



**National Protection Cluster**

**Minutes of Meeting (18 July 2019)**

**Locations:** UNHCR Baghdad, NCCI Erbil, plus Webex

**Chaired by:** Mohammed Khan (NPC Coordinator)

**1. Review of Action Points from 13 June meeting**

**2. Strategic & Thematic Updates:**

- a. Strategic Update from Ninewa / KR-I PWGs (10 mins)
- b. Strategic Update from C/S PWG (10 mins)
- c. Thematic Update from GBV Sub-Cluster (10 mins)
- d. Thematic Update from Child Protection Sub-Cluster (10 mins)
- e. Thematic Update from Mine Action Sub-Cluster (10 mins)
- f. Thematic Update from HLP Sub-Cluster (10 mins)
- g. Strategic Update from CwC Task Force (10 mins)
- h. Update from NPC – Update on Al-Hol response: Border Monitoring Tool, Mid-Year Monitoring Report, HNO/HRP processes (10 mins)
- i. Update from RPA mechanism (10 mins)

**3. AOB (15 mins)**

- a. NRC presentation of the report “Barriers from Birth: Undocumented Children in Iraq Sentenced to a Life on the Margins”

**1. Review of Action Points from 16 May meeting**

<p>CPSC, NPC and key legal protection partners to meet to discuss underachievement of legal documentation indicators and the way forward.</p>	<p>Completed. Relevant actors met to discuss challenges related to provision of legal assistance; ongoing engagement and discussion on this issue is required in the coming months.</p>
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Minutes adopted without amendments.

**2a. Strategic Update from KRI & Ninewa PWG**

**KRI**

- **Overall protection environment:** On 10 July, the KRI Coordinator participated in the Humanitarian Coordination Forum convened by JCC and OCHA. JCC authorities highlighted the high number of IDPs still hosted in the three governorates, exacerbated by the low return intentions as highlighted by several surveys, and the negative impact resulting from partners’ suspension or reduction of activities across the three governorates. Authorities have also called for more concrete actions to bridge humanitarian and development in order to better assist IDPs, refugees and host communities. Participants highlighted, in particular, needs related to education, health, legal assistance and MHPSS – with special note to needs of survivors in some governorates. Authorities also highlighted some of the challenges related to returns of people to certain territories noting political challenges require political solutions. Recognizing the complexity of several of those territories, they are willing to work on areas where political solution is easier to be found.
- **Legal documentation:** The roll out of the UNHCR-supported Pilot Project on Civil Documentation in Baharka, Harshem and Khazer M1, Hassansham U2 and U3 camps was a success and laid a solid basis for the roll-out of the project across KRI. Over 1000 files were process in the first locations and it is expected to support many more individuals across KRI. In Dohuk the project is already been rolled out and about 2,000 applications processes. Actions such as those are crucial to overcome some physical, structural and economic barriers faced by IDPs.

**Ninewa**

- **Al Hol returns:** On 8 July, OCHA was informed by JCMC and the National Security Advisor’s office that the return of Iraqi families from Al Hol camp (north-eastern Syria) was “imminent”, and that 15 buses from the Ministry of Transportation had been allocated to transfer between 500 and 1,000 individuals per day. The GoI also indicated that the MoMD had selected Jed’ah 5 camp, in Ninewa governorate, to host returning families. No further details on the returns process were shared. However, on 10 July the National Security Council (NSC) announced that Jed’ah 5 camp would no longer serve as the destination camp. In spite of the NSC decision, on 10 July, the camp management in Jed’ah informed IDPs from sectors O and X that, according to governmental

instructions, they had to vacate tents and relocate to other sectors of Jed'ah 5 or to other Jed'ah camps. Following clusters interventions, and despite decisions to suspend relocations on the following day, lack of information to IDPs resulting in many families continuing with the relocation out of fear of the repercussions of non-compliance with the order, and/or due to concerns about residing next to Al Hol returnee families perceived to be affiliated to extremists. Fence posts were set around sector O from 13 to 15 July but construction of fence subsequently suspended. The NPC continues to evaluate the response for the returns of Iraqi families from Al Hol Camp. Upcoming funding shortage could impact the ability of partners to deploy teams should returns materialize. Organizations have sought bilateral fund but some activities are still to be funded. Protection monitoring, including through presence, is an area where funding gaps are identified and of concern especially if returns materialize.

- **Screening in Hammam Al Alil Camp:** On 6 July a team composed of Military Intelligence, Local Police, Iraqi Army, National Security and PMU forces arrived to Hamam Al Alil 1 camp to start screening procedures. According to information provided by authorities, screening procedures aimed at providing an overview of the camp population, including information on: individuals from other governorates; individuals with (perceived) affiliation to extremists; as well as individuals with particular needs, such as documentation, that could be addressed by State institutions. The screening team initially demanded support from humanitarian actors to, among others, print and distribute screening forms, disseminate information on the screening procedures among IDPs. However, after it was clarified that humanitarian actors cannot support security screening activities (to preserve our operational independence from security objectives), the screening team enlisted IDP community leaders to disseminate printed forms and information on the screening procedures. The instructions requested IDP families to fill forms with basic biodata, indications of any affiliation of family members to extremists, and subsequently present themselves (the entire family) in front of a security committee for review. The security staff involved in the exercise were observed carrying weapons inside the camp, and established a screening site at the primary school located inside the camp. Following advocacy, authorities agreed to refrain from carrying guns inside the camp and subsequently not to use civilian premises. At the time of the meeting, authorities had left the camp and would return to collect form in the following days.

## 2b. Strategic Update from C/S PWG

- **Salah al-Din: Forced returns/evictions from camps and informal sites in Salah al-Din governorate:** On 23 June, a GRC meeting was held, during which the Deputy Governor (DG) announced plans for the closure of most IDP camps and informal sites in Salah al-Din by 1 September, and return of all IDPs to their areas of origin (AoO). However, the DG agreed to keep Basateen Al Shuyouk and Al Alam camps open for the time being in case IDPs from areas other than Baiji and Seniya – who cannot return to their AoO for various reasons – prefer to relocate to these two camps. The DG called upon all the humanitarian actors in Salah al-Din to shift towards provision of services in AoO in order to encourage IDPs to return. Moreover, the DG agreed to issue a written notice outlining the government's plans and related deadlines to inform the IDPs. Humanitarian partners advocated for Salah al-Din authorities to ensure that returns are safe, voluntary, dignified, informed and sustainable, per the Principled Returns Framework endorsed by the GoI in September 2018, and presented their own plans for closure of camps and informal sites, including required actions and timelines. Partners also highlighted areas which have witnessed no returns, as per data from the Returns Working Group, in order to advocate against returns/evictions of IDPs from such areas. The DG indicated that non-restoration of basic services was the main reason for no returns to such areas, and informed partners that the government is currently undertaking community reconciliation processes in areas of southern Salah al-Din which should open the door for IDPs to return, and committed to make all necessary arrangements with the security actors in such areas to facilitate safe returns and access for humanitarian actors. Between 23-25 June, an estimated 13 IDP HHs – originating from various neighborhoods of Baiji (Albo Jwari, Ziwayah, Hay Al Tameem, Tel Abo Jerad) – were forcibly evicted by the Duty Force of the Salah al-Din Police Command from the Post Building, an informal site in Tikrit. The IDPs were informed that an eviction order had been issued by the courts to the property contractor, but humanitarian partners have not seen the eviction order. The families were not given reasonable notice of eviction, and no alternative shelter options were provided. Their civil documents were seized a week prior to the eviction, but were returned upon exit from the informal site. Qadissiya Complex (QC) currently hosts 1,141 IDP HHs, whose areas of origin included Baiji, Tikrit and Shriqat. On 22 June, QC management received instructions from the Salah al-Din Operations Command (SOC) – allegedly based on an eviction order issued by the courts to the project contractor, but which humanitarian partners have not seen – that all the IDPs had to leave the complex by 15 July, or they will be forcibly evicted. On 24 June, Special Tactical Regiment (STR) forces reportedly visited the QC management in the night and informed them that evictions will commence on 25 June at 10:00. On 25 June, at 10.00 the STR returned to QC and instructed the management to inform all IDP HHs to leave. The management replied to STR that the DG had announced 1 September as the deadline for closure of

most camps and informal sites. The STR in turn demanded written notification of the 1 September deadline, otherwise they would return at 16:00 to proceed with the evictions. Humanitarian partners immediately followed up with the DG on his commitment to provide the written notice to IDPs of the 1 September deadline, as agreed during the GRC meeting. The DG in turn informed the – through a written notice – of the agreed eviction date, and instructed security actors to comply with the decision. On 26 June, the STR once again returned to QC informing the management that all the HHs whose houses in their AoO are not destroyed should leave the complex or show documentary evidence that they have filed a claim for compensation for damaged/destroyed housing. However, the STR ultimately left without implementing evictions. This was the first time security actors have demanded documentary evidence of compensation claims during evictions. • Other camps and informal sites in Salah al-Din under threat of forced return/eviction include: Al Karama camp (377 HHs); and six informal sites in Tikrit [including Shesheen school (22 HHs), Tikrit Swimming Pool (18 HHs), Tikrit Ovens (33 HHs), Orphanage (28 HHs), Qubaa School (180 HHs) and Al-Teen Albo Obaid (289 HHs)]. On 17 June, IDP HHs in Al Sa’ad village in south Baiji – wherein 45 IDP families reside, most originating from Baiji and other locations in Salah al-Din – received eviction threats and IDs were confiscated following a search operation in which Salah al-Din Police found explosive devices in one IDP family’s house. In addition, approximately 32 IDP HHs residing in a school in Balad train station are also under threat of eviction from the project contractor, allegedly following a court order being issued, which humanitarians have not seen. Humanitarian partners have continuously advocated against evictions and called for adherence to the principles set out in the Principled Returns Framework. Advocacy efforts have resulted in the DG agreeing to provide written notification to IDPs and humanitarian partners about plans and deadlines for closure of camps and informal sites so that they can plan accordingly. Partners are preparing to conduct exit surveys with the IDPs once Salah al-Din authorities officially communicate their plans/deadlines to IDPs.

- **Anbar: Forced returns from Ameriyat al-Fallujah (AAF), Habbiniya Tourist City (HTC) and Bzebiz camps in Anbar governorate:** On 13 June, Anbar Operations Command (AOC) informed all residents of AAF and HTC camps from Qarma and Al-Qa’im that they would be returned to their AoO. On 14 June, the AOC Commander reiterated the same message to IDPs at AAF camp using threatening language, and forced returns resulted. Movement restrictions, including for medical referrals, were immediately implemented at the checkpoints in front of both camps. The AOC Commander also informed IDPs whose homes are destroyed that they would be housed in unfinished government buildings and schools in Qarma, exposing them to high risk of secondary displacement. On 15 June, armored vehicles and soldiers arrived to AAF and HTC camps, and roamed through sectors where IDP families from Qarma and Al-Qa’im reside to pressure IDPs to load their belongings onto trucks in preparation to leave the camp in a military convoy the next morning at 5:00. In HTC camp, some IDPs who resisted the forced return reportedly had their tents set on fire by soldiers. In addition, food items were prevented from entering HTC camp which led to a full shutdown of the market. On 16 June, between 12:30 – 2:00, electricity was shut down in AAF camps, while in both AAF and HTC camps soldiers once again roamed among camp sectors where most IDPs from Qarma reside, ordering them to load their belongings onto trucks. On 17 June, full denial of food access, as well as access restrictions for NGOs to implement activities and freely interview IDPs, were reported in HTC camp. At 23:00, military vehicles roamed through AAF camp using loud speakers to inform residents Fallujah that they should choose to return or they would be forced to do so. On 18 June, additional military convoys arrived to HTC and AAF camps and AOC required the camp managers to compile a list of 60 HHs from Al-Qa’im who would have to leave in the convoy. Moreover, AOC reportedly advised camp managers that agreements had been brokered with tribal leaders in AoO for those IDPs who had outstanding tribal issues. However, when IDPs sought to contact their tribal leaders to verify this, they were asked to pay thousands of dollars to guarantee safe return. On a related note, IDPs expressed fears for their safety in their AoO due to presence of non-state armed actors, risk of arbitrary detention and kidnapping risks, particularly in Al-Khairat area where PMU operates. Despite this, the AOC insisted on all IDPs from Qarma returning. Among those IDPs who were forcibly returned to Al Khairat sub-district from the three camps on 16 June, 30 HHs waited for at least eight hours at ‘Al-Thalatheen (30) checkpoint’ – with their IDs seized, and no access to food, water or latrines – as part of the security screening process run by the Popular Mobilization Unit (PMU). In the end, due to the failure of AOC to coordinate issuance of security clearances with PMU forces controlling Al Khairat, only 15 HHs were granted permission to proceed. Of the remaining 15 HHs, 13 were secondarily displaced to Qarma city to reside with extended families, and two HHs returned to AAF. • Notably, on 22 June the Mayor of Falluja arrived to the camps with the AOC Commander to meet with families who originate from Falluja to encourage their return. Those who mentioned damaged housing as a barrier to return were promised to be given abandoned houses belonging to persons with perceived affiliation to extremists. • Protection concerns: (1) Forced returns, including through use of coercive tactics i.e. armed actor presence in camps, threats against IDPs, movement restrictions, denial of humanitarian access, including access to services, and destruction of IDP tents; (2) Poor coordination of returns between military/security actors (AOC, OC in

West Anbar, and PMU), as well as with local authorities in Al-Qa'im, resulting in secondary displacement of IDPs; and (3) Plans to unlawfully expropriate private property belonging to persons with perceived affiliation to extremists.

- **Intervention(s):** In a 16 June letter, the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) expressed her concerns about the forced returns, movement restrictions, denial of humanitarian access, and presence of military actors in the camps to the Secretary-General of the National Operations Centre (NOC). The NOC subsequently ordered the AOC to freeze all returns until the matter was further clarified. Despite these efforts, the movement restrictions and forced returns continued in both AAF and HTC. On 19 June, OCHA notified the NOC of the continuation of forced returns, which was then taken up by the Prime Minister's office. Local authorities met with camp managers and agreed that the CCCM partners (IOM, DRC) would lead on the consolidation process, but made clear that they would like to see 10 sub-sectors of AAF consolidated as soon as possible. Of note, on 18 June, following humanitarian advocacy, the forced return of 81 HHs in AAF originating from Fallujah was suspended once it was clarified that they had never registered to return, despite assertions to the contrary from the Mayor of Fallujah. On 25 June, the Anbar GRC met with the AOC Commander to discuss the matter. Rejecting the humanitarian organizations' account, the AOC Commander and government representatives stated that all returns were voluntary, no intimidation or coercion had taken place, and that there was not a single reported security incident during this exercise involving returnees in the areas of origin. Anbar authorities confirmed their intent to keep movement restrictions in place. On the other hand, IDPs' access to healthcare, food and services, as well as access of humanitarian actors to IDPs, would be granted. Return of over 1,000 families would resume after school exams (i.e. 15 July), with one week notice provided to IDPs.

- **Kirkuk: Inter-Agency Mission to Tuz District:** 11 humanitarian organizations participated in the inter-agency mission to support post-conflict transition towards durable solutions, and ensure the centrality of protection in meetings with local authorities. The mission met with Mayor of Tuz district, District Council at Tuz Khurmatu town and Mayor of Suleiman Beg. The situation in Tuz district is still complex because of its ethnic, religious, and tribal diversity, but compared to eleven months ago a lot of progress has been made.
- **Return in Tuz and Suleiman Beg:** according to Mayor of Tuz district, IDPs from 47 villages are displaced in the district and only 5% have returned. Return has started in five villages. There will be a return of IDPs to 12 villages in the district, but the 12 villages are totally destroyed. Destruction of houses and infrastructure, lack of electricity and safe drinking water, lack of basic services and security considerations are the main obstacles to return. According to the Mayor of Suleyman Beg, two villages have been rehabilitated two weeks ago and IDPs have returned, but they need basic assistance. Gamaz is a village near Suleiman Beg to which 70% of the population has returned. Out of 15 villages outside of the center of town, people are displaced from 14 villages. In April 2019, the return rate was 25%, in June it has risen to 50%. So far, 8,000 people out of a population of 23,000 in total have returned.
- **Civil documentation needs assessment:** HAI together with IRC conducted an assessment in Laylan 1 and Laylan 2 camps to map documentation needs and identify challenges in obtaining civil documentation.
- **UNHCR- MoI initiative to issue civil documentation for IDP population:** A high level MoI delegation, together with UNHCR, visited Kirkuk in order to identify the needs of IDP populations with respect to civil documentation in camps and urban areas. During the meetings with local authorities, legal actors and IDP representatives, the obstacles to obtain documentation were discussed, such as capacity of civil status directorate, IDP families with specialized protection needs, the delay of issuance of civil documentation and undocumented marriage. MoI delegation assured the right of IDPs, especially women and children, to obtain civil documentation. Based on needs assessment conducted by legal actors, MOI will send a mission from Baghdad, Salah al-Din and Mosul Civil Status directorates to issue civil documentation for IDPs from these governorates.

## 2c. Thematic Update from GBV Sub-Cluster

- **Women Shelter Working Group (WSWG):** The GBVSC is supporting developing a TOR for the Women Shelter Working Group, aimed at better coordination of actors for women shelters. An initiative under MOLSA in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and Baghdad, UNFPA is supporting Government-led Women Shelters for survivors of GBV and other vulnerable women and girls in Iraq. The main objective of the Women Shelter WG is to provide technical support and advice (including the development of guidance and tools) based on gaps and needs identified for a safe accessible temporary shelter, where the physical safety and security of women and children facing immediate physical danger can be guaranteed as a measure of last resort.
- **Capacity strengthening of 15 Data Gathering Organisations (DGOs) in Iraq on GBVIMS:** Capacity assessment of DGOs is ongoing until end of August 2019. The GBVIMS Inter-Agency Coordinator will build the capacity of DGOs based on the gaps/needs that will be identified during assessment. In the last quarter of the year, capacity building opportunities will be open to non - DGOs that have been trained previously.

- **Multi-cluster GBV safety audit Initiative:** In order to strengthen GBV risk mitigation and integration with other clusters, the GBVSC, CCCM, WASH and Shelter/NFI are developing a multi – cluster GBV Safety audit tool that will be implemented in Iraq. This includes the observation, KII and FGD that will be conducted in selected pilot camps and in future to be rolled out in other camps (based on lessons learned from the pilot). A technical team/task Force from GBVSC, CCCM, WASH and Shelter/NFI will review the draft tools and GBVSAG will be consulted for endorsement before other steps will be taken (data collection, analysis and reporting etc).
- UNFPA office in Sulaymaniyah will be closed by end of Aug 2019 and this will affect GBV coordination in the governorate. GBVSC will be discussing with Sulaymaniyah GBVWG/GBV actors/UNFPA for way forward (to have a continuous support in the coordination of GBV partners).
- With the periodic Monitoring Report (PMR), GBVSC partners received only 27% (9M out of the 33M requested by May 2019). Due to delay in the disbursement of fund, this remained a great challenge for GBV actors across multiple governorates, which ultimately limited GBV program implementation and achievement within this period (Jan – May).

#### 2d. Thematic Update from Child Protection Sub-Cluster

- CPSC conducted a CPSC transition workshop with its SAG members to explore the future plans for the Sub-Cluster and review the current ToR.
- CPSC has finalized the SoPs drafted by the CCCM cluster; they are currently under final revision. SoPs will be shared with relevant actors in the coming week.
- Similarly, SoPs for child Safeguarding in Cash transfer, and Vocational training for adolescents are under final review (thanks to TGH, WV, UNHCR and TDH).
- The inter-agency Child Safeguarding policy draft was finalized, and an initial assessment is shared with the national CPSC partners to understand the current capacities and existing tools.
- Operation plan/coverage for Al-Hol CP and Education responses was revised and updated.
- UASC taskforce members are currently rolling out FTR trainings for FTR partners in anticipation for Al-Hol response. UASC Taskforce is coordinating with CPSC and counterparts in North East Syria through existing partners in Iraq for information sharing regarding the caseload of UASC.
- CPSC endorsed IRC parenting program and IRC will run a Training of Trainers for CPSC members on the week of 25 July and a Training of Facilitators by end of August.
- Coordinated by the CPSC, IMC is currently running caring for child survivors training (week of 14 July), and will continue running the same training in Duhok in August. Al Masalla will run similar set of trainings in Al Masalla will likely to conduct in five other governorates.
- The gap in Qayyarah and Haj Ali is currently covered until September 2019, and in HAA1 until end of December 2019.
- Case management SoPs were finalized for KRI and Iraq and the roll out is ongoing.

#### 2e. Thematic Update from Mine Action Sub-Cluster

- Ms. Ban Yaseen, has recently joined as the new MASC Coordinator. You may continue to write to the same email address: [iraqmineactionaor@unops.org](mailto:iraqmineactionaor@unops.org). Note that Norwegian People Aid (NPA) is no longer the MASC Co-Lead, therefore Lubna Saleh is no longer the Co-coordinator. The process to elect a new Co-Lead organization will start shortly.
- **Accreditation:** Currently one of the MASC members (Danish Demining Group) is on stand-down of activities due to the requirement to re-register with the DNGO since April 2019, affecting their operations and delivery of services.
- **Tasking Orders:** we would like to remind the humanitarian community that humanitarian mine action NGO and UNMAS require a tasking order from the Directorate of Mine Action (DMA) before there could be a survey, clearance and risk education response. What it means is that when a request for support comes in through the MASC and that an NGO or UNMAS volunteer to respond in that particular area, the organization send a request to the DMA for approval to operate in the particular area and, if approved, then the organization will respond. This process can take a day or up to 10 days (exceptionally more time than that) at time depending the back-log of request at DMA. It is important to note that in the case of mine action there is an active governmental coordination body (DMA) and that it is their role to make sure that there is no overlap between the work of various actor, inclusive of Iraqi Security Forces, Civil Defense, commercial companies, NGOs and UN.
- **Residential Area Clearance:** The current national legal framework only allows the Iraqi Security Forces (ISF) and the Iraqi Civil Defense to conduct explosive hazard survey and clearance inside civilian houses. Therefore, no humanitarian mine action organizations are able to officially do clearance of private houses. Despite the efforts of the ISF and Civil defense to clear private houses, urgent needs in increasing the clearance capacity inside

houses are required to prevent lethal accidents upon civilians returns to their homes in affected areas. UNMAS have been leading the advocacy with the GoI to move forward with a solution to allow all humanitarian mine action partners to be covered and allowed to do residential area clearance. One partner (MAG) have been able to do it on an *ad hoc* basis, but the sector is seeking to have a blanket approval and assurance that NGOs will not be liable for any damages.

- **Explosives, ISF and response:** We still continue the advocacy for use of explosives for humanitarian mine action operations. The situation, unfortunately still remains the same where in Federal Iraq, only ISF is authorized to use explosives to render items safe, which impacts the safety of operations, but also the security in the area, as items are left uncovered, rendered safe, but undestroyed.
- **Reporting Explosive Hazards:** A monthly reminder to all to please use and inform through your networks that all should use DMA or Civil Defence hotlines for reporting suspected explosive hazards. The numbers are **182** and **115** and are accessible through all of Iraq without any specific dial code, as it was misunderstood before. Additionally, all are also encouraged to contact the MASC at [iraqmineactionaor@unops.org](mailto:iraqmineactionaor@unops.org) and we can also liaise with our members for rapid response capacities. MASC encourages all to inform about and utilise the IDP Call Centre, from which we obtain referral cases. Finally, there is the UNMAS online reporting tool for humanitarian partners and UN agencies, as well as the cluster system, which you may find embedded into the NCCI website, as well.
- **Reporting of Explosive Hazards by UN Cluster and Sub-Cluster Members and UN Agencies:** The UNMAS online EH reporting form is now embedded in the NCCI website front page, for ease of finding: <https://www.ncciraq.org/en/> . The link below is to be used for reporting the sighting of explosive hazards or suspected explosive hazards in liberated areas, this includes explosive remnants of war (ERW), landmines, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs). The form is self-explanatory and is available in English and Arabic. <http://bit.ly/TaskRequestForm> . Once submitted, the form comes directly to UNMAS and contact will be made with the originator (if details are available) after which actions and processes will be explained. This is done in coordination with the Directorate of Mine Action and completion reports are shared to the national database. *Non-UN/non-cluster please phone the national mine action hotline '182' or the Civil Defense Force '115'.*
- **Returnees from Al Hol:** NPA is ready to respond to the Al Hol situation by providing Risk Education within the Camps where the returnees will be housed. NPA has a task order for Mosul district, and this camp is within that district so they can support as attached.

## 2f. Thematic Update from HLP Sub-Cluster

- HLP partners (TtDPK and LCN ) in Baghdad in close coordination with HLP SC in many cases have noted that the Central Compensation Committee in Baghdad reduces the amount of compensation estimated by the sub-committees up to half or more, without a legal basis. In this regard advocacy, workshops and trainings were held with judges from High Judicial Council, members of the Shura Council and High Commissioner for Human Rights to address this issue. Accordingly, the Supreme Administrative Court Related to Shoura Council issued a decision No. 35 / court/2019, decided that the reduction in the Central Compensation Commission is not legal and stated that the Central Committee cannot reduce the estimated compensation without legal reasons.
- HLP SC in coordination with UN-Habitat is organizing a training for counterparts on Use of the Land Information Management System based on the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) and HLP. This training will aim to train the participants on Land Information Management System, the STDM which is a GIS-based database repository program which address land tenure that is not based on formal cadastral parcels and not registered. The STDM tool aims to bridge the gap in the conventional land administration systems such informal tenure and non-formal land rights into the formal system. This training will strengthen the participants' capacities by introducing them to a new approach to land administration and management database related issues through the use and customization of the STDM tool. This training is a first step to towards planning how registration offices should address and better manage the property records and maintain digitalized registries. In addition to that the training will provide solid knowledge to counterparts to understand HLP rights based on International Principles and standards and also addressing HLP issues and challenges in Iraq. The participants will be from Central Real Estate Registration Office, Real Estate Registration Office from Mosul (West and Right), Property Registration Office from Sinjar district and partners from Baghdad and Erbil.
- The HLP SC, together with the Shelter Cluster, held a workshop on tenure security and challenges relating to operationalizing HLP due diligence. This was also attended by the Protection Cluster, to support wider forms of protection mainstreaming. The workshop was held with the largest shelter actors, and was a forum to share honestly about the many HLP-related challenges faced in the field by shelter technical teams. This will be followed up various action points and concrete support over the next few months, including a second workshop for a wider group of shelter actors in the last week of August.

## 2g. Strategic Update from CwC Task Force

- **Awareness Raising Materials:** Information Education and Communication materials Anti-Fraud, safety in hot weather, personal hygiene, and fire safety were updated and made available (in soft copy) for humanitarian partners as part of the Al Hol Response.
- **Capacity Building:** No capacity building activities took place during the reporting period.
- **Coordination:** CwC TF is assisting PSEA network in reviewing, editing and developing IEC materials so as to be more child friendly.

## 2h. Update from NPC

- **Update on Al-Hol response:** Thus far, the humanitarian leadership has not received additional information on the timelines with respect to Al-Hol returns. However, there are indications that Jeddah 5 camp is being prepared as a segregated site for hosting returnees, in contravention of the Al-Hol Operational Response Plan. NPC & CCCM Cluster have been advocating through the HC/HCT against establishment of a segregated site, given concerns about movement restrictions, arbitrary arrests/detentions, GBV/SEA risks, etc. NPC & Ninewa PWG have prepared a 'border monitoring tool' for the Al-Hol response, which is different from UNHCR's Comprehensive Household Assessment Tool, in that it relies on observational methodologies and HH interviews. NPWG will be rolling out briefings on the tool with key protection monitoring partners who will be involved in border monitoring activities. In addition, NPC & CwC TF have engaged with UNHCR & partners in North-Eastern Syria on development of CwC messaging to be delivered to Iraqis considering return from Al-Hol, with a particular emphasis on what to expect at each stage of the return process, family separation issues, GBV & Child Protection issues, PSEA, Anti-Fraud and Health-related messaging. The CwC messages are intended to be delivered in Al-Hol camp (pre-departure), at the border crossing point, in the transit site, and at the destination camps in Iraq. Once finalized, the CwC messages will be disseminated through briefings by Ninewa PWG with partners.
- **Periodic Monitoring Report (PMR):** NPC & Sub-Clusters have worked on the mid-year report (PMR), drawing on partner reporting on their achievements into ActivityInfo. PMR includes analysis of the overall funding situation of the NPC & Sub-Clusters, as well narrative analysis on achievements, gaps in the response, changes in context, and plans for the remainder of 2019. Some key issues that have been identified include: gaps in GBV funding; and under-reporting by general protection partners on their achievements into ActivityInfo. General protection partners have been sent individualized emails on under-reporting and are encouraged to undertake corrective actions by 5 August (i.e. the next ActivityInfo reporting deadline). As soon as the PMR is finalized by OCHA for all Clusters, it will be disseminated among via NPC email list.
- **HNO/HRP processes:** HNO/HRP development timeline has been shared by OCHA with Clusters. This year, the IASC at global level has endorsed new templates for the HNO and HRP, which Clusters were oriented to during an HPC Workshop organized by OCHA. MCNA 2019 data gathering exercise is currently underway, and the results will be available for Clusters around 20 August. Clusters are now working on developing severity scales for key indicators that will inform the HNO severity rankings.
- **IHF 2nd Standard Allocation:** The result of the PMR, in terms of funding gaps, and achievement of targets set in the 2019 HRP, and geographic gaps, will determine the priorities that Clusters will set for the IHF 2<sup>nd</sup> Standard Allocation Strategy. Once endorsed by the IHF Advisory Board, the Strategy will be shared with partners. It is expected that around \$30 million USD will be available for all Clusters. Eligible partners will be given around 2 weeks to prepare their proposals, for review by Clusters. It is expected that funds will be distributed at the beginning of October.

## 2i. Updates from RPA mechanism

- **RPA Findings**

### **Qubuk village, Ayadiyah sub-district, Tal Afar district, Ninewa governorate**

We attempted to undertake an RPA in Qubuk village in Tal Afar district. We were unable to complete a comprehensive RPA due to access issues, but we were able to speak to a few people. It is reported that the main barriers for families to return relate to the peaceful coexistence concerns due to religious and ethnic tensions, damaged or destroyed housing, and highly contaminated private houses and public infrastructure, including roads.

### **Shuhani and Sherween villages, Diyala governorate**

Two RPAs were undertaken last week in Diyala governorate. Shuhani and Sherween areas are made up of a handful of villages. Communities in both village areas report living in a high risk area – with so-called Islamic State fighters regularly launching attacks from the Hamrin Mountains towards PMF and forces, which has resulted in multiple

civilian casualties. The main protection concerns relate to social cohesion issues, restrictions on freedom of movement, lack of access to basic services, child protection concerns and HLP issues.

- RPA team has been facing some issues with access in recent months, with almost half of our attempts to reach areas not being successful, due to local PMFs not allowing them access as we do not have a letter of authorization from their chain of command (despite the RPA team holding all the appropriate government-issued letters). This of course is negatively impacting the team ability to undertake RPAs and subsequently provide reporting and recommendations for protection and other programming in vulnerable areas.
- **Upcoming RPAs:**
  - Ninewa
  - Diyala

### 3. AOB

- a. **NRC presentation of the report “Barriers from Birth: Undocumented Children in Iraq Sentenced to a Life on the Margins”:** NRC presented its study on barriers to access legal documentation for children. Further information can be requested to [naomi.petersohn@nrc.no](mailto:naomi.petersohn@nrc.no).
- b. The next NPC meeting will be on 15 August from 11am to 1pm.