



# Protection Working Group Meeting - Minutes

Meeting			
<b>Name</b>	Protection Working Group	<b>Meeting Date</b>	18 September 2013
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Beirut	<b>Meeting Time</b>	10:00-12:00
<b>Chair person</b>	Charlotte Ridung	<b>Meeting Duration</b>	2 hours
<b>Minutes Prepared by</b>	Charlotte Ridung		
<b>Purpose of Meeting</b>	Protection Working Group Meeting		

**Participants:** UNHCR (chair), MOSA, CARE, CLMC, DRC, FPSC, Handicap International, Heartland Alliance, Human Rights Watch, IOM, International Alert, IRAP, IRC, IRD, Mercy Corps, NRC, OCHA, OHCHR, Oxfam, SFCG, SHEILD, SNAP, UNFPA, UNRWA, WVI, WRF,

## Summary of discussions and action points

### 1. General Sector Updates

#### A. Introduction/Administrative Matters

Some new members of the PWG introduced themselves and will be included in the PWG mailing list.

#### B. Inter-Agency Reporting

NTR

#### Palestinian Refugees from Syria Update (UNRWA)

- Following a recent update of PRS currently in Lebanon, UNRWA has established that there are 45,000 PRS in country, despite 92,000 recorded in UNRWA's database.
- UNRWA as registered 220 UAMSCs of whom some are siblings.
- ATM cards for cash assistance are in the process of being distributed in across Lebanon in 5 areas (Tyre, Saida, North Lebanon Area, Central Lebanon Area, and Bekaa).
- UNRWA is seeking clarification on the precise nature of the restrictions being applied by the Lebanese authorities at the border. The Government of Lebanon has not issued any written restrictions on PRS entering Lebanon and according to statements by General Security Office (GSO), which UNRWA is cooperating with closely, no additional restrictions have been introduced barring Palestinians from entering Lebanon. UNRWA has noted that some PRS are unable enter Lebanon. UNRWA continues to intervene on humanitarian cases at the border.

### C. Child Protection Update

- The CPiEWG discussed issues related to the inter-agency contingency plan. Information related to the CP will include key messages in Arabic on prevention of family separation, family tracing and reunion, physical safety, exploitation (including trafficking), risks of UXO, psycho-social support.
- CPiEWG held a PSS technical working group, this TWG discussed in the last meeting mobile outreach and PSS activities (also mobile)
- RRP6 related issues were discussed.

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- **D. SGBV Update**

- Targeted assistance processes were explained to members of the SGBVTF
- PSEA SOPs and Action Plan to be shared upon completion
- OXFAM/ABAAD report Shifting Sands: Changing Gender Roles Among Refugees in Lebanon released (see attachment)
- RRP6 related issues were discussed.

### E. Situation / Operational Updates

#### Registration & Access to Territory

As of 16 September, 642,609 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR, while an additional 101,233 are scheduled/waiting for registration, which brings the total to 743,609.

- Post-Ramadan work plan roll out has resulted in a decrease in back log and waiting periods, including weekend registration.
  - 74% of the 1,000,000 target (registered & scheduled)
  - Mobile registration to Wadi Khalid set for September
  - Renewal Procedures rolled out in FDC.
  - Observed misconception on 'no need for registration' after introduction of targeted assistance.
  - Contingency and business continuity plan elaborated
  - IP standby roster & additional registration sites
- Random Registration Questionnaire
- Reasons for leaving Syria: 92.5% fled due to general violence; 5% due to lack of shelter, 3% due to lack of food.
- Reasons for choosing Lebanon as Country of Asylum: 51% due to easy access to the border; 19% previously worked/resided in Lebanon and 19% Lebanon being the less costly option.
- Assistance in Syria and return: 89% will not return and live in Syria even if they received assistance in their country of origin.
- Internal Displacement in Syria: 73% had not been internally displaced before. Of those who were, 89.5% reported being displaced once before fleeing to Lebanon.
- Return to Syria: 76% have not returned to Syria since they arrived to Lebanon; 18% have returned once. Of this group, 12% returned to check on family members and 8% to obtain documents, food and other items.
- **General summary of border developments**
  - DRC undertook border monitoring mission to Arida and Abbouddiyyeh
  - Syrian and Lebanese forces allegedly reject 300 people per day

- Syrian youth (single men) between 15-18 years of age denied access to Lebanon
- UNHCR undertakes daily border monitoring at Masnaa border crossing point
- Local volunteers and UNHCR undertake regular border monitoring at Arida and Abbouddiyyeh border crossing points.

- **ACTION POINTS:**

**Legal, Documentation & Security** (not discussed due to lengthy discussion on RRP6 procedures)

- **Regularization:**
- **Freedom of Movement:**
- **Security from Violence:**

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- **ACTION POINTS:**

**Basic Needs & Community Empowerment**

PWG members indicated that many issues of concern re: targeted assistance have arisen. The main concerns Pare related to some Syrians not registering because they erroneously believe that it is not long worthwhile to register, if assistance is no longer provided. Others do not feel confident that appeals forms reach UNHCR. One solution would be to amend the form to include a slip to acknowledge reception of the form.

- **ACTION POINTS:**

- Members engaged to share with the PWG lead lists of possible other concerns, which will be shared with the UNHCR Targeted Assistance team.
- PWG Lead to organize detailed briefing of PWG members by the Targeted Assistance team.

**Tented Settlements, Collective Shelters**

- **Evictions:**
- **Formal Tented Settlements:**
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The PWG discussed proposed beneficiary selection criteria for Formal Tented Settlements:

- Include refugees in ITS located in flooded areas
  - Include people evicted from their present shelter
  - Avoid placing all persons with specific needs in the same shelter/settlement
  - Ensure that the site lay out is gender-sensitive, including provisions for lighting in individual shelters and in communal areas, which could also decrease number of protection incidents, including SGBV
  - Find a balance between the number of new arrivals vs. refugees without resources, who have remained in Lebanon for extended periods of time
  - Protection concerns about site/settlement fencing.
  - Protection concerns about Law Enforcement Officials (LEOs) guarding refugee settlements

- **ACTION POINTS:**

PWG lead to further elaborate beneficiary selection criteria

**Regional Response Plan (RRP6)**

A background overview was provided of the RRP5 and the way forward for the RRP6 with a briefing from the regional workshop held in Amman, Jordan from 11-12 September 2013.

The five (5) global protection objectives were presented and members signed up for one or more of the five working groups with draft objectives and indicators as follows:

### **Objective No.1: Access to Territory and Refugee Rights Respected**

#### **Possible outputs:**

- Access to territory is improved and risk of refoulement reduced
- Protection violations against refugees are mitigated and addressed
- of registration and reception conditions are improved
- Access to legal assistance is enhanced and civil status documentation strengthened

#### **Possible indicators**

# reported incidents of denial of access to territory and # of reported detention incidents (access)

# days from first approach by arriving refugees to actual registration or (in some countries) individual documentation (as is the case for Lebanon) - (registration)

# successful interventions related to civil status identification - (documentation)

### **Objective No.2: Community Outreach, Empowerment and Self-Reliance**

#### **Outputs:**

- Persons with specific needs receive support and services Community is empowered and benefits from community-based services
- Community self-management is strengthened and expanded

#### **Possible Indicators:**

##### **Community outreach and partaking in response**

# of refugee outreach workers

# of Specific Needs cases identified by refugee outreach workers

# of Specific Needs cases responded to by specialized refugee outreach workers

# of community centres with mobile outreach established

# of Government actors, humanitarian assistance providers and CBO trained in Do No Harm and conflict sensitive approaches

##### **Social cohesion**

# of peaceful co-existence projects implemented

# of community support projects benefiting local and displaced communities implemented

# Community sensitization campaign implemented

# Extend local communities support continued presence of persons of concern (impact)

#### **Livelihoods/self-reliance**

# of persons benefiting from job placement services or micro finance

# of persons enrolled in non-formal market-driven vocational training or formal national institutions for certified vocational or skills training

# of persons generating an income from market creation projects

**Objective No.3: SGBV (To be reviewed by the SGBVTF)**

#### **Possible outputs:**

- (1) Refugees and Lebanese women and girls have increased access to safe spaces and economic strengthening activities
- (2) All survivors of SGBV access immediate, safe and multi-sectorial services through ethical referrals and quality case management
- (3) Negative coping mechanisms and risks to SGBV are mitigated through mobilization of decision-makers and community mediation initiatives
- (4) Key government stakeholders are better equipped to prevent and respond to SGBV at national and sub-national level

#### **Indicators to be agreed**

**Objective No. 4: Child Protection (To be reviewed by the CPIEWG)**

#### **Outputs:**

- (1) Vulnerabilities of children and parents are reduced and their resilience strengthened
- (2) Child Protection violations are mitigated and addressed
- (3) Coordination of the child protection sector and capacity of child protection actors is strengthened
- (4) Advocacy
- (5) Mainstreaming Child Protection into other sectors

#### **Indicators to be agreed**

**Objective No. 5: Durable Solutions (UNHCR and interested partners)**

#### **Outputs:**

- (1) Refugees from Syria benefit from expedited RSD and resettlement

- (2) Refugees from Syria benefit from Temporary Humanitarian Admission Programme (T-HAP)
- (3) Humanitarian Evacuation

**Indicators to be agreed**

Social Cohesion and Livelihoods will be managed in separate Working Groups.

3. Agreed Action Points :				
	Issue	Deadline	Responsible	Comment
	Members to share list of concerns re: targeted assistance	ASAP	Members	Lead to share with Targeted Assistance team
	PWG Lead to organize detailed briefing of PWG members by the Targeted Assistance team.	ASAP	PWG lead	Contact with Targeted Assistance team
	PWG lead to finalize the beneficiary selection criteria for Formal Tented Settlements	ASAP	PWG lead	

**Attachments**

Document	Location
PWG Meeting 20 August, Powerpoint Presentation	
Shifting Sands: Changing Gender Roles Among Refugees in Lebanon report by ABAAD and OXFAM	