

INTER-AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP

61 st MEETING

22-23 June 2005

IOM (Geneva)

**AOB: *Humanitarian Negotiations with Armed Groups:*
- *A Manual for Practitioners - (Draft of 6 June 2005)-Expected Outcomes***

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At the 61st IASC-WG meeting, OCHA will provide an update on the progress made to date on the 'close to final' draft and lay out issues for discussion and decision by the IASC-WG. Specifically, the IASC-WG may wish to consider the following:

- Review the most appropriate status of the Manual and discuss the future process for its finalisation, bearing in mind its conception, the drafting process to date, its future use, and its linkages to existing IASC products;
- Consider the substantive and procedural implications a possible change of status may have, bearing in mind the IASC-WG's desire reiterated in March 2005 to see the Manual finalised as soon as possible;
- Determine whether or not such implications are acceptable at this stage of the process, and if so, consider the utility of having a clear cut-off date which all participants can commit to for the finalisation;
- Consider the utility of developing a companion set of 'summary guidelines' to accompany the Manual, irrespective of the change in status.

Way Forward

- If the IASC wishes to keep the current status and process, the Manual should be finalised after taking into account final comments provided during the IASC-WG meeting of June 2005. The IASC-WG may also wish to take note of the product and encourage its wide use, *inter-alia*, as a practical guide and training tool.
- If the IASC wishes to reconsider the status, substance and process, then the IASC will need to establish a clear cut-off date for the finalisation of this Manual.

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