# IASC-SWG-Gender-Banner

**IASC Sub-Working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action**

## IASC GENDER SWG - MONTHLY MEETING, 6 FEBRUARY 2013, 9:30-10:30 EST

## DRAFT MINUTES

**Meeting Chair**

Elizabeth Cafferty, WRC

**Participants**

Puk Ovesen, UN Women – minute taker

Siobhán Foran, UN Women

Rebecca Dowd, UNHCR

Nora Malikin, InterAction

Frank Elbers, HREA

Delphine Brun, GenCap

Anne Hoseth, NRC

Anne Christensen, IFRC

Hadia Nusrat, OCHA

Jennifer Williamson, Counterpart International

Kate Burns, OCHA

April Pham, GenCap

**Introduction**

Welcome by the chair and introduction of participants.

**Approval of minutes of meeting of 9 January 2013 and follow up to action points**

The chair gave a brief status on the action points in the draft minutes shared prior to the meeting. There were no additional comments from the participating members. The chair will follow up with UNDP on the pending action point regarding an amendment to Annual Work Plan 2013 before submission deadline 14 February 2013.

**Decisions**

* The minutes were approved by the participating members
* The approved minutes will be posted on humanitarianresponse.info

**Resource Mobilisation**

The need to raise funds for the SWG’s work was discussed. Funds would be required for collective action such as research, action on the communication strategy, promotional pieces, gender alerts, website etc. It was pointed out that success with raising funds for the group in the past had been based on concrete products, so the need to revise the IASC Gender Handbook would be a possibility. It was also suggested that a small standby resource fund for acute actions would be useful for e.g. actions in the field. It was suggested that a small group would work on a concept paper for further discussion in the SWG.

**Decisions**

* A sub-group will elaborate a concept paper on resource mobilization and UN Women (Siobhán and Hadia), OCHA (Kate) and WRC (Elizabeth) volunteered.

**Action Points**

* The sub-group will draft a concept paper for circulation and discussion for the monthly SWG meeting in April 2013.

**Briefings from the field**

No comments or suggestions were received since the discussion of this item at the last meeting. Several suggestions for presentations from gender advisors were put forward at the meeting. It was agreed that co-chairs would contact volunteers over the coming month to agree on dates for 20-minute presentations following the monthly SWG meetings for those interested in participating in an additional half hour briefing.

**Decisions**

* Regular presentations will be planned starting with the April meeting.

**Action Points**

* Co-chairs to follow up with April (presentation on Sudan), Hadia (presentation on Pakistan), Jennifer (presentation on Afghanistan) and Nora (presentation from gender advisor of InterAction members) to coordinate a calendar for presentations, starting at April SWG meeting.

**Cross-cutting Issues’ study**

OCHA (Kate) provided new information on the process, and noted that this was a draft report hence there would be additional opportunities for the SWG to input. The understanding is that the preliminary report will be presented to the Inter Cluster Coordination Team next week. Members discussed their concerns and questions, and agreed that the group should continue to seize opportunities to contribute to the consultation process. The preliminary report will be circulated to members when received.

**Action points:**

* Further comments in writing to Kate (burns@un.org); Siobhán (siobhan.foran@unwomen.org); and Elizabeth (ElizabethC@wrcommission.org) asap.

**E-learning hosting and management**

HREA gave an update on the move of the e-learning hosting and management from LINGO to HREA. The move was due to financial reasons as well as to obtain more insightful information on users. The process has been smooth and HREA is already collecting data. HREA will provide a report on a semi-annual basis. It was agreed that the type of data that would be useful for the SWG should be defined by the sub-group involved in the move (Kate, Nora/Julie, Frank). This group will also look into how to use the information collected through the survey monkey at the end of the course and how this survey could be better integrated in the French Version currently being elaborated. HREA was thanked again for their leadership in this area.

**Action points**

* The sub-group for the e-learning management will follow up on the move, data needs and the current user survey and report back by next SWG meeting

**Member status following re-confirmation exercise**

UN Women gave an update on its efforts to contact individuals on the membership list and confirm their details and interest in continuing as members. 25 Organizations represented by 31 members and 12 alternates remain in the google-group post-exercise and an updated members list has been developed. Members revisited a discussion regarding relevant organizations not currently in membership whose expertise and participation would benefit the work of the group. The co-chairs will reach out to staff of these groups. Members are encouraged to also continue to reach out to partners in the humanitarian and gender arenas to encourage them to become involved. The updated list of current member organizations will be shared with the rest of the group.

**Action points**

* The list of organizations participating in the SWG will be shared with the minutes
* Co-chairs will reach out to additional relevant organizations

**AOB**

**Standard text for the SWG’s sub-page on IASC website:** As agreed at the previous meeting, UN Women provided a draft prior to this meeting of proposed standard text for the IASC sub-page on the Gender SWG, with a reference to Humanitarianresponse.info as the main website of the group. It was raised that it would be relevant to add language welcoming new members and advising them on how to become a member of the SWG. It was suggested that the co-chairs consider the most sensible pathway for organizations interested in joining the group as there is currently no criteria for becoming a member. The proposed standard text should then be revised accordingly.

**Decisions**

* The standard text was approved by the group but should be revised when there is clarification on how to advise organizations interested in joining the SWG

**Action Points**

* Co-chairs to consider criteria process for including new organizations in the SWG
* IASC Secretariat to upload the preliminary text before next SWG meeting

**Communication Strategy:** UN Women informed the group that the small group working on the communication strategy is progressing. One issue it is considering is the use of a survey to gain insight into humanitarian stakeholders’ expectations of the SWG. It was mentioned that this option might not yield the necessary information, based on previous similar consultations (for the cross-cutting issues’ study) where few actors had taken the time to engage.

**Action points**

* Sub-group for the communication strategy to provide an update for discussion at the next SWG meeting in March.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting of the SWG will take place on 3 April. Information on call-in details and face-to-face locations will be shared prior to the meeting.

**Suggested agenda points for the March meeting:**

* Approval of meeting minutes of 6 February 2013 SWG meeting
* Communication Strategy
* Updates from output-groups on progress on Annual Work Plan

**List of organizations participating in SWG as of 6 February 2013**

* Human Rights Education Associates (HREA)
* IASC Secretariat
* GenderConsult
* Norwegian Refugee Council
* MSF
* UNDP
* Gender and Mine Action Programme
* UNOCHA
* Gender Standby Capacity Project
* InterAction
* Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies
* Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces
* International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
* USAID
* Mercy Corps
* International Committee for the Red Cross
* GBV Prevention Group
* Save the Children
* Humanitarian Assistance Program, Josef Korbel School of Int'l Studies
* UN Women
* ICVA
* WRC
* UNHCR
* UNICEF
* Counterpart International