

**INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP
56th MEETING**

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**CAP: Good Humanitarian Donorship Pilots: Burundi and the Democratic
Republic of the Congo and Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix**

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IASC Working Group members will recall that the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) initiative arose from the series of Humanitarian Financing Studies commissioned following the annual Montreux Donors' Conference on the Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP). The studies addressed some of the major issues surrounding CAPs and humanitarian action and coordination that were identified at the Montreux conferences: donor behavior, needs assessment, and measuring humanitarian aid flows. In essence the GHD initiative reflects the donors' commitment and plan to operationalise the studies' relevant recommendations. At the GHD meeting in Stockholm in June 2003, the donors endorsed a set of 'Principles and Good Practice' including the following.

- (1) Humanitarian action should be guided by the principles of *humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence*;
- (2) Humanitarian action includes the protection of civilians;
- (3) Donors shall strive to ensure flexible, predictable and timely funding, and to allocate funding in proportion to needs, on the basis of needs assessments;
- (4) Humanitarian assistance will be provided to support recovery and long-term development;
- (5) The central and unique role of the United Nations in providing leadership and co-ordination of international humanitarian action is recognized and promoted;
- (6) Donors shall contribute responsibly, and on the basis of burden-sharing, to CAPs and to International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement appeals, and actively support the formulation of Common Humanitarian Action Plans (CHAP) as the primary instrument for strategic planning, prioritization, and co-ordination in complex emergencies; and
- (7) Donors shall promote the use of IASC guidelines and principles on humanitarian activities, the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, and the 1994 Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief.

The donors pledged to pilot the implementation of the principles and good practice in Burundi in 2004 in Burundi and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2005. This process is underway, in collaboration with OCHA and IASC Country Teams. An informal Implementation Group for GHD is based in Geneva, chaired by the Canadian Mission. This group oversees aspects of GHD implementation in addition to the pilots, such as peer review, harmonized reporting requirements, and common definitions of humanitarian aid.

In 2003, UNICEF and WHO, on behalf of the IASC, commissioned work on needs assessments for the CAP. This initiative is linked to GHD, although it emanates principally from the 2002 Plan of Action for Strengthening the CAP. The work gave rise to a two-day conference, "Needs Assessments for the CAP" that took place in Geneva, 1-2 December 2003. The meeting enabled donors and IASC members to review the Assessment Framework and Assessment Framework, and this was further developed during inter-agency consultations in December 2003 and January 2004. The result was a refined Assessment Framework and Assessment Matrix, which is ready to be piloted in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Proposed Action Points/Decisions by IASC-WG:

IASC members welcome the initiative and agree to receive a briefing by donors on it at the next IASC WG meeting. IASC WG members commit to ensuring that their field representatives in Burundi and DRC participate fully in work related to GHD.

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