activities conducted for International Women’s Day</li><li>• New Letter on child protection</li><li>• Any new update from participants</li><li>• AoB</li></ul>	
<b>Discuss the recommendations of the protection/SGBV workshop and the possible joint protection work-plan for the group.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve coordinated/consolidated service mapping for protection (including GBV, child protection, MHPSS)</li><li>• Consider updating mapping of services offered by community centres and asset and capacity of the CC’s beneficiaries in order to explore assets/capacity based engagement,</li><li>• Development of clear SOPs and referral pathways for protection, GBV, child protection, MHPSS</li><li>• Establishment of Child Protection working group for the south-east (<i>discussions are on-going with the Government regarding the establishment of the national CP WG – UNHCR/UNICEF are awaiting the nominations for Government participation. In the interim, however, an informal ‘task force’ for the south-east will be organized in the coming</i></li></ul>	

*weeks for interested agencies working on child protection)*

- Strengthen communication / coordination between provinces within the South-East Turkey
- Finalize the process of formation of individual case management meeting for Gaziantep. There is already one in Urfa and Antakya.
- To consider an NGO co-lead for the PWG. *This will be referred to Ankara for feedback.*
- Strengthen outreach activities for more engagement with refugees and ensure their participation in identifying and resolving protection issues
- Enhance communication with refugees through clear information / mass communication strategy and standardised package of materials
- Strengthen monitoring and evaluation of CC activities and services to ensure quality (refugee involvement in providing feedback)
- Improve reporting tools and explore better use of information and better ways of sharing. We are using 3W's but it is not effective. It is not helpful for having the numbers and comparison. It can help us to see the gaps.
- Development of joint work-plan for the PWG to strengthen protection response in SET *[time framework to be decided by the members of PWG]*

Participants were asked if they have any additional inputs. No further comments were shared.

UNHCR Protection Officer presented the work plan for the PWG to strengthen protection response in SET. UNHCR asked participants to send e-mails if they want to join the group where this plan based on the recommendations from the PWG workshop can be discussed in detail. A follow up meeting will be scheduled with interested PWG members in order to initiate the development of concrete work-plans and to operationalize the actions.

*Work plan will be circulated by UNHCR that organizations can comment.*

*Participants should confirm through e-mail if they want to join the follow up meeting with UNHCR.*

**Provincial Level Coordination Meetings**

**1. Gaziantep Coordination Meeting**

- The meeting took place on 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.
- PDMM informed the participants that temporary protection registration of Syrians has been resumed. Since 12 January 2016, the Directorate gave travel permission to 16,245 Syrians. The directorate kindly requested from all NGOs to inform Syrians that they can approach to PDMM office within working hours for any kind of enquiries with interpreters available for free.
- Provincial Directorate of Ministry of Education shared the latest figures related to Syrian children. The number of school age children (5-17 ages; Syrian & Iraqi) in Gaziantep has increased to around 107,000 now from 92,890 in August, 2015. The general enrolment rate is 60%; while the enrolment rate for primary school is 94%. Two Imam Hatip High Schools (Anatolian Religious High School) for Syrians newly opened in Gaziantep; one for male and one for female students.
- Regarding to the Public Health Department, there are currently 14,105 Syrian babies; and 10,806 of them are in non-camp. There are 6,838 pregnant women in total and they all receive services from Family Health Centres for free. A tender will be lodged for 19 migrant health centres in Gaziantep (2 in Nizip, 1 in Islahiye) on 8<sup>th</sup> of March. Regarding the family doctors; Syrians can receive the same services as the Turkish nationals including vaccinations until the age of 2 for babies and 4 monitoring examinations for pregnant women.
- No payment is required for organ transplant operations for Syrians with donors according to the Gaziantep University Hospital.
- During the meeting it has been noted that it is noted that Sahinbey district was the 3<sup>rd</sup> high populated district in Turkey and now became the 1<sup>st</sup> district in Turkey with the population of Syrians.
- Sema Association, Ussaki Foundation and Bülbülzade Foundation made

<p><b>Briefing on the authorities' action plan for Syrian refugee children without one or both parents</b></p>	<p>presentations related to their activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WFP updated the participants that 36,000 individuals have benefited from their food card program in Gaziantep until today (50 TL per month since July, 2015) and it is still on-going. There is no referral mechanism to receive referrals from NGOs yet, but it might be planned for 2016.</li> <li>• Gaziantep Governor highlighted the below mentioned points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) In light of the current security situation, additional precautionary measures will be taken vis-à-vis Syrians who are still not-registered. Persons wishing to be registered must first receive clearance from security intelligence by informing the police and the national intelligence.</li> <li>ii) Travel permission is required to travel to and from Gaziantep to and from other cities and there are strict controls in the central bus station as well as at the airport. If Syrians coming from other cities do not hold TP IDs and travel permission together, they are sent back to the city they are coming from with plane and the PDMM office of the related city is informed accordingly. There is no difficulty faced by Syrians when they request travel permission.</li> <li>iii) The Governorate requested a 15 million TL fund for SODES and if received, different projects by NGOs for Syrians in Gaziantep will be funded by the Governorate.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>UNHCR briefed the participants on the latest developments as regards to the Syrian orphans. It was noted that, Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa Governorates called for a meeting with organizations and I/NGOs as per the recent letter (dated 23 February 2016) issued by the General Directorate of Services for Children. The letter requests identification of Syrian children who lost either parents or one parent; and to determine the appropriate service models for this case load. It is also set out that, the instructed course of action shall be carried out by a commission to be established with the engagement of local authorities as well as</p>	
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	<p>NGOs. Services to be provided to the identified children are comprehensive including, inter alia, provision of PSS, facilitation of access to education, child protection measures to be taken and a monthly stipend to be paid. During the briefing in Gaziantep on February, it was decided that a general field survey would be conducted with a view to determining the active refugee population in Gaziantep. This survey will also aim at identifying refugee children as set out by the new letter. The authorities in Gaziantep did not involve NGOs and UN agencies and opted not to establish a commission. In Şanlıurfa, the authorities will establish a commission. NGO community was asked to support the mobile teams which will be tasked with conducting field surveys and also support them through their interpreters. No further details regarding the implementation have been provided; UNHCR continues to follow up with the respective authorities.</p>	
<p><b>Briefing on Registration Procedures</b></p>	<p>UNHCR briefed the participants on the new registration procedures and current practices employed in the SE region. The participants were informed on the new regulation which requires a security check to be completed before finalizing the registration of Syrian refugees. As per this new instruction, a waiting period of 30 days may be deemed lawful. UNHCR further shared province specific updates as regards to registration of Syrian refugees.</p>	<p>UNHCR will continue monitoring registration practices in the region, and will guide its partners.</p>
<p><b>Comments and questions from the partners</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hCa mentioned that they need support on protection cases that they identify. UNHCR said that they can share cases with them.</li>   <li>• Most of the partners said that they face deportation cases, UNHCR briefed them about the importance of reporting of these cases to UNHCR with relevant information. Gaziantep Bar Association also stated that they follow up the cases and there will be report on this.</li> </ul>	<p><i>UNHCR will share a checklist on deportation cases with partners via e-mail.</i></p>

<p><b>Information on activities conducted for International Women's Day</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon IRC's question regarding if there is a communication with cluster unit regarding cross border activities, UNHCR informed participants about existing information sharing between the units.</li> <li>• IOM asked the number of volreps and UNHCR informed about the decrease in volrep cases.</li> <li>• UNHCR briefed the participants newly opened camp in Güveççi upon IMC's question about if any new camps opened in Turkey.</li> <li>• Some of the partners talked about bribery problem especially in issuance of travel permit and TP ID's. UNHCR again underlined the importance of proper reporting to UNHCR. Also because of travel permit requirement, it has been said that there is new kind of smuggling occurs when people cannot take travel permit.</li> </ul> <p>UNHCR Senior Community Services Assistant briefed the participants about the activities conducted related to International Women's day. UNHCR highlighted that all the activities in different locations included camp and urban were organized by refugees. UNHCR and partners only provided technical guidance to them. In Kahramanmaraş urban, local authorities also conducted IWD activities together with urban refugee women. More than 500 refugees attended the activities. Some of the participants were children. But unfortunately men's participation to the events was low. UNHCR will try to include them more. Also UNHCR tried to include host community to the activities for cohesion, mostly in urban as it was not possible in the camps.</p>	
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	<p>UNHCR kindly asked the participants if they have any updates regarding International Women’s Day activities. Upon this, ASAM informed about their activities which will be held in their MSC in the same day (9<sup>th</sup> of March) and invited the participants.</p>	
<p><b>Updates from I/NGOs</b></p>	<p><b>During a tour de table, agencies provided summaries of updates made throughout last month:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>IOM :</b> Their case management program continues, this year’s guidelines and forms had been shared with the organizations. They plan to move beyond to the South East. They are trying to reach the areas where Syrians reside and the area is not covered by any organization. They developed partnership in Urfa, Hatay with organizations who already have Community Centers and in Istanbul with an organization which has Primary Health Clinic.</li> <li>• <b>IMC:</b> IMC is focusing on outreach this year. They have 17 CB outreach teams including in Istanbul, Bursa, Konya, Adana, Ankara. They do capacity building (Grants to NGOs) They have a pilot project - community based mental health in school in Istanbul where they support students and their families.</li> <li>• <b>MSF/hCa:</b> hCa is expanding its activities for children and adolescents. For 2016, they are trying to reach to the groups, people that they had difficulties to reach. They highlighted that also they are discovering the needs of unaccompanied adults, especially their protection needs.</li> <li>• <b>UOSSM:</b> UOSSM is trying to get registered in Gaziantep. Meanwhile their activities are continuing in Antakya with MSF and in Gaziantep. They are also planning to open a MH Center in Adana but this is unlikely to be soon. They are also planning to create a phone application where Syrians can access information on topics such as legal, health etc. and which covers Gaziantep initially. They will contact other organizations for service</li> </ul>	

mappings of their activities.

- **MARAM:** Their Community Center in Sarıgüllük will be opened soon. They organize trainings, have a library and PSS activities mainly for children. They focus both Syrians and local community. They also have legal awareness raising sessions, education and PSS activities.
- **World Vision:** They are supporting IMPR CC in Sanlıurfa as a partner.
- **ABA ROLI:** They continue their awareness raising activities in Gaziantep, Nizip, Hatay, Şanlıurfa and Kilis. They will also possibly extend their activities in Osmaniye and Adana. They are happy to respond legal awareness raising sessions request from organizations, especially where they can reach outreach teams, Syrian leaders and stakeholders. They can also share their brochures with the organizations upon their request.
- **REFUGEE RIGHTS TURKEY:** Although they are based in Istanbul, their activities are covering all over Turkey. They provide specialized trainings to lawyers in cooperation with Bar associations. Refugee Rights Turkey has brochures in different topics such as TP, protection, registration, access to health, education and labour market etc. in Turkish, English, Arabic, Farsi, Somali and French and they can share them upon request.
- **IMC Kilis:** They continue their CFS and other activities. They are planning to expand their activities more in South East.
- **Mercy Corps/Malumat:** They do information dissemination: videos on available services, information fairs, information desks at malls; SNF; non-formal education, awareness raising sessions on health, gender, legal issues. They are keen to enhance their outreach activities. Also they have new project targets the youth through their education curriculum which can be accessed through tablets.
- **IRC:** They are expanding their outreach activities in Osmaniye. They will have women center in Osmaniye and also they are planning to move their center in Reyhanlı to a bigger place.
- **DRC Sanlıurfa:** They will also cover Ceylanpınar and Viranşehir, already

	<p>working in Harran. They also have Community Based Protection team (outreach model for awareness raising), specialist CP and GBV teams for awareness raising and case management, livelihood component, CFS and protection monitoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CRS:</b> CRS is working on proposal for opening new CFSs in Gaziantep and also they would like to include youth to their projects.</li> <li>• <b>IMPR:</b> IMPR gave a briefing about their IWD activities. Their protection activities are on-going in 6 different locations; they also have 12 information desks. They are planning to open new CFS in Akçakale.</li> <li>• <b>UNFPA:</b> They are planning to open 8 more women &amp; girls' safe spaces. Centres will be expanded to Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir. They will target Iraqis in Ankara. They also have program for Turkish and Syrian psychologists that covers the topics such as post-trauma and psychological first aid.</li> <li>• <b>RI:</b> They run Community center in Düztepe where Syrian children do not have access to education. They provide Turkish courses and information sessions to the families. They will open two more centers in collaboration with GAP and UNICEF.</li> <li>• <b>CARE:</b> CARE has outreach activities in Urfa (Birecik and Halfeti) – will extend to other provinces also (will be announced later). They have reached 1.336 community members through information sessions. They have collaboration in Sanliurfa with TRC on risk education sessions. They also collaborate with ABA ROLI.</li> <li>• <b>YUVA:</b> They are working in Nizip and have vocational activities in cooperation with GIZ and Public Education Unit.</li> <li>• <b>PRM:</b> They are working on concept notes.</li> <li>• <b>UNICEF:</b> CFS will be expanded to urban areas through organizations, new centre will combine protection and non-formal education; 5 adolescent / youth friendly spaces will continue; 5 child protection support centres will be established (in Adana in cooperation with ASAM); girl safe spaces</li> </ul>	
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	<p>implemented with RET in Urfa. They will also do awareness raising sessions about children and they will provide trainings on SGBV in camps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>GIZ:</b> They have started 5 partnerships in Istanbul, Mardin, Mersin, Sanliurfa and Gaziantep. One of their partnerships is with YUVA.</li> <li>• <b>AAR Japan:</b> They mainly work in Sanliurfa. Their new project with persons with special needs will start in April. Until now, they were only providing assistance but with this project they will also provide PSS support. Their CC in Hayati Harran continues providing services both for locals and Syrians. They visited 200 families until now for assistance. They will also start case management process.</li> <li>• <b>Save the Children:</b> No specific updates. They are waiting their funds to be confirmed.</li> <li>• <b>GOAL:</b> They work with Public Health Hospital in Gaziantep. They have NFI, cash, translation, training, outreach and social support activities. They are working with GIZ and MSC in Adana. Also they have a new collaboration with MOH in Adana.</li> <li>• <b>ASAM:</b> They are working in 36 cities in Turkey. They have 3 MSC in Gaziantep and Adana. They will open new child protection centers with UNICEF in Adana and Gaziantep soon. They also continue their activities such as MHPSS, legal counselling, health etc.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Participants</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNHCR, UNFPA, Save The Children, IMPR, IMC, hCa, Gaziantep Bar Association, Mercy Corps, PRM, ASAM, ABA-ROLI, AAR Japan, Yuva, IOM, hCa/MSF, UOSSM, MARAM, World Vision, Refugee Rights Turkey, IRC, DRC, CRS, RI, CARE, UNICEF, GIZ, GOAL.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Next meeting will take place on 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2016.</b></p>	