

TOPIC : Shelter / NFI Meeting
DATE : 25 June 2009
LOCATION : UNHCR Conference Room

ATTENDEES :

Cecilia Dahlgren	UNHCR	Programme Officer
Matthew Todd	ASB	Country Director
Steve Ray	UNOCHA	Deputy Head of Office
Ramila Senanayake	Oxfam GB	Media & Communication Officer
Lalith Perera	ZOA	M&E Coordinator
Rob Jones	UNOPS	Senior Programme Manager
Treil Brekike	NRC	Country Director
Sanja Saputantri	CARE	Head of RSS
Michael Langford	ADRA	Coordinator
Liza Mantilla	USAID/OFDA	Field/ info Officer
Peter Ormel	CARE	Programme Director
Ramesh	Relief International	Finance/ Admin. Officer
Kaushalya Navaratne	SLF	Director- Programme
Prem B Chand	RedR UK	Country Director
Ambika Sathkunarasa	UNRCO	National Legal Consultant
Ingrid Quinn	UNOCHA	IASC Gender Advisor
Harin Abeyratne	SCISL	Head of Logistics
Jens Hesemann	UNHCR	Head of Field Office
Babar Baloch	UNHCR	Public Info. Officer
N. Amalraj	IOM	Project Assistant
Nikola Buljugic	UMCOR	Logistics & Procurement Coordinator
Tahirih Qurratulaya	SCISL	Strategic Programme Advisor
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 - No information had been received related to the issue of Puvasakulam. The matter had been brought up with Vavuniya and will be looked into at Vavuniya level. On the second action point requested in the last meeting in relation to procedures regarding transfer of IDPs from one zone to the other, no procedures have been received. UNHCR confirmed that there are gaps and issues in relation to the decongestion and that UNHCR continues to monitor and advocate through the established field units and field officers on issues such as the voluntary aspect of movements, stressing the importance to keep the family intact, and providing advice on PWSN.

2. Update on Vavuniya (Shelter / NFIs)-

- *NFI Update* - General NFI distribution in Vavuniya has completed except 01 block in zone 1. It was decided in Vavuniya that the WASH cluster will take over the distribution of hygiene kits, which are needed to be distributed on a regular basis. Management of this would be facilitated by UNICEF.

The current focus is on proceeding with surveys in identifying gaps for those who have returned from hospitals and persons with special needs and vulnerable groups.

- *Shelter Update* – Still the current focus is on decongestion of Menic Farm zones and schools. Transfers from zones 2 to zone 5 are ongoing, where currently 4,321 persons have been transferred to the 1,423 erected shelters.

- The erection of shelters in Mahakongaskada (MKK) is estimated to be completed by Sunday. The number of shelters erected at MKK as at 25 June is 538 shelters completed and 155 partially completed. The MKK site has changed name to Dharmapuran. It was also mentioned that the Competent Authority is expecting to empty all schools as at end of August.
 - The new policy communicated by the Competent Authority is to reduce the number of shelter construction in the new Zones and limit the capacity of the new sites to 5,000 persons (i.e 1,000 – 1,200 families/zone). This will probably result in sub-divisions of some zones (zone 1,3, 4 and zone 6).
 - Assessments of zones 6 A and 7, by shelter, WASH, Protection and education sectors teams took place on 24.06. A first debriefing meeting took place in Vavuniya on 24.06 while a second meeting planned for today. The common stand would most probably be communicated on 26.06. As per the draft assessment, the capacity of zone 7 was 3,040 persons and Zone 6 A was between 4,000-5,000 persons.
 - It has been communicated that new zones are to be introduced. Except for Zone 6A and 7 that have been assessed, the new zones 6B, 7,8,9 and 10 still not assessed. The authorities plan is that each of these zones will have a capacity of 5,000 persons each.
 - *Maintenance of shelters and tents* – The same focus is also given on care and maintenance of shelters in different zone. So far, 3,151, shelters have been repaired. Discussions are also ongoing in Vavuniya to come up with a policy on decommissioning of tents (Approximately 1,200 tents in Zone 2 concerned so far which were put up two or three months ago).
 - The participants were also informed of the shelter coordination in Vavuniya's position regarding cemented floor in the ESKs and tents within the zones.
3. **Broad Parameters for return traditional shelters** – The Draft minutes of the technical group meeting in Mannar shared in the previous meeting was shared again. The main idea was to agree on common broad parameters for the return transitional shelters by all shelter agencies until a return plan is granted by the government. It was decided to extend the time period another week until 02 July to make comments and necessary amendments in order to decide and finalize these parameters during the next shelter meeting. One comment made during the meeting was regarding the roof, to also include cadjan in addition to roof made of zinc or aluminium.
 4. **Revision of Sphere Hand Book/ by RedR** - A presentation was presented by Mr. Prem B Chand on the process of reviewing and revising the sphere Handbook. The main objective of this process was to gather information and ideas from various sources and sectors. For further information call (0) 114 938896 or e-mail to commsmktgsl@redrsl.org.
 5. **Presentation on the Sri Lankan Emergency Regulation and Gender Rights** – Ms. Ambika Satkunanathan of UNRCO and Ms. Ingrid Quinn of UNOCHA presented how International Humanitarian law and Human Rights have been accepted and ratified by the national law of Sri Lanka. Also a brief description of the prevailing Emergency Regulation, Human Rights Issues and gender related issues were presented.
 6. **Shelter & NFI Stock Updates** - It was requested from all shelter/NFI based agencies to give an update on the distribution, stock and pipeline of Shelter/ NFI items.
 7. **Next meeting** - Next NFI/ Shelter meeting will be on 02 July 2009 at 15h00 at UNHCR.