

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

IASC Inter-Agency
Standing Committee



What is the IASC ?

- Unique inter-agency forum involving the key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners for:
 - coordination
 - policy development
- Established in June 1992 in response to GA Resolution [46/182](#) on the strengthening of humanitarian assistance
- GA Resolution [48/57](#) affirmed the role of the IASC as the “primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance”
- IASC led by the Emergency Relief Coordinator



Valerie Amos

Emergency Relief
Coordinator

Chair of the IASC
Principals

Who are it's members?

IASC Members		IASC Standing Invitees	
	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)		International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)
	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)		International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
	United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHABITAT)		American Council for Voluntary International Action (InterAction)
	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)		International Organization for Migration (IOM)
	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)		Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
	United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)		Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (RSG on Human Rights of IDPs)
	World Food Programme (WFP)		Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR)
	World Health Organization (WHO)		World Bank (WB)

Objectives of the IASC

Dialogue

- » Forum for humanitarian dialogue among humanitarian actors

Policy-development

- » System wide policies and humanitarian guidelines for humanitarian operations

Advocacy

- » Platform for the humanitarian community to advocate collectively for common principles and values

Operational discussions and decision-making

- » For the humanitarian community to articulate crisis-specific strategies

Structure of the IASC

IASC Principals

- o **Executive level, chaired by the ERC**
- o Meets two times a year and ad-hoc
- o Strategic decisions or policy issues



IASC Working Group

- o **Senior representatives of the organisations chaired by the Director OCHA Geneva**
- o Meets 3 times a year and ad-hoc
- o Provides policy support to the Principals based on field needs and realities
- o Identifies emerging issues



IASC Subsidiary Bodies

- o **Technical and policy officers**, for technical recommendations to the IASC-WG

IASC Secretariat

- o **Assists different IASC bodies; monitors work to IASC Subsidiary bodies and implementation of IASC decisions**

Subsidiary Bodies

established for an unlimited duration to address critical on-going priority issues

Sub-Working Groups

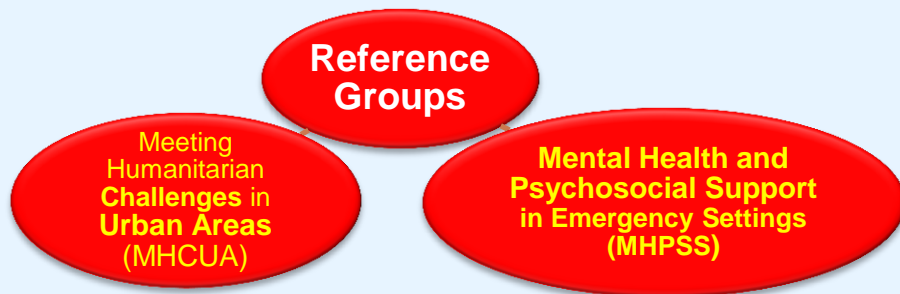
Reference Groups

Task Forces

self-managed “communities of practice” with loose affiliation to the IASC

established for a limited duration to complete a specific task

Subsidiary Bodies



1. IASC Principals meeting in December 2010 initiated a **“transformational”** process to **improve the quality of the humanitarian system to respond to emergencies by:**
 1. Strengthening Leadership and Coordination
 2. Improving Accountability for Performance
 3. Improving Accountability to Affected People
 4. Building Capacity for Preparedness in selected countries
 5. Improving Advocacy and Communication
2. Initiative to make the work of the IASC Working Group and Subsidiary Bodies more effective -> **reduction to 11 IASC Subsidiary Bodies**



- Inter-Agency **Contingency Planning Guidelines** for Humanitarian Assistance
- **Early Warning/Early Action** report (3x/year)
- Guidelines on **Mental Health** and Psychosocial support in Emergency Settings.
- Guidance and Indicator Package for Implementing Priority Five of the **Hyogo Framework**
- Women, Girls, Boys & Men, Different Needs – Equal Opportunities, a **Gender Handbook** for Humanitarian Action.
- Protecting Persons Affected by Natural Disasters - IASC Operational Guidelines on **Human Rights and Natural Disasters**

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“Working Together to Strengthen Humanitarian Assistance”

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WELCOME TO THE IASC

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) is the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance. It is a unique forum involving the key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners.

The IASC was established in June 1992 in response to United Nations General Assembly Resolution 46/182 on the strengthening of humanitarian assistance. [More »](#)

CALENDAR Today | This week | All meetings

Thu 05-03-09 to Thu 05-03-09 15:00 to 16:30 (CET) Subsidiary Bodies IASC CAP SWG Meeting »	Tue 10-03-09 to Wed 11-03-09 A:D to A:D (CET) Subsidiary Bodies 25th WGET Plenary Meeting, 10-11 March 2009 in Kuala Lumpur »	Wed 18-03-09 to Fri 20-03-09 A:D to A:D (CET) Working Group 73rd IASC WG Meeting »
Thu 02-04-09 to Thu 02-04-09 15:00 to 16:30 (CET) Subsidiary Bodies IASC CAP SWG Meeting »	Thu 30-04-09 to Thu 30-04-09 A:D to A:D (CET) Principals IASC Principals Meeting »	Thu 07-05-09 to Thu 07-05-09 15:00 to 16:30 (CET) Subsidiary Bodies IASC CAP SWG Meeting »

IASC PRODUCTS Please select a category »

IASC Products are guidelines, tools and documents endorsed by the IASC Working Group or IASC Principals and used by humanitarian actors in field or policy work. [More »](#)

- IASC Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings »
- Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action »
- IASC Operational Guidelines on Human Rights and Natural »
- Guidelines on Gender-Based Violence Interventions »

IASC NEWS

- 21-01-2009 IASC calls on Humanitarian Agencies to Identify Applicants for the Humanitarian Coordination Pool »
- 26-11-2008 Climate Change, Migration and Displacement: Who will be affected? »
- 26-11-2008 Disaster Risk Reduction and Risk Management Practices: Critical Elements for Adapt. to Clim. Change »
- 30-10-2008 IASC Policy Statement Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action »
- 29-10-2008 IASC advocacy paper on Humanitarian Action and Older Persons: An essential brief for human actors »

IASC

- ICRC
- ICVA
- UNDP
- UNEP
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- UN Women
- WFP
- WHO
- SCHR
- ENFP
- UNEP
- UN Women
- WFP
- WHO

IASC Homepage:

www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc

Includes:

- Meeting calendar
- Meeting documents
- IASC Products
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