

TOPIC : Shelter / NFI Meeting
DATE : 09 July 2009
LOCATION : UNHCR Conference Room

ATTENDEES :

Cecilia Dahlgren	UNHCR	Programme Officer
Andrew Lucas	ADRA	M& E Officer
Dawn Dahlke	UMCOR	Programme Officer
Sanja Saputantri	CARE	Head of RSS
Harin Abeyratne	SCISL	Head of Logistics
Ramila Senanayaka	OXFAM GB	Media & Communication Officer
Lalith Perera	ZOA	M&E Coordinator
Thusitha Kodikotuwa	SLF	National Coordinator
Suranga Mallawa	UNOPS	Project Development Officer
Mal Ralston	UNOPS	Project Manager – Emergency
Giovanni Cassani	IOM	Emergency Officer
Matthew Todd	ASB	Country Director
Ruport Thabur	UNICEF	WASH Advisor
Abdulai Kaikai	UNICEF	Head of WASH
Babar Baloch	UNHCR	Public Info. Officer
Dinesh Thalpapwila	UNHCR	SCC Liaison Officer
Nilkanthi Naranpanawa	UNHCR	Shelter Assistant
Michelle Berman	UNHCR	Senior Programme Clerk

Following are the significant points discussed during the meeting:

1. Follow up action from the last meeting –

According to the agreement in the last shelter coordination meeting, comments received on the broad aspects of the return transitional shelter have been shared with the shelter coordination at Vavuniya level. Comments will be discussed and decision about eventual amendments to the draft aspects of the return shelter decided upon at Vavuniya level and thereafter these will be shared with agencies at Colombo level. Once the government shares the return plan further discussions will be held with the government.

2. Current situation in Vavuniya –

Updated draft of Vavuniya shelter stocks from the shelter coordination in Vavuniya will be shared with all agencies electronically. As per information received, currently 11,833 shelters and 5,124 tents have been erected in Vavuniya with about 5,364 shelters in the pipeline for Vavuniya.

• *Zone 2 –*

CA has informed that zone 2 will be divided into several small “villages”. Currently, 4 such villages have been mentioned and the humanitarian community has been requested to revise lay-outs and remove tents before 13th July. This is a temporary action taken by the Competent Authority for security reasons and does not resolve the decongestion issue in zone 2. Thus, additional work/constraints are expected in decommissioning shelters while also facing the need to erect shelters in the new zones/sites.

• *Zone 6A –*

Currently 608 shelters have been constructed in zone 6A, and another 307 are in the process of construction out of the 1,200 planned. The first transfer of IDPs to this site may take place on 14 July 2009.

• *Zone 6B –*

Currently clearing and levelling are done by the SLA and is planned to finish on 14th July. The assessments scheduled have been postponed as the clearing of SLA is not yet completed.

- **Zone 7 –**

Currently 514 shelters have been constructed in zone 7, and another 146 are on the process of construction. It is planned that the IDP transfers to this zone will begin as of 13 July 2009.

- **Zone 8 –**

Assessments took place and it was agreed on 03 July to go ahead with the erection of shelters on this site. The planned capacity is 940 tents.

- **Zone 5 –**

No change. The zone has 1,423 shelters erected and a total of 5,025 IDPs transferred.

- **Dharmakuran (ex-MKK)**

The Mahakongaskada site has changed name to Dharmapuran. A total of 880 shelters have been constructed and 4,901 IDPs transferred from zone 2 to Dharmapuran

3. Drainage problem in Menic Farm – Priority continues to be the drainage problem especially with the monsoons season approaching. Heavy rains and winds could affect shelters. Another main concern is to find out whether the roads could stand up having gully suckers as the roads are clay based and may not be able to handle the heavy water bowsers running over several times per day.

IOM's mentioned that the emergency shelter is designed to last for at least 03 months, and that the current structure would not be support the monsoon rains. This issue also had been brought up at many platforms in Vavuniya, where several remedies have been suggested to avoid such consequences.

UNOPS suggested a policy change in case discussions in Vavuniya in relation to zinc and aluminium roofing's are to be introduced and reinforced for the rainy season. UNHCR mentioned that they will check with Vavuniya what has been discussed on this issue.

It was agreed that:

- All shelter agencies should be ready with more stocks of shelters/ tents for the forthcoming emergency as per discussion and coordination of how many more shelters as per discussions on-going in Vavuniya.
- Continued focus should be on maintaining and repairing shelters/ tents
- It was mentioned that discussions are on-going in Vavuniya how to improving roofs and walls and that UNHCR will keep the shelter coordination in Colombo informed.

According to ASB, host families should be considered. Therefore the Government should be made aware of the option of host family. UNHCR mentioned that this advocacy is ongoing since many months back and that the UNHCR Protection unit and protection cluster is advocating on the host families option.

On the emergency drainage in the zones, it was mentioned that UNOPS will intervene in zone 2 on funding from DIFID. UNHCR also mentioned that UNDP is carrying out contours surveys in zone 1,2,3 and 4 and that more information could be provided in the next meeting. UNHCR asked thea agencies which could have capacity to carry out emergency drainage. Among the agencies present, UNOPS confirmed they had the capacity but not funding.

4. Care & Maintenance – 72% of the task has been met in zone 3. 4,673 shelters have been deployed so far.

5. NFI Distribution – General NFI distributions are complete. But some concerns are on zone 0, where some families have not received NFIs. Further, NFI distributions continue to the IDPs who return from hospitals.

Additionally, IOM has distributed 1,000 numbers of mosquito nets to hospitals and elderly homes. Mats were also distributed among persons with special needs. Jerry cans were also distributed among diarrhoea cases in hospital. The left over Jerry Cans will be distributed to either the beneficiaries who receive the ICRC NFI packages or to all the IDPs in Menic Farm. But IOM prefers to distribute it among all the IDPs in Menic Farm. Decision is yet to be taken in Vavuniya level.

UNICEF together with UNHCR, Save the Children and other agencies are working on a strategy to distribute children's clothing (up to ages 10 and 12), which are stocked in Vavuniya currently.

6. **Other Issues** – Government draft return plan for health and fisheries sectors have been shared for technical inputs with WHO and FAO.

7.Next meeting - Next NFI/ Shelter meeting will be on 16 July 2009 at 15h00 at UNHCR.