TOPIC: Shelter and NFI Meeting

DATE : 23rd July 2009

LOCATION: UNHCR Conference Room

ATTENDEES :

Laurent Raguin UNHCR Snr. Programme Officer (Chair)

N. Amalraj IOM Project Assistant

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Tharanga Ranasinghe SLF Project Coordinator
Annelise De Bruin ZOA Donor Acc. Manager
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Tahirih Qurratulayn SCiSL Strategic Program Advisor
Gareth Price Jones UMCOR Share Program Manager

Babar Baloch

Nilkanthi Naranpanawe UNHCR Shelter Assistant

Significant points discussed:

(1) Vavuniya: Division of Zone 2 into 4 camps by the GoSL has not been held back.

Zone 2 drainage progress: RDD started some drainage activities but it is not coordinated with proper planning. However Disaster Management Ministry Representatives will meet RDD in Vavuniya and coordinate with the UN. UNHCR is sending a Shelter person from Colombo to Vavuniya to coordinate and fill in gaps. UNOPS is taking full charge of drainage activities in Zone 2. Surface drainage should be done by the IDPs, as they will be provided with tools to give them ownership of the process. UMCOR informed that they have funding available for drainage work. Care has already been funded through the Share fund. Priority is main drainage, surface drainage and care and maintenance of the shelters.

- (2) Several Meetings have taken place with the participation of UNHCR, UNDP, UNOPS, Sri Lanka Land Reclamation & Development Corporation and Disaster Management Centre Officials to coordinate and carry out a practical Drainage system for Manic Farm and to ensure it is in place by end of August 2009, before the rainy season.
- (3) Guidelines on how to improve sustainability/solidity of the shelter and the need to replace plastic sheets was discussed.
- (4) In case of return resources could be mobilized as substantial stocks of emergency shelter and tents are available. It was hoped that humanitarian

agencies would be giving an indication before the start of the process. UNHCR is advising/guiding government based on the return process of the East.

PSWN are included in contingency planning for the rains.

- (5) Colleagues in Vavuniya are trying to ascertain on items that should be included in the NFI Kits that would be distributed to the IDPs, in case of flooding of the camps takes place. Plastic Boxes, Zipable Plastic Bags and Umbrellas are considered.
- (6) Returns must be voluntary. UNHCR will advocate that people who do not want to return should not be forced return. Go and see visits will also be advocated for to give the residents an idea of the areas of origin.
- (7) Shelter clusters top priority are
 - Completion of Shelters in Zone 5-8 and MKK Site.
 - Shelter repairs and maintenance
 - Drainage Issue
 - Survey on NFI situation Replacements / Special Needs
 - Preparation for Return Shelters (TWG in Vavuniya)