



**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (OCHA) SOMALIA**

**Summary of IDP Task Force Meeting on held on Thursday 28 February 2008  
Venue: OCHA Conference Room, Nairobi, 2.00 pm**

**Updates /Key issues discussed**

- Clarification is required on the terms of reference of the IDP working group and its relationship with other mechanisms such as the inter-cluster working group. The Tors for the IDP working group are outdated and require updating based on the new coordination structures in place. There is also a need to strengthen the interaction with the field. One concrete way to do this is to ensure that we use teleconference facilities between field working groups and Nairobi. To test this approach, a teleconference will be organised between the Bossaso field team, Baidoa field team and Nairobi level during the next month.
- Members expressed the view that the IDP WG should meet monthly and focus on policy issues, as well as location by location monitoring progress and identifying solutions to problems raised by the field that require intervention/guidance at Nairobi level.
- At the next meeting, preparedness will be discussed for new displacement in 2008.
- The shelter cluster is currently dealing with information gathering and dissemination/ data management. They will also look at geographical areas of focus and planned interventions in relation to other clusters/integrated interventions.
- On the joint programming in Bossaso, lobbying for funds is currently taking place. Some core components need change but at a senior level discussion. Some agencies are finalizing their work plans whilst others are proceeding with implementation. Coordination structures have been drafted and reporting mechanisms have been clarified.
- A query was raised as to whether joint programming could be adopted in south central. The challenge would be the timeframe of response. Baidoa and Jowhar are to be explored as possible options for an integrated approach to humanitarian assistance and moving towards solutions through an urban development model.
- Cedric Petit, HAO South Central, gave an overview of IDP settlements visited in south Somalia. In Baidoa, 33 settlements were visited. Some were partly full and others partly empty. The services provided are poor, monitoring of settlement is low, and there is a clear lack of assistance in places with real settlements. There is need to assess how to deal with poor host communities. There is lack of support from authorities. There is need to monitor delivery of assistance. Field level meeting organized for 13 March. Nairobi team will attend or participate in a follow up meeting to develop with the field a plan of action for both current settlements and possible longer term solutions if feasible.
- In Afgoye, an analysis is being conducted to get an aggregate of settlements. While the area has a significant number of organizations operating, the main constraint is operational coordination. There is very little information on who does what where. Clusters will need to be encouraged to ensure a cluster wide W3 as opposed to agency specific collection of information.
- A major gap remains in other areas around Mogadishu. The Afgoye response has been a focus however, other areas also on the outskirts with dire needs are missed eg Danilye. It is encouraged to focus on Mogadishu and all surrounds rather than in one area.
- At K50, UNHCR is developing an operational hub which will provide space for both accommodation and office space. This should provide better access to displaced on the Afgoye road.
- A query was raised on area-based programming versus inter-cluster response, specifically how the two work together.
- Regarding land issues, UNHCR and HABITAT are looking into a complimentary land study to that already on-going by NRC and HABITAT. The second study will focus on a rapid assessment of priority locations in the south centre to ensure that any IDP programmes take into account a do no harm approach with regards to property restitution.

- New approaches to access communities should be explored. A pilot bottom up approach to access will be piloted in Galgaduud. A consultant has been employed to ensure that an approach starts with engaging all relevant actors at the local level.

**Action Points**

- Terms of reference for the IDP working group to be revised and circulated for comment.
- Bossaso/Baidoa, Galgaduud and Afgooye are the current priority areas, based on the highest level of humanitarian needs. Action plans for each location to be developed by the IDP working group and field.
- Planning for new displacement needs to be undertaken. Next IDP meeting to agree on planning figures and develop contingency plans
- The IDP working group will be held once every month.

**The next meeting will be communicated in due course.**