

**IASC Weekly Meeting  
23 February 2005  
Notes**



**1: Update on the integrated missions study**  
(by Randolph Kent)

Mr. Randolph Kent, one of the four consultants undertaking the study on integrated missions, gave an update on the state, recommendations and findings of the study at this point of time. The study is a joint initiative by the members of the expanded ECHA Core Group composed of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) and the ECHA Core Group (OCHA, UNICEF, UNDP, UNHCR, WFP)), and is expected to be finished in around 6 weeks.

The study principally considers integrated missions in a UN context, but also includes the peacekeeping-humanitarian/development interface from a wider perspective. It is structured around a number of key elements, including Planning and Design Phases; Leadership and Management, structure – command and control structure for all UN and non-UN entities on the ground, between the HQs and the field as well as in relation to the national authorities; Operational security – including links with military partners; External as well as internal communication; Humanitarian space; Human rights; Economic analysis – macro economic effects of the involvement of international actors; Regional contexts and interactions as well as various thematic issues.

In his briefing, Mr. Kent focused on the humanitarian space in integrated missions. As a general observation, he mentioned the lack of clarity about the humanitarian space and the overall integrated mission.

Distinctions would have to be made as to whether missions are considered of an urgent nature or as normal assistance. Mr. Kent also touched briefly upon the point of distinction between missions under the UN Charter's chapters 6 or 7.

In the study, recommendations will be made regarding the planning of integrated missions, OCHA's role, the HC-DSRSG role and the protection of humanitarian principles.

Being approximately 6 weeks from its finalisation, Mr Kent welcomed any substantial inputs that agencies might have to the study.

In the discussion following the briefing agencies showed interest in further details regarding the process of the study i.e. which field locations the consultants had visited, to which point Mr. Kent confirmed Sudan, Burundi, DRC, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia and Afghanistan. Furthermore, participants discussed the possibility of distinguishing between chapter 6 or 7 missions in the field, and the role of the HC-DSRSG.

Ms. Kirsi Madi, Chief of the IASC Secretariat, confirmed that the integrated missions study would be one agenda item at the up-coming IASC Working Group (21-22 March 2005).

**2: Briefing on the humanitarian situation in Côte d'Ivoire**

(by Jeffrey Brez, UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire and Besida Tonwe, OCHA Côte d'Ivoire)

Ms. Besida Tonwe, Head of OCHA Office Côte d'Ivoire and Mr. Jeffrey Brez, Communication Officer at UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire gave a briefing on the humanitarian situation in Côte d'Ivoire.

Ms. Besida Tonwe expressed concern about the overall situation in Côte d'Ivoire (CDI) as renewed violence is highly probable and dialogue between the different parties has broken down.

Also, the events in November 2004 have had a negative impact on the economy. Since many small enterprises are closing down, the unemployment rate is rising steadily.

In terms of security, the whole country came down from phase 4 to security phase 3 in late January. However, there is still a large number of militia present in the different areas of the country.

Regarding the humanitarian situation, large parts of the population are hindered access to health care, education and to water and sanitation. Especially the growing needs of IDPs and their increased dependency are of concern.

Despite this severe situation, funding for CDI is quite weak. So far, the CAP for CDI is 35% funded.

In particular, three issues remain critical: Health, Education and Protection. The rehabilitation of health centers has started although it is difficult to find professional staff to deploy since much of the qualified health staff has left the country after 2002. Besides polio, also cases of meningitis and cholera have been reported. UNAIDS, which is doing a national survey of HIV/ AIDS has monitored a steady increase of infections since the beginning of the crisis, while prevention as well as treatment is lacking. In the western part of the country malnutrition is prevalent.

The challenges in the area of education are mainly linked to the reinstatement of civil servants. Currently, 700 000 children do not have access to education.

On the third critical issue, it was highlighted that the crisis is rather a crisis of protection than of assistance. Since the events in November 2004, the suspicion has expanded within the society. The lack of protection is of great concern, especially in camps and at checkpoints, which have increasingly been used to harass civilians, in particular vulnerable groups. Impunity and the lack of a functioning police and justice system present major challenges.

In total, there are approximately 500 000 – 700 000 IDPs in the country, of which about 10 000 live in camps and centers. The return of the IDPs is difficult by the unstable political and security situation. However, return and repatriation of the approximately 70 000 Liberian refugees in CDI is continuing.

Mr. Brez emphasized the importance of staff redeployment for health and education services. Therefore it is of importance to convince donors to support further education efforts, which is one of the priority issues of the local communities.

Regarding protection of children, the involvement of children in the "Forces Nouvelles" and in other violent groups was mentioned. So-called PDR Programmes, for Prevention, Demobilization and Reintegration, are carried out to combat this challenge. In the area of health care, 5 rounds of Polio National Immunization Days are planned for 2005. The need for further funding and advocacy efforts was highlighted.

Following the briefing, Chief of the IASC Secretariat, Ms. Kirsi Madi mentioned that the CAP for CDI will be subject of the Directors Review in the upcoming IASC Working Group on 21 – 22 March. The discussion focused on Contingency Planning efforts as a deterioration of the situation is probable, and touched upon donor engagement.

**3: IASC Standard Briefing**  
(by Kirsi Madi, IASC Secretariat)

- This afternoon, Wednesday 23 February from 17h00 – 18h00 the IASC Tsunami Task Force will meet in Room III of the Palais des Nations. Agenda items include a mission debriefing given by Mr. Joël Boutroue, Chief of CRD Geneva, a presentation on shelter by UN-HABITAT and a briefing on waste management by UNEP, WHO and UNICEF.
- The IASC Task Force on Human Rights and Humanitarian Action will meet on Friday, 25 February from 15h00 – 16h30 in OHCHR Palais Wilson, Room 2010. The TF will discuss its 2005 Workplan and finalize the draft guidelines on Human Rights for Humanitarian Coordinators, which are scheduled to be endorsed at the IASC WG in March.
- The IASC Task Force on Natural Disasters will meet on Wednesday, 2 March from 10h00 – 12h00 in the Palais des Nations. The meeting will consider the Final Report and emerging recommendations of the Pilot Project, which are to be presented at the IASC WG meeting in March for endorsement.

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List of Participants**



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