

## CCCM Sector

### Guidance Note on distribution of tents in IDPs settlements in Syria

*Gaziantep, October, 2014*

Given the quality of the tents and the harsh weather condition in the areas where IDPs settlements are located, tents need to be replaced at least once every year. The CCCM members are striving to cover the needs. Since March 014, at least 9,664<sup>1</sup> tents were provided by various member organisations. At least 3,400 tents were provided by other actors<sup>2</sup>. While the availability of tents remains a challenge, the “profit-oriented” settlements that are being established every month represents another challenge for the CCCM members. Some landowners are requesting the humanitarian actors to erect tents on their lands with the aim of attracting the IDPs to move to these new settlements, mainly form the other settlements. IDPs are requested to pay rents to these landlords.

In order to streamline tents provision and ensure that tents are provided based on the needs and that the Do No Harm principle is implemented, the CCCM members have agreed to take the following points into consideration during the distribution of tents:

- The CCCM members strive to ensure that everyone has the right to adequate housing. This right is recognised in key international legal instruments (*SPHERE standards Chapter 4: Minimum Standards in Shelter, Settlement and Non-Food Items - see below the link to the document*). This includes the right to live in security, peace and dignity, with security of tenure, as well as protection from forced eviction and the right to restitution.
- To avoid any harm by supporting the benefit-oriented settlements, distributing tents for empty spaces where no IDPs are observed should not happen. In case of new settlements, the settlement has to be endorsed as “needs-based settlement” by filing the settlement verification online tool that was developed by the CCCM, *see below the link to the tool*.
- Tents should be provided only in safe areas because encouraging IDP to settle in unsafe area would expose them to various risks.
- It is highly recommended to provide fire extinguishers when distributing tents to mitigate the risk of fire incidents.

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<sup>1</sup> CCCM tents tracking sheet\_ October 2014 update.

<sup>2</sup> CCCM did not receive direct reports from these actors but this was mentioned in the field reports of other member organisations



- The quality of the tents must meet the agreed standards by NFI/Shelter and CCCM Sectors. Providing worse or better quality will result in conflict and might expose the IDPs to protection risks. *See below the link to the recommended specifications.*
- The main focus should be first to cover the urgent needs of the newly displaced IDPs in the existing settlements and replacing the damaged tents in the existing IDPs settlements. It is highly recommended to avoid establishing new settlements.
- When there is a limited capacity to cover all the entire needs in a settlement, it is essential to conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify the most vulnerable families and a Focused Group Discussion to avoid conflict.
- When necessary, tents should be provided to individual families or small groups of newly displaced IDPs living in public areas or open spaces or with hosting communities to support both IDPs and Hosting communities.

- Settlement verification checklist: <http://www.globalccmcluster.org/self-settled-camp-verification-checklist>

- SPHERE standards Chapter 4: [file:///C:/Users/UNHCRuser/Downloads/SPHEREChap.4-shelterandNFIs\\_English%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/UNHCRuser/Downloads/SPHEREChap.4-shelterandNFIs_English%20(1).pdf)

- CCCM recommended tents specifications: <http://www.unhcr.org/502507d39.pdf>