

INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE
PRINCIPALS AD HOC MEETING ON THE SYRIA CRISIS

Final Action Points

30 April 2013
New York

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The IASC Principals:

1. *Endorsed the recommendations from the background paper (annex 1) and agreed to provide suggestions on how to refine the language in the recommendations.*

The IASC Principals further:

2. *Requested that the comprehensive update from UNHCR at the meeting be reflected in a short note to the Principals.*
3. *Requested the ERC to send out a note on the legal basis for cross-line and cross-border operations in the case of Syria and agreed to continue to call for unimpeded access, including through cross-border and cross-line operations.*

Annex 1 – Recommendations

Humanitarian situation and trends

1. **Recommendation:** *IASC Members to step up individual and joint- advocacy to stress the gravity of the situation and urgency to act. ERC key messages to be updated and disseminated. UNCT communication strategy to be shared with all IASC Members.*
2. **Recommendation:** *The ERC, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and other IASC Principals to engage Member States and development partners on the urgency to address the impact of the refugee crisis beyond humanitarian needs.*

Improving access to people in need

3. **Recommendation:** *Under the leadership of the ERC, IASC Principals to continue to address obstacles to humanitarian response. Discussions with the Syrian Government and relevant international actors to be based on the humanitarian imperative and the right to assistance.*

Insecurity

4. **Recommendation:** *IASC members to integrate security needs and costs in their planning.*
5. **Recommendation:** *UNDSS to coordinate the development of a security plan for the humanitarian community as a top priority, particularly for Damascus.*
6. **Recommendation:** *UNCT to review programme criticality objectives based on the revised SHARP objectives to ensure priorities are aligned.*

Cross-border operations

7. *Recommendation: IASC organisations to enhance coordination and information-sharing with a view to ensuring coherence and complementarity between cross-border operations undertaken by other entities and humanitarian programmes run from within Syria.*
8. *Recommendation: IASC Members agree to the use of pooled funds for operations in opposition-controlled areas.¹*
9. *Recommendation: The ERC and OCHA to continue to encourage the Government of Turkey to register international NGOs operating in the south of the country.*

Inter-agency Hubs and Convoys

10. *Recommendation: Additional hubs to be established in key population centres. In locations where international staff cannot be deployed, humanitarian organizations should reinforce their presence through the recruitment of national staff. In the interim, IASC members to continue to support inter-agency convoys to previously unreachable areas.*

Guarding against the instrumentalisation of aid

11. *"IASC Members to continue their efforts to prevent politicization of humanitarian action, with a particular focus on strengthening the integrity of new entities operating in this sphere."*

Ensuring the sustainability of funding

12. *Recommendation: IASC Members to continue their advocacy with donors and development partners with more emphasis on the urgency to provide funding for livelihoods and basic services support in Syria and in host countries.*

¹ One organization, UNICEF, objected to this recommendation and asked for discussion and more information on the proposed scope and operational modalities of the pooled funds and any role this implies for the UN before endorsing the recommendation.