

## JOINT PERMANENT HOUSING, SHELTER/ NFI SECTOR MEETING

Thursday, 16 June 2011 at 15.00 hrs, UNHCR Conference Room

### ATTENDEES:

Name	Agency	Name	Agency
David Evans	UN HABITAT	Rasika Mendis	CHORE
Meryse Tissera	ASB	Elilini Hoole	ZOA
Udayanga Warahagoda	ZOA	S. Syendra	Caritas
M. Faslan	Muslim Aid	Edward	HFHSL
Kanan	ECHO	Krishanthi Weerakoon	UN OCHA
Menique Amarasinghe	UNHCR	Sarath Wasala	UNICEF
Mithsiri Dias	Caritas	Jackson Selliah	UNHCR
Michelle Berman	UNHCR		

### 1. The HLP Presentation

The Housing, Land and Property Task force began as an initiative made by the IDP protection working group in dealing with matters concerning to land issues and broadening its scope to housing and gaining properties. Though there had been many research reports cover more global issues rather than been more specific, therefore the HLP Task force ToR deals with these issues. The main point of the Task Force's ToR is to strengthen the link between the Task force and the Permanent housing and Shelter sectors. A consultant was hired for this for a period of three months to look into the emerging complex issues in this area of land issues. Currently the Task force is updating recommendation proposed by its members and will have another presentation at another Joint Permanent Housing, Shelter/NFI meeting. A briefing on updates could be made at regular meetings time to time.

There are some issues pertaining to the report which needs to be reviewed. They are;

1. There is no overall policy on land available
2. Lack of a National independent body/ National Land Commission (The current Structure does not support the impact on land issues on IDPs.
3. How to cope up with the phases of displacement and deal with the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of IDPs ad how to serve their rights properly
4. Issues concerning to the Administrative procedures
5. Issues on secondary occupations of land by civilians over a period of 10 years
6. Issues of HSZ – If land is utilized for public purposes and as economic zones the civilians should compensate
7. Issues of non existing boundaries - Lack land marks unable to identify boundaries
8. Need of getting documentations for people who do not have already to provide identification documents for their property. The government has halted issuance of land permits. It was shared that the Land Ministry has put a cabinet memo to resolve the issue on land in the north.
9. Discontinuation of issuance of state land or grant of permits

Apart from this the report captures issues concerning to the scale of landlessness (or the % of landlessness) and the term “landlessness” which is undefined. (Lack of documentation, families who do not have land at all, Duplicated assistance of land provided to families etc). This report also needs to be supported by the gap identified for housing which would enable to locate the number of persons who are landless. Once the report is finalized it will be shared among the government counterparts.

## **2. Shelter grant/ NFI Update**

A total of 117,534 NFI kits have been distributed among the returnees from 2009 to the 31 May 2011, out of which 71,783 NFI Kits were distributed in 2010 and 8,192 NFI Kits were distributed in 2011.

As of end of May 2011, 81,119 return forms have been distributed in Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Mullaithivu, Mannar & Jaffna.

## **3. Update on Menik Farm**

It is informed that 4 new GN divisions are to be opened in Mullaithivu for new settlements for the Menik Farm population.

A total of occupied shelters in Menik farm are 4,967 (2,043 shelters in zone 0 and 2,924 shelters in zone 1) and a total of 2,453 shelters are unoccupied and requires to be decommissioned in zones 0 & 1.

According to the shelter matrix prepared by the UNHCR colleagues in Vavuniya the gaps highlighted are approximately 77% for transitional shelters in the northern return areas.

## **4. Permanent Housing Update**

The total requirement for the permanent housing sector was calculated between 110,000 to 120,000. It is mentioned that there are many families still living under trees and in transitional shelters. From all these requirements there is a commitment for 40,000 houses.

## **5. AOB**

- ECHO has received 24 proposals worth Euros 25 million, but will only allocate Euros 5 million for shelter activities via partners (UNOPS, DRC and ZOA) in the north & East.
- PTF/JPA Meeting – OCHA informed that all sectors should review their data on the completed shelters/ houses and their gaps with the GAs to be able to be compatible with the GAs.
- The Protection Sector will have a Land & Housing presentation at the next Joint Permanent Housing, Shelter/NFI meeting.