



Meeting Minutes 12.06.2018

Protection Working Group Jordan

12 June 2018, 9-11 am, UNHCR Khalda, EMOPS Room

Agencies present: ACTED, AWO, LWB, ARDD, CARE, Collateral Repair, CVT, DRC, ICMC, ICRC, IMC, INTERSOS, IOCC, IOM, IRC, IRAP, IRC, JIF, JOHUD, JRS, MEDAIR, MC, MCC, NRC, OXFAM, PUAMI, Questscope, Reclaim Childhood, TDHL, UNICEF UNHCR, UNWOMEN, UPP, WAR CHILD CANADA, WFP, WVI and Sawiyan

Next Meeting: 14 August 2018, 09-11 am, UNHCR Khalda, EMOPS Room

AGENDA:

- Agency Announcements
- Standing Updates: Movement to Syria, UVE/Rectification/Amnesty Progress, Azraq Camp situation
- Brief updates on developments:
 - PSEA Network, Carlee/Intersos
 - Informal Tented Settlements, Ghassan/UNHCR
 - Brussels Conference and Next Steps, Mathilde/JIF
 - UNHCR Monthly Financial Assistance messaging
- Protection, Assistance and Solutions for Refugees from Countries Other Than Syria - (Mennonite Central Committee, Jesuit Refugee Service, Sawiyan, Center for Victims of Torture, UNHCR)
- AoB

1. PWG members updates and announcements:

- **CVT** - CVT has been working to provide trauma rehabilitation services for refugees in Zarqa since 2011. In order to best utilize our resources, CVT has decided to phase out services in Zarqa over the coming months, closing the location by January 2019. CVT will therefore no longer be able to receive new referrals or walk-in registrations at that location. We will however continue to provide services to beneficiaries who registered with us prior to this date, until the end of the year.

CVT will continue provide its direct services for vulnerable beneficiaries through our Amman center in Amman located in Abdala area. For more information about these services please call 06-5601443 or email JordanReferrals@CVT.ORG.

- **Medair** is setting up a new multisectoral case management programme, reaching out to other organizations. All agencies considering using a case management approach for Child Protection or SGBV are advised to consult with Sub-Working Group coordinators on requirements for case management operations and coordinated approach to service provision.
- **IRC** – Will begin to undertake “Sesame Street” ECD activities for 5 years in the region, IRC started in Azraq camp and will be covering urban. More information on this major regional activity will be shared in coming months.

2. Standing Agenda Items: Amnesty/Rectification Exercise, Urban Verification, Movements (deportation, returns)

- **Amnesty/Rectification Exercise: UNHCR Legal Unit briefed members on the Humanitarian Committee and its role in the Amnesty Cases.**
 - Humanitarian committee is still functioning, main purpose is to approve cases with certain humanitarian needs and family reunification applications.
 - Discussion with government (SRAD, MOI, PSD, and GID) is ongoing to resolve any problematic cases identified during the amnesty
 - Out of 32,000 individuals approached UNHCR for the rectification exercise, 18,245 individuals (5272 cases) has been issued an ASC, while 700 were not eligible and 15,000 pending interview and other processes.
- **Deportation:** the trends of deportation remains the same, an average of 20-50 deportations are happening over the last few months. UNHCR is following up with the cases as soon as they reported for prompt advocacy to prevent the deportation. Members are kindly requested to report any cases they hear about to UNHCR.
- **Return movement trends:**
 - In the last month around 350 people returned back to Syria, the trends are still stable and reflecting same numbers.
 - The top reason for returnees is the reuniting with the family.
- **Urban Verification:**
 - A total of 458,915 cards were issued in different security centers. Of the total, there are 426,262 individuals registered with UNHCR, while there are 32,653 individuals who are not registered with UNHCR.
 - For the past 18 months, the average of MOI cards issued were 2500A each month. As a result of the amnesty numbers jumped to 5,600 in March, 10,000 in April and 6000 in May.
 - A total of 201,288 Syrian Documents belong to 160,472 Individuals were delivered. 85% delivered

- **Azraq V5 situation:** Screen outs from village 5 are still ongoing. 185 individuals were screened during May. The number represent a decline of the screen outs that took place in April (350), though this number has frequently been erratic. Around 7000 pending to be screened out in V5.
- **Azraq Work permits** –As of 31st May, a total of 3,731 work permits were registered at the Azraq Camp Employment office out of which 1,904 were approved by SRAD (of which 725 work permits were issued by the ACE).
- **Advocacy paper:** Following the circulation of the advocacy paper, comments of members has been incorporated into the document, sector coordinators are currently reviewing the final draft and it is expected to circulate final paper shortly.
- **JHF:** Sector Coordinator updated members on the outcomes of the JHF first call of proposal. Eleven projects under protection applied for funding of 3,989,760 USD and two multisectoral projects under protection/shelter total of 670,000. Five organizations proposals were recommended for funding and approved. TDHL, UPP, DRC and JRF, and NRC under protection/shelter. The funding will contribute to fill the gaps such as CP in EJC camp and GBV in Azraq Camp
- **UNHCR will be doing calls for proposals** for all protection related programming (CP, SGBV, Legal services, CBI, disability). Instruction will be circulated for partners to register on UNHCR partner portal in order to be able to apply and register on the portal. The calls of proposals will be released on the portal.

Interested partners to register through the following link - <https://Partner.unhcr.org>

3. Brief updates on developments:

- **PSEA Network, Carlee/Intersos** – Following PSEA mechanism reactivation last March, next meeting will be Sunday 24 of June. A lot of work has been done previously in 2015. The PSEA FP network is currently reviewing the mechanism and ToRs are developed for the group and FPs. PSEA FP network is developing a training of trainers that will target the focal points, in addition to development on 2018 workplan.

Action Point: Members that are interested to join the network to contact the coordinators, Douglas disalvo@unhcr.org (UNHCR) and Valerie protection.specialist.jordan@intersos.org (INTEROS)

- **Informal Tented Settlements Taskforce, Ghassan/UNHCR** – ITS TF co-chair from UNHCR briefed members on the updates from the last ITS TF meeting during May.
 - It was the first ITS taskforce meeting in 2018, the main purpose the taskforce was reconvened is for coordination purposes and to gather feedback from the ground, to establish a forum to be well aware on early warnings and possible evictions and to agree on a strategic approach on the safest way to provide services and meeting the needs to people in ITSs.
 - The first meeting purposed to hear from members, what are their expectations of the ITS TF and to give brief on their engagement and having a discussion on the proposed ToRs before finalizing it and endorsement from the PWG

- Several agencies are keen on initiating a needs assessment on ITS, to include mapping available services, ITS movement tracking and analysis.
- Taskforce will meet monthly and will be jointly chaired by UNHCR/UNICEF.

Action Point: Members that have operational engagement with ITSs and would like to contribute, to contact the coordinators, Ghassan shehadeg@unhcr.org (UNHCR) and Kenan kemadi@unicef.org (UNICEF)

- **Brussels Conference and Next Steps, Mathilde/JIF** – JIF presented on the targets and commitments stipulated as a result of the Brussels II Conference on different sectors, such as livelihood, economic growth, education, health and social protection, protection, etc.

The presentation was presented during the Humanitarian Partnership forum meeting in May and was prepared by RC/HC. For the protection sector JIF highlighted the following positive points and gaps/challenges:

Positive points:

- Reference to resettlement and alternative pathways, as part of the shared responsibility partnership

Gaps Challenges:

- No mention of freedom of movement and the unsolved situation of V5 Azraq, including the forced relocation to camp
- No mention of the right to seek asylum
- Weak language on returns - does not clearly state that the conditions are not conducive like the co-chair declaration does.
- The limits of regularization process (# of Syrian actually qualifying for it) are omitted in the 1st part of the document, no mention of the monitoring of the rectification process,
- No targets for resettlement

For more information on Brussels Conference commitments and targets, please refer to the presentation attached in the email.

- **UNHCR Monthly Financial Assistance messaging** – Messages went out in April and May for too many refugees that the FA will be cut in June. As a result of the appeals that has been filed and assessments of criteria. The cut will not effective before the appeal process gets finalized.

Action Point: Members who encounter cases that received any messages, to refer them to UNHCR to file for appeal.

4. **Protection, Assistance and Solutions for Refugees from Countries Other Than Syria - (Mennonite Central Committee, Jesuit Refugee Service, Sawiyah, Center for Victims of Torture, UNHCR)**

The thematic discussion for June was on refugees from nationalities other than Syria. Sector Coordinators, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) , CVT, CRP, JCLA and Sawiyan worked together to present information that will help to demonstrate the current needs and work on way forward to improve meeting the needs of the population.

MCC and Sector Coordinator gave a presentation on the findings of their work, the main highlights as follows:

- Currently there is a total of 81,000 refugees from other nationalities registered with UNHCR in Jordan, the majority are from Iraq, Sudan, Yeman, Somalia and other nationalities (11% of overall Jordan population)
- Majority of those refugees are from Iraq (66,564 refugees), while the rest of nationalities is 18,158 (2.42% of overall population)
- Majority of the refugees from other nationalities lives n Amman and Zarqa governorates
- For most nationalities, the gender balance is even: Syrians, Iraqis, Somalis are close to 50-50. Sudanese and Yemenis are substantially male, at around 70 percent of the population.
- Woman-at-risk: Somali refugees are four times as likely as other groups to be woman-at-risk, with many female-headed-households.
- Sudanese and Somalis are much more likely to report Legal and/or Physical Protection Needs – arisen from issues such as arrest and detention for illegal work, documentation problems, conflict with neighbours. Some NGOs report that these problems may occur more frequently for these groups as they are a more visible refugee community, and in the case of Somali refugees, Arabic language skills may be worse.
- Refugees from countries other than Syria are more likely to report serious medical needs – and have more limited access to affordable medical care. While we are all familiar with the progressive reductions in health care subsidies for Syrian refugees, it is worth noting that refugees other than Syrians are required to pay the full foreigner rate, without discount – leading many to rely solely on humanitarian-funded health services, which are limited.
- The Iraqi refugee population also includes far more elderly refugees and refugees with disabilities – nearly 11% of refugees from Iraq are over 60, compared to under 4% for all other groups.
- Way forward was discussed by the group and summarized as follows:
 - Collective Action and Positions, Individual Organization Actions
 - Improving Information and Awareness
 - Identifying and Addressing Needs Specific to Communities
 - Ensuring Inclusive Programming and Systems
 - Advocating for Changes and Improvement

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