

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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

Summary of discussions - Inter-cluster working group, Thursday 7 August 2008

Venue: OCHA Somalia Conference Room, Nairobi at 10.30 – 12.00 pm

- The first agenda item was the formal endorsement of action points from the previous meeting. A template for Cooperating Partner listing will be circulated by the OCHA Information management unit for input by cluster leads.
- An updated list of cluster chairs and co-chairs will be circulated to cluster leads, including back-ups for the 2009 CAP. The education cluster has a co-chair from SC-UK; the health cluster has a co-chair from Merlin as well as cluster focal points in Puntland and Somaliland. The nutrition cluster has focal points in Puntland and Somaliland and discussions are ongoing with World Vision to designate a focal point in south central.
- An update on the events and humanitarian response for Beletweyne was provided. Partners on the ground are skeptical that the situation will be resolved quickly. An estimated 70,000 people were displaced in July due to the conflict. In terms of response, SCUK confirmed the total number of displaced, based on informal information, to be 4,380 households, located in 26 settlements. The food aid cluster reported that 90,000 out of the 140,000 targeted for Hiran received food distributions in July. SC-UK will submit a proposal for WASH response to the HRF targeting 4,380 households for chlorination and provision of basic plastic sheeting to trap water. The education cluster will discuss the response they could conduct at their cluster meeting scheduled for 11 August. They could ship school tents from Jowhar to Beletweyne once information on displacement is available. DRC stated that it could support OCHA in performing a coordination role as the agency has one international staff on the ground. UNDP will be submitting a project for canal irrigation and flood prevention to the CERF. They could divert a portion of their project to agencies willing to conduct cash for work programs. The nutrition cluster stated that IMC has new supplies for two months. MSF Swiss is on the ground with a stabilization centre for severe malnutrition cases located in Beletweyne town. IMC currently supports 25 health posts and will submit a HRF proposal for additional support. WHO has provided a full emergency kit to IMC for 10,000 people for approximately 3 months in Beletweyne.
- Planning for the Somalia CAP 2009 is underway. The document will be similar in structure to the 2008 CAP, however this year; efforts will be made to strengthen the strategic chapter of the document, the CHAP, as well as the sector/cluster response plans and the projects sheets by making them more response-oriented. There is need to link the CAP with the UNTP. Cluster Leads could talk with Outcome Leads regarding possible areas of overlap and or complementarity. Alex Williams will also provide guidance on what participation in the CAP means at various cluster meetings by clarifying that inclusion of CAP projects does not necessarily translate to guaranteed funding. The need to support national NGOs in capacity building was reinforced. Participants were informed that ECHO has expressed interest in funding dedicated support to cluster coordination through OCHA that would be deployed with selected priority clusters. OCHA will prepare a concept note to be discussed at the next Intercluster

Kalson Towers, 7th Floor, Crescent Street, off Parklands Road P.O. Box 28832, 00200 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel No: (254-20) 3754150-5; Fax No: (254-20) 3754156
Website <http://ochaonline.un.org/somalia>

meeting.

- Cluster leads gave a heads up of their respective priority projects as follows - **Health:** A Child survival proposal to have an expanded programme on immunization for long term service delivery as well as a project on Disease surveillance are key. Sustainance of quality health care given limited access in south central and lack of international staff in hospitals poses a major challenge in expanding quality care. A proposal for joint reproductive care together with UNFPA for three regions is work in progress. They are also trying to maximize integrated surveillance with response. **Logistics:** They need year round support for movement of goods and service delivery by road. This project has cash for work component. They would also like support for rehabilitation of airfields, a security related proposal that will be sent to the CERF. **Nutrition:** IMC has an emergency nutrition response proposal for Hiran; World vision would like to conduct emergency response in the Juba valley and riverine areas that are nutritionally vulnerable; Medair would like to conduct emergency nutrition interventions in Middle Shabelle. **Education:** NCA hopes to conduct response in Gedo, Trocaire has educational activities in the north and Intersos is working in areas affected by IDPs from Mogadishu who have currently moved to Bay and Middle Shabelle regions. The **Agriculture and Livelihoods** cluster is developing criteria for priority areas that require livelihood funding. The areas are specific to humanitarian emergency locations using the IPC classification. The **food aid cluster** would like pompidoes.
- Participants were briefed on the ongoing process of review of the HRF. Currently, a total of USD 19 million is available in the HRF pot (USD 11 million in committed funding and USD 8 million in pledges). The sector that received most allocations is WASH, currently 47% of the total disbursed so far. The least funded sector is shelter with no projects allocated. Regionally, the North (Somaliland and Puntland) received approximately 21% of the total project allocations funded. The review process should be finalized by the end of August after consultations with cluster leads, UNCT and the donors. Suggestions on improving the HRF included the need to strengthen the HRF as well as increasing the time limit for HRF projects. The Food Aid cluster suggested a translated guidance note with simplified criteria for national NGOs. The Education cluster lead felt that the fund should be more development focused as opposed to emergency focused. The Nutrition cluster lead pointed the need to develop a capacity building component. The project approval process is currently long and tedious. The management of the fund is expensive for the agencies in that they need additional funding to apply to the HRF. Given the current humanitarian situation, it was felt that there is need for a reanalysis of cost allocations for the HRF.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 21 August, 3.00 pm, at OCHA RO.