

SGBV Sub-Working Group
Syrian, African and Iraqi Refugee Response in Egypt
Meeting minutes

Date: 11 April 2016

Time: 10:00 – 12:00

Venue: UNHCR Cairo, Zamalek Office, training room

Chair: UNHCR

Participants: StARS, EFRR, ACSFT, Caritas-Egypt, CARE, PSTIC, Plan, UNHCR

1. Endorsement of last meeting minutes (10')
2. Discussion and revision of ToR (45')
3. Birth registration: way forward (discussion/ task force) (15')
4. 3W matrix, referral pathway and IA case conference: way forward (15')
5. Updates on activities/ trends/ challenges (20')
6. AoB (10')

1. Endorsement of last meeting minutes

UNHCR inquired if there are any comments on the last meeting minutes. As there were no comments, the minutes were endorsed by the SWG.

UNHCR explained that Plan International cannot give a presentation on their new livelihoods program with UNHCR during today's SWG meeting due to delays in finalizing the project agreement with UNHCR. They will present it in the next SWG meeting.

- *Action point – UNHCR to invite Plan for a presentation on their livelihoods program in the next meeting*

EFRR informed that SWG members can still provide feedback on their SGBV legal guidelines as they have not yet been finalized. The guidelines will be discussed in the SWG upon their finalization.

UNHCR reported that CARE are working on a legal first aid training for case managers. Further information will be shared in the next SWG meeting.

- *Action point – CARE to share information on legal first aid training in next SWG meeting*

UNHCR suggested to host a one day workshop to develop the inter-agency referral pathway in May. The SWG members agreed with this suggestion.

- *Action point – UNHCR to propose a meeting date for a workshop to develop the inter-agency referral pathway*

2. Discussion and revision of ToR

StARS inquired if the wording ‘prevention of and response to SGBV’ should be amended to only include ‘response to SGBV’, suggesting that the former insinuates that survivors should be able to prevent SGBV incidents, and they might feel they are being blamed for having been subjected to incidents.

UNHCR highlighted that the term ‘prevention of and response to SGBV’ is globally used in guidance documents and programming. The SWG members agreed to keep this wording in the ToR.

UNHCR suggested changing the order of ‘men, women, boys and girls’ to ‘women, girls, men and boys’ to acknowledge that women and girls are at higher risk of SGBV, while still recognizing that men and boys are also subjected to SGBV. The SWG members agreed with the suggestion.

PSTIC inquired whether community consultations under the tab ‘participatory approach consistent with Age, Gender, Disability Mainstreaming (AGDM)’ are meant to only include community leaders or members of the community in general.

UNHCR explained that consultations should ideally be carried out with a wide range of community members, not just with leaders.

StARS inquired if the standardized system mentioned under ‘Developing information systems and conducting assessments’ refers to the GBVIMS.

UNHCR stated that it does not specifically refer to the GBVIMS, but to any standardized system of data collection on SGBV.

StARS asked what ‘evidence-based’ advocacy refers to.

UNHCR informed that the term refers to advocacy which is based on quantitative and qualitative data.

UNHCR highlighted that regular attendance of and engagement in the SWG is crucial to ensuring the SWG’s usefulness for members. Each organization’s focal point should designate a back-up person in case they cannot attend the SWG meeting. UNHCR further emphasized that members’ active participation and contribution is key to the effectiveness of the SWG.

StARS noted that coordination between the different working groups should be improved and suggested that the SWG should collaborate with the Communicating with communities WG on SGBV.

UNHCR suggested that the Communicating with communities WGs be added to the list of SWGs to collaborate with. The members agreed with this.

UNHCR highlighted that the SWG needs to strengthen its collaboration with communities and the PI Unit on messaging regarding timely reporting of SGBV cases, as UNHCR and partners are often informed too late of new SGBV cases, and survivors do not access necessary services in a timely manner.

UNHCR emphasized that collaboration with national actors should be strengthened.

StARS suggested that the added value of participating in the SWG should be highlighted and that capacity building opportunities would make the SWG more useful.

UNHCR informed that they are in contact with the hub in Nairobi regarding training opportunities for the SWG.

StARS noted that they are of the opinion that they already have comprehensive information on services provided by organizations and ways of referring survivors. They stated that they will however still participate in the development of the inter-agency referral pathway.

UNHCR emphasized that there are still cases which end up not receiving appropriate services because they do not get referred to the correct service provider on time and that the referral pathway should assist in decreasing the occurrence of such cases. UNHCR suggested that organizations bring their own referral pathways to the workshop and that they be used as a starting point for the discussion. In addition, the workshop will also provide a platform to discuss the appropriate level of detail on cases to be shared among partners.

CARE expressed that the ToR are very ambitious and suggested that the SWG decide on a few key points as goals for the year to ensure that these are reached by the end of 2016. The SWG members agreed with this suggestion.

UNHCR suggested that a core group be put in place whose members will meet on 26th April (9am – 12pm) to identify the priorities for 2016 and develop a work plan for the SWG.

- *Action point – UNHCR to send an invitation to the core group meeting*
- *Action point – UNHCR to update and re-circulate the ToR*

3. Birth registration: way forward (discussion/ task force)

UNHCR reported that MSF had shared a few cases with Protection which faced challenges in issuing birth certificates. They suggested that Protection present the legal framework and challenges in the next SWG meeting.

CARE suggested inviting all of the lawyers to the meeting so that they can share their experience and information on birth registration. They suggested that UNHCR collect members' concerns before the meeting with the lawyer.

- *Action point – UNHCR to collect members' concerns on birth registration before the next SWG meeting*

SWG members agreed that UNHCR Protection colleagues and CARE, ACSFT and EFRR lawyers will be invited to the next SWG meeting to discuss birth registration.

- *Action point – UNHCR to send an invitation for the next SWG to PRT colleagues and CARE, ACSFT and EFRR lawyers*

PSTIC suggested that the SWG meeting be extended by one hour to ensure sufficient time for discussion with the lawyers. The SWG members agreed with this.

4. 3W matrix, referral pathway and IA case conference: way forward

UNHCR informed that most of the members sent the information required for the 3W and that the matrix will be finalized within the coming weeks.

UNHCR suggested that the core group discuss the way forward regarding case conferences. The SWG members agreed with this.

5. Updates on activities/ trends/ challenges

StARS invited all members to attend their Spring Bazar on Saturday, 16th April.

UNHCR informed that the CP SWG is currently finalizing its ToR, that their case conference is held regularly and that it had defined its priorities for 2016.

ACSFT informed that many cases of survivors with children born out of rape are requesting assistance for the issuance of birth certificates in the last 5 days of the legal issuance period of 15 days. To start the process, they require an email from UNHCR which sometimes takes too long to obtain. If possible, they would like to start the procedure already while waiting for UNHCR's email.

UNHCR suggested that ACSFT contact UNHCR Protection to discuss this issue.

UNHCR informed that the PI Unit is in the process of developing a poster explaining the steps survivors should take to register the birth of a child.

6. AOB

- Next SGBV SWG meeting: 9th May 2016
- Venue: Training room UNHCR Office, Zamalek
- Topics: Presentation and discussion on livelihoods and on birth registration

Action points

Action	Lead Organisation	Deadline
UNHCR to invite Plan to next meeting for a presentation on their livelihoods program	UNHCR	5 th April
UNHCR to send an invitation to the core group meeting on 26th April	UNHCR	15 th April
UNHCR to update and re-circulate the SWG ToR	UNHCR	Before next meeting
UNHCR to invite for a workshop to develop the IA referral pathway including an information sharing protocol for IA referrals	UNHCR	Before next meeting

UNHCR to collect members' concerns on birth registration	UNHCR	Before next meeting
UNHCR to send an invitation for the next SWG to PRT colleagues and CARE, ACSFT and EFRR lawyers	UNHCR	Before next meeting
CARE to share information on legal first aid training in next SWG meeting	CARE	Next meeting
UNFPA to share information on and contact details for the FGM play	UNFPA	Next meeting
Save the Children to provide further information on the content of their report	Save the Children	Next meeting
Members to provide UNHCR Protection, Daniele Tessandori with information on cases where issuance of birth certificates was unsuccessful	All	ASAP