**Meeting between Medical schools, UNHCR and Ministry of Health – 31st October 2017 at UNHCR**

**Attendance:**

1. Dr. Olaro Charles – Ministry of Health - Chair
2. Dr. Julius Kasozi – UNHCR
3. Lucas Machibya – UNHCR
4. Dr. Ronald Nyakoojo – UNHCR
5. Dr. David Lubogo – Makerere University
6. Dr. James Henry Obol – Gulu University
7. Dr. Peter Akera – Gulu University
8. Absent with Apologies – Minister of Health (PHC) – Hon. Joyce Kuducu

**Summary of the discussions:**

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| **Thematic area** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| Background – MoH & UNHCR | -Uganda has been applauded as having the best refugee policy  -MoH contributed to developing the national refugee policy and has developed a framework for the sector response to the refugee situation and the focus is to improve the services. On average refugees stay for 15 – 17 years.  -Contribution from the Academia is highly needed to support the existing systems in place at the district and regional hospital. The support need to be blended between Public health and clinical aspects  -Academia contribution to the NDP II (Settlement Transformative Agenda) and comprehensive refugee response framework will be a new model of working that improves access to health services for both refugees and host population. | None |
| Gulu university updates | -Gulu university is already responding in Adjumani and Moyo where they have done an assessment and have already placed elective medical students in refugee serving health facilities for 2 months in addition to doing health camps, student placement in general hospitals and laboratory support – training and quality assurance. | Areas of collaboration include:  -Training of district laboratory staff  -Management and leadership training for quality improvement  -Placement for MPH students  -Opening additional placement sites in refugee hosting districts  -Opening up a resource centre for health worker library |
| Makerere University updates | Makerere university has been engaged in refugee through the Public Health in Humanitarian settings programmes. The school has many ongoing programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. | Potential areas of collaboration;   1. Master’s programme – Public health, disaster management and field studies 2. Clinical programmes – specialist students to participate in specialized camps and or support peripheral university initiated camps with additional expertise 3. Outbreak response and management 4. Support to mentorship and support supervision activities of MoH and UNHCR 5. Develop a joint MoU with Ministry of Health to implement the intervention |
| Conclusion |  | 1. Develop a MoU to be shared with the schools with clear division of labour 2. Cross fertilization of expertise between the universities with one university bringing in additional capacity. |

**Sample MOU – for comments**

1. **Purpose**

## The purpose of this MoU is to formalize a relationship between Ministry of Health, Makerere University Colleague of Health Science and Gulu University Faculty of Medicine and The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Uganda that will leverage each other's respective strengths, experience, technologies, methodologies, investments and resources (both human, in-kind and monetary) in order to pursue a broadly ­scoped Collaboration (herein referred to as "the collaboration") focused on improving access to refugees and host population in the refugee hosting districts.

This MOU sets forth the understandings and intentions of the Parties with regard to these shared and complementary goals. The Parties are entering into this MOU while wishing to maintain their own separate and unique missions and mandates, and their own accountabilities. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as superseding or interfering in any way with other agreements or contracts entered into between the parties, either prior to or subsequent to the signing of the MOU. The Parties further specifically acknowledge that this MOU is not an obligation of remittance funds, nor does it constitute a legally binding commitment by either party.

1. **Authorities**

The Perment Secretary is acting pursuant to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uganda.

The Country Representative is acting pursuant to the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees-Uganda office.

The Vice Chancellors, of Makerere University and Gulu Universities are acting pursuant to the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act, 2001.

These authorizations for the organizations, together with the internal policies and procedures of each, define the authority of these organizations to enter into this MOU and jointly to support academic, research and development of interest to all the parties.

1. **Recitals**

## Ministry of Health, Makerere University, Gulu University and UNHCR-Uganda are desirous to enter a collaborative relationship following the need to improve access to integrated health services for both refugees and host population in refugee hosting districts.

1. **Roles of the Parties**
2. **Roles of Medical schools – Makerere and Gulu**

* Collaborate and support UNHCR-Uganda and all pertinent partners in undertaking operational, health systems and applied research
* Placement of Master’s programme for Public health, disaster management and field studies to be carried out in the refugee settlements as well as elective students placement in the refugee settlements
* Clinical programmes – specialist students to participate in specialized camps and or support peripheral university initiated camps with additional expertise in the refugee hosting district hospital and health facilities
* Outbreak response and management
* Participate in the joint mentorship and support supervision activities of MoH and UNHCR including outbreak response and management
* Develop and deliver short training/ courses for WASH and Public Health practitioners in the refugee settlements like laboratory, management and leadership for quality improvement
* Share information and publications in different research areas in WASH/ Public health
* Provide WASH short training/courses to staff in any appropriate/relevant fields of interest.
* Inform students and academic staff of any employment/internship openings offered by humanitarian partners which have been communicated in writing to the universities

1. **Roles of Ministry of Health**

* Provide planned and supervised internship opportunities for students to perform tasks to enhance learning and acquisition and practice of various skills based on objectives compatible with those of Ministry of Uganda
* Facilitate and provide an environment to enable staff and students of the universities to carry out their refugees and host population work.
* Whenever possible provide opportunities for funding to support research and training for students and staff of the Universities in the refugee and host populations.
* Provide specific expertise and technical support to the universities whenever possible to support research and training of students and academic staff
* Monitor progress, quality and level impact of the implementation of the interventions to the refugee and host population

1. **Roles of UNHCR**

* Provide access to refugee settlements for medical schools and ministry of health
* Work with implementing partners to prepare for the University mission and camps
* Prepare the clients that will benefit from the medical and surgical camps on the refugee settlements
* Whenever possible, facilitate specialist teams with transport and allowances at the existing rates as per the UN-Government of Uganda standard rates

1. **Implementation**

This MOU provides for a broad-based initiative between the Parties. The MoU establishes a foundation for a more robust future relationship between the the institutions. It reflects a shared value and focus for seeking joint collaboration opportunities within each organization's respective vision, mission, and program focus, and for establishing country-and project-specific collaboration opportunities.