**Minutes of IASC Sub-working Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action**

**12 May 2010**

Participants: Julie (Interaction), Galit (UNICEF), Maria Caterina (Oxfam GB), Kate (OCHA), Mireia (CARE International), Laney (WHO), Angie (IMC), Blandine (IOM), Aiden (UNHCR)

Meeting chaired and minutes recorded by Amelia Peltz

**1. E-Learning Update**

* Course launched now on e-learning portal
* Marketing trailer presented at IASC Principles meeting and it generated a lot of enthusiasm
* OCHA is working on making this mandatory; other agencies working on adopting this into their training curriculum
* Housed on the LINGOS site; will give names and contact info of those taking course so we can track who is taking the course
* Need to migrate marketing trailer to permanent site
* Guidebooks have been printed w/ CD room, postcards, checklists (1,000 copies printed so far)
* Shelter questions were accidentally left out of book; Julie working with IFRC and UNHCR to finalize their questions which will be printed as an addition to the packet
* When book is reprinted it will contain shelter questions
* Communications plan is set and has been disseminated
* Question: is there a plan for translating the training? Answer: yes, but we don’t currently have the funding. Cost is high, exploring options to reduce the cost
* Galit is offering to find some cheaper quotes for translation as UNICEF is also working on an e-learning course and may have some contacts/resources
* Question: please send out a new link to the trailer once it is moved to a permanent site
* Question: are agencies that are linking to course linking to the LMS? Answer: No, some are linking to their own LMS. We are asking them to share the information on who is taking the course
* Question: are we creating a list of agencies that have chosen to make the course mandatory being stored/shared? Answer: probably best to be shared on oneresponse.org

**2. ECOSOC Side Event**

* OCHA/UNICEF worked on topics for the panel to target specific audience
* Looking at gender dimensions of operating in high risk environments; provide space to discuss of security-related issues and use opportunity to introduce new tools (ex. Gender marker) and reflect how they are being implemented in high risk environments
* Challenge is that if this is a side event, the main panel feels it does not need to discuss gender and all of a sudden gender becomes siloed instead of mainstreamed
* Now all panelist are going to be asked to speak on gender in the main panel
* Suggestion to still have a panelist to discuss these issues (high risk environments, needs assessments, etc.) and then have side event panel to discuss challenges that still remain
* Question fro WHO: the issues of high risk environments seems broad; focus on how gender dimensions of low onset natural disasters, perhaps a focus on different sectors, reiterate WHO availability to bring in perspectives of health sector
* Theme of high risk environments chosen as it is one of the themes (other themes are Haiti and vulnerability)
* Alter side event focus and change concept note; not have panel called working in high risk environment but instead talking about global challenges
* We should present tools, but not have it be the focus of the discussion
* Suggestion to revise concept note
* Galit offered to map out Options 1-3 along with pros and cons
* SWG members encouraged to nominate speakers

**3. GenCap**

* Proceeded to have a large component of GenCap work focusing on Gender Marker roll out
* oPt, Kenya, Somalia, Pakistan, Yemen – all have found tool useful
* Ethiopia, Southern Sudan, and DRC also engaged in roll out of Marker
* Approved regional deployment to Asia-Pacific to be based out of Fiji, delay for southern Africa-based GenCap; focus on preparedness for sudden onset disasters
* Opening a GBV window into GenCap
* GenCap 75-80% funded, but no additional funding for GBV
* WHO offered to help resolve the southern African regional deployment issues through their work in Harare

**4. Terms of Reference for Co Chairs**

* Have had two nominations for UN co-chairs (Kate from OCHA and Galit from UNICEF)
* Need nominations for NGO co-chairs; please send nominations to Henia and Amelia
* Once new NGO co chairs are nominated then we will implement the new structure

**5. Listserv**

* Amelia will re-circulate instructions on joining Yahoo group

**6. AOB**

* UN Action meeting October 19-20; suggestion to have face to face meeting around this time (October 21-22) so it coincides with UN action meeting.
* Suggestion to have discussion on 2010 face to face meeting during next call
* Another agenda item for next meeting is to review annual work plan and report back on progress to date
* Maria Caterina leaving Oxfam GB; she has been encouraging her successor to share tools during the annual face to face meeting (ex. Gender and DRR); suggestion to have a space to share new tools that are being developed