



National Protection Cluster

Minutes of Meeting (14 November 2019)

Locations: UNHCR Baghdad, Ned Colt Erbil, plus Webex

Chaired by: Bruno Stolze (Ninewa/KRI PWG Coordinator)

1. **Review of Action Points from 17 October meeting – (5 mins)**
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 IIC, Protection and CCCM Cluster Camp Follow Up Survey and National MHPSS TWG Iraq and Psychosocial Support Task Force presentation.**
3. **AOB**

1. Review of Action Points from 17 October meeting

No previous action points.	
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Minutes adopted without amendments.

2a. Strategic Update from KRI & Ninewa PWG

Ninewa

Camp closure and consolidation processes

- In addition to processes in Hammam Al Alil, consolidation has concluded in Salamiyah camp with ongoing efforts to ensure that all remaining sectors are well covered. Child protection needs are covered while gaps remain in education, mostly due to lack of teachers. Jeddah 1 and 2 camps have also been consolidated with Jeddah 3—now called Jeddah 1. Jeddah 4 and 5 have been consolidated with the removal of the fence dividing the camps—now called Jeddha 5. Key messages are being shared with the communities.
- The Governor of Ninewa has referred to a COMSEC decision to close all but one Ninewa camps by the end of year. The remaining camp will host families “whose lives will be under threat if they depart the camps prematurely”. The humanitarian community is advocating for an extension of the deadline and that the process is done to minimize possible impacts on communities, as well as ensuring adequate coordination with the humanitarian community (*recent developments have yield positive results and extension in principle agreed*).

Civilian Character of Camps – Quarter 3 Report

- Violations of the civilian and humanitarian character of camps continue across Ninewa. The NPC launched the Q3 Report of the incident matrix – attached for easy reference. The Ninewa PWG appreciates the contribution of protection actors thus far, but encourages partners to also utilize the use of the Rights Violations Matrix, as well as notes for improved reporting shared by the Ninewa PWG.

Legal Partners Meeting

- Following the Ninewa Court of Appeal decision regarding the provision of documents for families of persons with a perceived affiliation with extremist groups (*see notes from NPWG October meeting*), partners discussed challenges related to the application of the new directive. Main barriers identified include that the directive is not addressed to intelligence actors, as well as lack of enforcement at Civil Affairs Directorates over security clearance procedures. At the time of the meeting, legal partners confirmed that practice was still based on the Tabria process in order to overcome security clearance challenges. NPWG legal actors will pursue additional advocacy channels in support of the decision. Partners are encouraged to continue monitoring the implementation of the decision in Ninewa and to report any successful or remaining challenges identified on the ground. The UNAMI Human Rights Office is also following up on the decision, implementation together with the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights.

2b. Strategic Update from C/S PWG

Kirkuk

- On 30th Oct 2019, Kirkuk inaugurated the interim documentation center for IDPs in Leylan 1 camp. The opening ceremony was attended by the Ministry of the Interior, including the Inspector General. The centre will serve to issue unified IDs for IDPs resident in Leylan 1 and Leylan 2 camps originating from Salah al-Din, Mosul, Diyala, Anbar and Baghdad Governorates. IDPs originating from Kirkuk Governorate are not included because the unified ID has not been launched in Hawija and surrounding areas. Another location in Leylan 2 will serve to issue nationality certificates for IDPs originating from Kirkuk Governorate. Over 3,000 cases were received and so far 400 national unified IDs have been processed in the system, with more forthcoming based on the capacity of partners and the government.
- At meetings with the Governor and OCHA and UNHCR, Kirkuk has again noted that they plan to return at least 500 IDP households originating from Salah al-Din and resident in Kirkuk camps to Salah al-Din. However, following advocacy regarding the situation in Al Karama as the only camp in the governorate and lack of alternatives, the authorities have not yet given an indication for when the returns will occur.
- Kirkuk authorities have announced plans to close Leylan 2 camp, but no further information has been shared with humanitarian partners regarding a timeline.

Anbar

- Mobile missions for issuance of civil documentation in AAF and HTC will begin in mid-December and/or early January; the missions are expected to last 20 days for both camps.
- In AAF camp, partners have reported security and military actors intimidating IDPs with coercive tactics and requests for bribes, including arbitrarily denying access to education and health services outside of camp. Partners also voice concerns regarding the civilian character of camp due to the presence of security and military actors conducting security screenings and arresting IDPs in camps, often without an arrest warrant. The Anbar PWG continues to monitor AAF and has referred issues regarding military actors to the CM Coord function within OCHA.
- IDPs are still departing AAF on a regular basis and returning families are receiving the donation from the Speaker of the Iraqi Parliament as they leave. To mitigate issues regarding protection for IDPs returning to West Anbar, protection and CCCM actors have discussed the possibility of issuing departure letters to IDPs departing AAF to help facilitate their movement across various Operations Command checkpoints throughout the Governorate.

Salah al-Din

- On 13 November, 42 HHs (177 individuals) arrived to Al-Karama camp from Jeddah 5 camp in Ninewa. There is limited availability of shelter in-camp and it is expected that new arrivals will be subject to the same freedom of movement restrictions as other IDPs forcibly returned from Ninewa.
- Partners report that community-led reconciliation processes are underway for IDPs with a perceived affiliation in Al Eitha village in Al Shirqat District in Salah al-Din.
- The Humanitarian Coordinator met with the Governor of Salah al-Din on the 7th of November in Baghdad to discuss the concerns of the humanitarian community regarding the characteristics of and conditions in Al Karama. At the 11 November Governorate Returns Committee (GRC), the Deputy Governor reiterated that restrictions on IDP freedom of movement in-camp are for their own protection due to tension in their communities and that those who obtain a security clearance will be permitted to leave the camp under sponsorship.
- The Salah al-Din Legal Partners Network is conducting a survey of the numbers of IDPs with a freeze status in Civil Affairs Directorates in the Governorate.

Diyala

- The Diyala PWG continues to receive reports of armed actors affiliated with extremist groups attacking individual families with perceived affiliations to IS in Al Muqdadia.
- The last two GRC meetings with the Governor to discuss the potential closure of Sa'ad camp have been cancelled due to ongoing unrest.

2c. Thematic Update from GBV Sub-Cluster

Updates on 16 Days of Activism against GBV

- The Center for Women’s Global Leadership launched the 2019 Global 16 Days Campaign Advocacy Guide noting that the theme for 2019 is “Ending Gender-Based Violence in the World of Work”.
- The UNiTE campaign, under the leadership of the UN Secretary-General, is “Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands against Rape!”
- The Kurdistan High Council for Women Affairs (KHCWA) theme for the 16 Days of Activism is “Empowerment, Active Participation, Ending Discrimination”. The GBV Working Groups in the KRI will follow the KRI theme while the GBV WGs in other governorates will follow one of the two global themes for 2019.
- While the names and contexts may differ, women and girls universally experience GBV and irrespective of the theme, the purpose of the 16 days of activism is advocacy for prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls and service delivery for the survivors.
- In order to enhance coordination of activism for the 16 days, the GBV sub cluster prepared a matrix that was shared with GBV Working Groups to compile activities that will be undertaken by GBV partners during the event per governorate. The link for the google drive with the matrices was shared accordingly.

Updates on GBV information management System

- GBVIMS trainings for DGOs and potential DGOs as per the Training Plan are underway. Trainings are completed in Sulaymaniyah, Erbil and Dohuk, and remain pending for Baghdad and Ninewa. The objective of the trainings is to enhance capacities of DGOs and potential DGOs in GBVIMS reporting and GBV service delivery.
- Capacity assessment of potential DGOs is on course. The process is expected to be completed by December 2019. Currently 14 DGOs are collecting and sharing GBVIMS data.
- Addendum to the Information Sharing Protocol is in place for GBVIMS and the MARA. Accordingly, the GBVIMS will contribute to the biannual Secretary General's report on conflict related sexual violence.
- A number of DGOs are experiencing severe funding constraints. Several women’s/community centres have closed and more are expected to close by the end of 2019 if funding is not secured.
- The GBVIMS data continues to highlight the linkage between lack of livelihood opportunities and GBV, yet the data of the last two years shows gaps in livelihood. There is a need for advocacy for GBV interventions, including livelihoods, in order to enhance the protection environment for women, girls, boys and men.

2d. Thematic Update from Child Protection Sub-Cluster

- Bashir Murad has joined the CPSC as full-time Case Management Advisor (Case Management Working Group chair) beginning November 1st, contributed by IRC. Bashir was TGH’s CP Technical Advisor and contributed most of the inter-agency tools and guidance including SOPs, Information Sharing Protocol, Unaccompanied and Separated Children guidelines. He speaks Kurdish, Arabic and English, and will provide close support to governorate-level case management actors. Bashir can be reached at bashir.murad@rescue.org, and phone at 07505608759.
- With a new chairperson on board, the Case Management WG is kick-starting the annual workplan process for 2020 with a capacity-building calendar. WG members should have received a google link to prioritize training topics for 2020. If you are considering beginning CP case management programs, or would like to receive child protection case management training, please join the case management WG mailing list. You can contact Bashir Murad, copying Makiba Yamano.
- Hannah Cattermole, Child Safeguarding consultant, is nearing the end of her assignment. She has trained 87 participants from 35 organizations through 4 trainings. 6 members of the CPSC have been selected as resource persons (Child Safeguarding Network members) to serve as focal persons for training/advice. The official launch of Child Safeguarding Policy and Implementation Guide is planned on 27 November during the CPSC meeting. A Kobo survey tool will be circulated to follow-up with organizations on adaptation of the policy and their focal persons.
- During the annual meeting of the Global Alliance of Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (14-15 Oct), the new edition of the Child Protection Minimum Standards was launched (<https://alliancecpha.org/en/series-of-child-protection-materials/2019-edition-cpms>) During the 27 November CPSC meeting, we are inviting global CP Minimum Standards WG chairs to walk us through major changes, and discuss possible roll out in Iraq.
- A reminder that for anything related to 3RP 2020 planning, you can contact Federica Cova at f.cova@tdhitaly.org and for anything related to camp consolidation and movements, you can contact Aleta Morn at protection.iraq@intersos.org.

2e. Thematic Update from Mine Action Sub-Cluster

- MASC coordinator visited the clearance activities conducted in Sinjar by UNMAS partner and got briefs in two Explosive Ordnance contaminated sites which have mixed gender teams from Yezidi and Arabs of Mosul.
- **Mine Action Portfolio:** The Mine Action portfolio is an online country-specific resource tool for donors, policy-makers, advocates, and national and international mine action implementers. As it reflects strategic responses developed in the field and requires the engagement of the government in the coordination process, a letter was sent to national mine action authorities in Baghdad and Erbil to verify their intent to put forward having the portfolio for 2020.
- **Accreditation:** DDG and DCA still need to re-register with Directorate of NGOs.
- Two MASC members are conducting Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) in Ninewa camps, with other members indicating they are ready to support providing EORE to IDPs prior to departure from camps. Ongoing coordination efforts to facilitate these activities and address the gaps in collaboration are being discussed with Ninewa CCCM and NPC coordinators.
This includes IDPs who have already departed camps to use their locations for planning of mine action activities in these locations, noting that some of these areas have no Mine Action operators due to the security situation.
- **Mine Action current activities**
 - Ninewa: 22 clearance teams and 22 EORE and NTS teams in Mosul, Talafar, Telkif, Hamdaniya, Makhmour, Sinjar
 - Anbar: 8 clearance teams 12 EORE teams in Ramadi, Fallouja, Heet, Rawa, Ana, and Haditha
 - Kirkuk: 9 EORE teams and 4 clearance teams are operating in Hawija, Kirkuk city and Daquq
 - Salah al-Din: 3 clearance and survey teams, 7 EORE teams in Biji, Tikrit, Shirqat and Balad
 - Diyala: 1 EORE team and CL team, one clearance team in Khanaqin
 - Duhok: MAGA is providing EORE in camps hosting Syrian refugees.
In addition to operations in Sulaimaniya, Basrah, Misan, Muthana and Wasit
- MAG is providing EORE in camps hosting Syrian refugees in Dohuk.
- For Salah Al-Din and Baghdad camps, UNMAS is providing EORE through its implementing partner.
- **EORE Sessions for humanitarian workers**
UNMAS is organizing EORE sessions for humanitarian workers in the coming few weeks. This will be delivered in both Erbil and Baghdad in Arabic and English and the invitation was sent to the NPC members.

2f. Thematic Update from HLP Sub-Cluster

- HLP partners in Ninewa report trends of forged compensation claims to compensation committees and illegal methods for filing of such claims. Partners have been advised to increase their response to provide legal assistance and support to fill this vacuum. Additionally, Ninewa officials are increasing their efforts to avoid unnecessary bureaucratic procedures to avoid potential manipulation related to compensation claims. Partners have been advised to work with the Ninewa Compensation Sub-Committee and to provide support related to efficiency, receiving of claims and any logistical support to better absorb and register cases.
- HLP partners reported that after Compensation Sub-committee in Sinjar/Sinuni resume reception of compensation claims, authorities were not willing to receive compensation claims from ordinary citizens directly but preferably through lawyers or NGOs. HLP partners are addressing this issue with authorities and advocating to allow citizens to file claims as they wish.
- HLP SC has drafted the Terms of Reference for HLP Governorate-based Focal Points and will select focal points for prioritized governorates. The aim of the TOR is (1) facilitate the flow of information between field partners and the national HLP Sub-Cluster coordination team, (2) strengthen referral pathways between HLP and non-HLP actors, (3) enable the coordination team to better prioritize areas of coverage and types of activities. Partners serving as governorate focal points for issues related to HLP are considered members of the HLP Sub-Cluster, and will be responsible for reporting to the HLP SC Coordinators.
- After the IHF 2nd Standard Allocation, two new NGOs (1 international and 1 national) joined the HLP SC. Both NGOs will be covering governorates which previously were not covered with HLP services. Respectively, IRC will be providing HLP services in Kirkuk and Justice Center in SAD governorates.

2g. Strategic Update from CwC Task Force

- Based on recently endorsed HCT Protection Strategy, the current CWC TF will be dismantled and a new CWC/AAP TF will be formed and placed under the ICCG (rather than only under the NPC). OCHA and UNHCR will co-lead the new TF.

2h. Update from NPC

IIC, CCCM and Protection Clusters Follow up calls for people departing camps

- The National Protection and CCCM Clusters, together the Iraq Information Centre (IIC), have developed a tool to better understand the needs of high numbers of IDPs departing camps. Two weeks after IDPs formally depart, the IIC phones families who have consented and carry out a survey covering different thematic areas, including access to food, drinking water, shelter situation and condition, access to income or livelihood components, health uncovered needs, etc. For protection, questions reference family separation, lack of civil documentation, safety and security, risk of eviction and number of persons with disabilities in the household (this should also guide overall considerations on protection mainstreaming). At the time of the NPC meeting, 1,800 families had been contacted, of which approximately 1,000 reached agreed to complete the survey. Other rounds of calls will follow. Additional information will be available with the relevant clusters and partners can approach clusters bilaterally.
 - The dashboard is posted on both the [National Protection Cluster](#) and [CCCM Cluster](#) websites. It is also available through the [link](#) here. The additional protection analysis can be found through the [link](#) here.
- **National MHPSS TWG Iraq and Psychosocial Support Task Force presentation.** Presentation included Terms of Reference, members, achieves to date and information on the Psychosocial Support Task Force from the Child Protection Sub-Cluster.

3. AOB

- c. The next NPC meeting will be on 12 December from 11am to 1pm.