

INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE (IASC)
TASK FORCE ON INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Summary Note and Participants List

16 July 2009
Room IX (Palais des Nations), Geneva

1. The Chair, Brendan McDonald, OCHA's Field Information Services (FIS) Unit, Geneva, opened the meeting by thanking participants for their attendance and support for inter Agency/Cluster Information Management (IM).
2. The Chair outlined the agenda for the meeting, which was dedicated to a progress update on the review of the Operational Guidance Note; nomination of countries for the pilot implementation of OneResponse; Global Cluster Lead participation in the UNDAC IM Course 24-28 August 2009; and AOB.

Progress update on the review of the Operational Guidance Note

3. Erik Kastlander of OCHA FIS summarized progress to date by outlining the human and financial resources committed to the review. To date, OCHA, UNHCR, and WASH Cluster have committed financial resources (OCHA US\$ 20,000, UNHCR not yet clear, WASH US\$ 10,000) while IFRC and WHO have committed human resources for the effort. UNDP committed to supporting and participating in the review of the Operational Guidance Note by ensuring the CWGER lessons learned exercise currently underway both feeds into and draws from the IM review.
4. OCHA and UNHCR will discuss the selection of consultant in the next two weeks with the aim of recruitment being finalized as soon as possible and the actual review to be completed before October 2009.
5. OCHA took note of the comments received regarding the five questions for the 2nd Cluster Evaluation and submitted them to the Cluster Evaluation team.

Action Points:

- a. OCHA and UNHCR to finalize the selection of a consultant for the review in the next two weeks

Nomination of countries for the pilot implementation of OneResponse

6. Patrick Gordon of OCHA FIS briefed the meeting on overall progress to date for OneResponse and informed that 3 Clusters and 1 Cross-cutting theme were now active on the web platform.
7. Related to the nomination of countries for the pilot implementation, the results of a recent survey were presented which indicated that Pakistan and Afghanistan were the preferred countries among the IASC TF on IM. A discussion ensued on the suitability

of Afghanistan and Pakistan as pilot countries. It was clarified that OCHA had offered to the Pakistan Country Team back in April 2009 to activate OneResponse but that the Pakistani CT had declined and opted for the UN Habitat website. UNHCR reflected on the preferred choices and outlined that since OCHA would be the entity largely carrying the pilots, the main criteria ought to be the capability of OCHA at the field level. The Chair agreed and outlined the preferred countries for OCHA: Somalia, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, and possibly oPt.

Action Points:

- b. OCHA, on behalf of the IASC TF on IM, to present Somalia, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe and possibly oPt as possible pilot countries for the implementation of OneResponse to the Global Cluster Leads on 24 July 2009.

UNDAC IM Course 24-28 August 2009

Erik Kastlander gave an account of the response to the invitation sent out by OCHA to the members of the IASC TF on IM to participate in the coming UNDAC IM Course, focusing on IM in a sudden onset environment. Participants in the course come from OCHA Regional IMOs, UNDAC, OSOCC Operational Support Staff, EU-MIC experts, Global Cluster Leads, IM Stand-by-Partners, MapAction, and UNOSAT. Course Management is conducted by OCHA FIS and FCSS. To date, IFRC, UNHCR, WHO, WFP, Education Cluster, UNICEF, UNDP, and IOM have indicated interest in participating. OCHA will send out additional information to Global Cluster Leads in the week of 20 July, review the candidates and revert before 24 July on selection of participants. All course information and administration will be populated on the Virtual OSOCC (<http://ocha.unog.ch/virtualosocc/>)

Action Points:

- c. OCHA to finalize selection for the UNDAC IM course by 24 July 2009.

AOB

- d. FAO sought further clarification on the overall purpose and direction of the IASC TF on IM. OCHA to follow-up with FAO on a physical meeting where the background and direction can be elaborated and clarified.
- e. The TF agreed to have the next meeting on 03 September 2009. Sub-groups to continue their work as planned earlier during the month of August.

Brendan McDonald
Chief, Field Information Services Unit
OCHA
16 July 2009

