

**Shelter & NFI Coordination Meeting**  
Held at UNHCR on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2009 at 3 p.m

Participants:

Laurent Raguin	UNHCR	Senior Programme Officer
Drene Sariffodeen	UNHCR	Associate Programme Officer
Sarah Wimaladharna	UNHCR	Executive Assistant
Harin Abeyratne	SCiSL	Head of Logistics
Jennifer Goodman	CESVI	Project Manager
Rob Delaney	NRC	Shelter Programme Manager
Avanthi Coonghe	ICRC	Economic Security Assistant
Benil Thavarasa	SDC	National Program Officer
Katja Laurila	UNOCHA	Field Coordinating Officer
Ines Pankrath	SAH	Country Representative
Jay Eduoard	UNICEF	Field Coordinator
Malcom Rodgers	OXFAM	Protection Advisor
Dinusha Pathiraja	ECHO	PA
David Evans	UNHABITAT	Chief Technical Advisor
Tony Seneviratne	Habitat for Humanity	National Director
Kaushalya Navaratne	Sewlanka	Director – Programs
Annelise de Bruin	ZOA	Donor Account Manager
Andrew Lucas	ADRA	Monitoring & Evaluation Officer
Takuya Ono	IOM	Head of Engineering
Nilkanthi Naranpanawe	UNHCR	Shelter Assistant

**1. Potential IDP Returns to north and east:**

- Minister Rishard Bathiudeed, Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights had visited the Menic Farm IDP sites during the heavy rainy season during which the GA had stated that the GoSL was caught unaware for the rains.
- The Minister also stated the potential return of some 50,000 IDPs to Jaffna and the Eastern districts before the monsoon begins.
- The present strategy of the GoSL is to accommodate these returning IDPs in a transit site; UNHCR, however, is advocating for direct return to their homes.

**2. Drainage Improvement Efforts:**

- During the torrential rains over the weekend it was noted that the Zones 1, 2 and 3 were affected less than Zone 4; this was due to the drainage work that had commenced on the 3 former zones. Zone 4 where the drainage improvement work has not yet commenced was affected badly.

- Following agencies will implement drainage improvement activities in the Menic Farm Zones:

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Agency</b>
1	SLLRDC
2	UNOPS
3	SLLRDC
4	SLA/SLLRDC
5	SLA
6A & 6B	UNOPS
7	
8	IOM – Reviewing
Sunethipuram	SLA
Dharmapuram	Advocating SLA to take over
Veerapuram	Advocating SLA to take over

- An update on the drainage improvement work has been shared with the GoSL.
- Oxfam raised the concern in relation to the main drainage excavation that will affect the river due to the increase in the silt into the river; which will, it was believe would have a diverse affect the water treatment plant that is providing drinking water to the sites. A request was made to address this issue during the next drainage improvement meeting.
- Oxfam also raised the issues of the provision of drinking water via bowzers may be affected during the rainy season as well.
- UNICEF stated that the GoSL is drilling bore-holes along the roadside which will provide sufficient drinking water.
- The positioning of Ponds inside the sites and potential hazards was addressed by UNHCR; it was explained that the small ponds within sites were technically necessary and cannot or should not be removed for these ponds are naturally created due to the lowest point of the terrain, hence these areas had to be utilized as a buffer of water fill. It was explained to the group that the Agrarian Services Department was interested in implementing agriculture projects for which this water could be used. Furthermore, in order to mitigate mosquito infestation, it was proposed to introduce inland fish in to these ponds. Developing a bunt and fencing around the area for safety was adopted as a standard policy for all ponds in all zones.

### 3. **Return Plan:**

- UNHCR stated that the GoSL had requested UNHCR to assist the return process through a shelter grant, NFIs, transport and small quick-impact-projects;
- The shelter grant was a cash grant of LKR 25,000 to the returning families. In addition to this a tarpaulin kit will be given to the returning families.
- Senior Presidential Advisor, Basil Rajapakse had proposed to meet the NGOs on the return planning, however the meeting has not yet materialized.
- The suggestions put together by the SCC-TWG in Vavuniya on the return has not yet been presented to the GoSL; at the present juncture the GoSL had requested only for shelter cash grant.

- The GI sheets received as part of the Indian donation, that would provide 16 tin sheets per family, may be included in the 2 Year Plan that is being alluded to by the GoSL. It was felt that the number of GI sheets per person (16) was the adequate number for a transitional shelter.

4. **Non-Food Items:**

- UNHCR has received NFI donation from India to cater to 80,000 IDPs. This is the largest consignment received by UNHCR globally, which contained NFIs full of 87 containers.
- NFI distribution to be carried out in close coordination with NGOs;
- Priority will be given to returnee families and towards care and maintenance of those families remaining in the IDP sites;
- Meeting the gap of the non-food items need to be assessed for the Indian donation did not include some items that were listed in the returnee NFI kits;

5. **AOB:**

- UNICEF stated that a letter from the Ministry of Education has been sent to the Presidential Task Force with regard to communal space. The letter ascertained that these communal spaces should not be considered as an area that could be utilized as flood relief. These should be maintained as school areas.
- The forum inquired if drainage improvement work in detainee camps were being carried out; IOM stated that it is presently surveying the sites for drainage improvement.
- The forum inquired if contingency plans during rains are being considered; it was agreed that the involvement of the SLA during natural emergencies in the sites was pivotal.
- The forum requested for a statistical breakdown of the number of emergency shelters that will be affected and will need to be relocated, to be made available.

Action Plan:
1. A NFI Purchasing Plan to be worked on.
2. A NFI Gap Analysis to be conducted.
3. A contingency plan during natural emergencies to be finalized.
4. Statistics in relation damaged shelters to be made available.

UNHCR  
Colombo  
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