

Minutes of IASC Task Force Meeting, South Asia EQ
Monday, 3 November 2005

Updates:

1. **ECHO** has announced that they have available an additional 30 million Euros support the emergency response to the earthquake. Agencies are encouraged to immediately contact ECHO with proposals. An interagency mission to Brussels should be considered.

Action Point:

Agencies need to inform OCHA (gelsdorf@un.org and sabety@un.org) of any proposals they have submitted.

2. **Mr. Kevin Kennedy, OCHA will be deployed** for a period of approximately two weeks in support of the UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Pakistan, Mr. Jan Vandermoortele, in the ongoing response to the South Asia earthquake. Mr. Kennedy will review current relief operations and make recommendations particularly with respect to ensuring a sustainable relief effort and coordination arrangements for the coming winter months.
3. **The Principles Core Teleconference** convened by the Emergency Relief Coordinator highlighted the concern by the HC that media messages should not sound too catastrophic and that agencies should focus on the funding and operational constraints they are facing but also mention the significant improvements made in the past few days.

Summary Discussion

4. **IDP Terminology:** As there have been concerns by IASC members over how and when agencies should refer to the affected population as IDPs, a draft statement on 'IDP Terminology in Pakistan' written with the support of the IDD division was circulated to members for review.

Action Point:

Comments on draft statement on 'IDP Terminology in Pakistan' sent to gelsdorf@un.org, and bagshaw@un.org from IDD by Monday 7 November for further discussion at the next meeting.

5. **Priority Action Plan:** The Paper prepared by the Pakistan Country Team was circulated to members. The paper aims to try and raise additional funds for support of immediate priority activities. WFP announced that the calls for additional air assets presented in the Plan were currently under discussion of being amended as it was felt that instead of mobilizing additional air assets, funds should be used to sustain current operations. This would alter the amount of money requested. Agencies were also briefed on the use of the CERF to support operations.

Action Point:

Substantive changes to the 'Priority Humanitarian Action Plan' sent to cluster head in Islamabad and copied to gelsdorf@un.org, and holdsworth@un.org in Islamabad by 5 November so that a revised draft could be circulated on Monday in Member State Briefing.

Action Point:

Requests for use of CERF funds should be copied to Heidi Kuttab, kuttab@un.org in OCHA New York.

- 6. Member-States Briefing:** It was announced that an information briefing for Member-States by the Pakistan Permanent Representative and Director of OCHA Geneva would take place on Monday 7 November from 10:00 to 12:00. An invitation was circulated. Member States would be briefed on the Priority Humanitarian Action Plan, and the funding gaps would be further highlighted. IASC Members were encouraged to attend to respond to any questions.

Cluster Points:

- 7. Operation Winter Race:** IOM announced the successful activities of the first 2 days of Operation Winter Race in which already 160 families received shelter kits.
- 8. Protection/Watsan in Camps:** Concerns were raised over the protection issues and watsan situation as many latrines were not adequate or appropriate for women in some of the earliest established camps. UNHCR and UNICEF are looking to address the issues. It was also announced that the Government and both Camp Management Cluster led by UNHCR and Shelter Cluster led by IOM were working closely together with the Government and many of these camps were constructed before the international community had arrived. It was also mentioned that the military seemed very responsive to both protection and gender concerns.

Additional Action Points:

Action Point

Any stories or examples of negative effects on humanitarian programs of funding gaps sent to richards2@un.org, and Mcgoldrick@un.org for Oxfam Advocacy Campaign by Monday 7 November.

***Next Meeting Monday 7 November at 15:30 pm. ***