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## Minutes - Protection Working Group (PWG) meeting 28 March 2022 (Teams online)

**Agencies present:** UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM, WHO, WFP, Romanian National Council for Refugees, CDMIR, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Action Aid, Caritas, Estuar Foundation, AidRom, ICAR Foundation, Oxfam, Action contre la faim, Scheherazade Foundation, Save the Children, Eliberare association, Protect Platform, Novapolis.

### Main topics discussed:

- [Tour de table and introductory remarks](#)
- [Refugee Coordination Model briefing](#)
  - UNHCR gave a short presentation on the role and mandate of the organization and UNHCR's role in coordination in accordance with the legal provisions set out in the Refugee Convention and UNGA resolutions
  - The purpose and impact of the Refugee Coordination Model (RCM) was explained
  - RCM structure with latest updates was presented
- [Background and introduction of the Protection Working Group](#)
  - Key priority areas are as follows:
    - Safe access to territory, rights and services
    - Information provision
    - Protection centered assistance and services
    - Effective solutions
  - Protection joint responses will focus on the following activities:
    - Joint needs assessments and gap analysis
    - Joint planning
    - Joint advocacy
    - Joint capacity building of all stakeholders
    - Information sharing and information management
  - Working Group arrangements
    - Weekly meetings with dedicated discussions on thematic areas will be organized
    - Leads to present brief observations and action points from other sub working group meetings on thematic areas from both UNHCR and Government led WGs
    - Government FPs presence in UNHCR WG is still under discussions, FP will depend on the portfolio related to particular thematic area
    - A common SharePoint folder will be available for all to upload and have access to documents
    - Flexibility amongst PWG is required re various thematic areas to be discussed
- [GBV presentation](#)

- GBV is integrated under Protection working group
- Short presentation of GBV coordination was given
- Re GBV coordination core functions would include:
  - Service mapping and support Service delivery
  - Develop and maintaining up to date referral pathways
  - Plan and implement GBV Strategies
  - Monitor and evaluate Performance
  - Build National Capacity in preparedness and response
- Key priorities
  - Check existing coordination mechanism
  - Identify GBV actors
  - Integrate GBV ToRs into broader PWG ToRs
  - Ensure GBV minimum standard
  - Rapid safety assessment
  - Workplan
- Referral Pathway
  - Establish GBV referral pathways by using easy-to-understand terms explaining what to do and where to go for immediate service delivery
  - Update referral pathways regularly
  - Agree on dissemination modality to frontline workers of all sectors e.g. pocket guides etc
  - Organize safe disclosure and referral trainings to frontline workers
- Strategy
  - Reflects the full range of GBV activities and partners that comprise the response
  - Provides better explanations of the operational context and the reasons behind priority areas of work
  - Plan responses for short, medium and long periods of time
- *GBV workplan incorporated into PWG plan*
- **Next steps**
  - UNHCR on behalf of the PWG will share template for GBV service mapping and referral pathways. All participants are required to share inputs by **03 April**
  - UNHCR to compile and share the consolidated version with all stakeholders by the end of first week of April
  - Need Assessment would be discussed in one of the PWG related meetings, but other priority areas will need to be discussed before that
  - UNHCR to create a shared folder for PWG participants

**Next Protection Working Group meeting will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 10:30-12:00. PWG meetings will be scheduled for every Tuesday 10.30 – 12.00 hrs and agenda item shared beforehand.**