

**INTER – AGENCY STANDING COMMITTEE –WORKING GROUP  
49<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

**Geneva, 19-20 June, 2002**

Agenda Item	Action Points	Focal Point for follow-up	Time Frame
<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>N/A</b>		
<b>2. Overview of Global Humanitarian Activities</b>	<b>N/A</b>		
<b>3. In Depth Country Review: Occupied Palestinian Territory</b>	<p>The IASC Working Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stressed the need for more effective fact-based advocacy and the development of a coherent media strategy for humanitarian assistance;</li> <li>• Agreed to raise to the IASC Principals the issue of ensuring greater advocacy attention and commitment to the on-going crisis;</li> <li>• Urged agencies to accelerate contingency planning, and the coordination of contingency plans, for a further possible deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territories;</li> <li>• Noted that further work on the revised CHAP was required for it to develop into a coherent humanitarian response to the growing needs in the occupied Palestinian territories;</li> <li>• Urged agencies to strengthen humanitarian policy input into the existing LACC forum, and relevant Palestinian institutions, so that these existing bodies will be able to address a widening humanitarian crisis effectively;</li> <li>• Affirmed the need for a real-time information system on access and other issues, including for information on violations of international humanitarian law and the security of humanitarian personnel;</li> </ul>	<p>UNSCO, UNRWA, Agencies</p> <p>OCHA</p> <p>OCHA</p> <p>OCHA.</p> <p>OCHA, UNSCO, Agencies</p> <p>OCHA</p>	<p>September</p> <p>September</p> <p>July</p> <p>July</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>August</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urged agencies to provide support to Humanitarian Information Center (HIC);</li> <li>• Supported the need to strengthen humanitarian field activities, and the coordination of those activities, including for the community of non-governmental organizations;</li> <li>• Called for consultations in the field as to how best to mobilize resources to meet humanitarian needs, including the possibility of launching a CAP during the 2003-2004 cycle.</li> </ul>	<p>OCHA</p> <p>All agencies/OCHA</p> <p>OCHA</p>	<p>September</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>September</p>
<b>4. In-Depth Country Review: Sri Lanka</b>	<p>The IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomed the report of the Needs Assessment Mission, and committed themselves to the implementation of relevant recommendations;</li> <li>• Stressed the need to advocate with both parties to renounce the use of landmines, to reintegrate IDPs and restore basic services to them, to stop the recruitment of child soldiers and to demobilize children already under arms;</li> <li>• Supported efforts by several agencies to strengthen the capacity of the RC and the Country Team in the areas of humanitarian coordination and human rights, and to strengthen UN regional offices, as well as the information management capacity of the Ministry of the '3Rs' and the coordination capacity of the Office of the Prime Minister;</li> <li>• Supported the need to build a culture of coordination among humanitarian and other actors in Sri Lanka, including through institutional support and support to the RC from participants, and stressed the need for closer links to the IFIs in transition;</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p> <p>UNCT/UNICEF/IDP Unit</p> <p>Agencies</p> <p>UNCT/OCHA</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>August</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<b>5. Southern Africa Humanitarian Crisis</b>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomed the recommendations of the Regional Meeting</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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	<p>on Humanitarian Need in Southern Africa (Johannesburg, 6-7 June 2002);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emphasized that response strategies should rely on careful targeting of the most vulnerable populations affected by the crises in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and to maintain a balance between food items and non-food items in relief;</li> <li>• Emphasized the need to be aware of the interaction between the food crisis and HIV/AIDS (e.g. transactional sex, increase in AIDS orphans) and ensuring that HIV/AIDS is integrated in response to families.</li> <li>• Recognized that in the immediate term, a coordinated response will hinge on the preparation of individual country appeals in concert with all relevant stakeholder, and urged agencies to provide the support necessary to meet the 1 July deadline for the launch of these appeals;</li> <li>• Endorsed the proposal that these country appeals be brought together under a single regional CAP which will identify the overarching priorities and objectives for assistance provision in the region of the next 9-12 months, and endorsed the proposal that this regional CAP be launched at the ECOSOC Humanitarian Segment (New York, 15-17 July);</li> <li>• Endorsed the proposal that Ms. Judith Lewis of WFP continue in the role of regional coordinator for humanitarian response to the Southern African crisis, with the support of OCHA, and that, in this capacity, she should continue to work together with the RCs who retain primary responsibility for coordination within their respective countries, and welcomed WFP's expanding management and logistics capacity based on its Johannesburg office;</li> </ul>	<p>OCHA, WFP</p> <p>UNICEF, UNAIDS, HIVAIDS RG</p> <p>OCHA and respective CTs</p> <p>OCHA/WFP</p> <p>WFP/OCHA/RCs</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>1 July</p> <p>10 July</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed the proposal that OCHA's role should be to continue to provide support and service to the RCs, Country Teams and humanitarian partners, including NGOs and donors;</li> </ul>	OCHA	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed the proposal that OCHA should situate its Regional Disaster Response Advisor in Johannesburg, located with or near the WFP regional office, in order to support the WFP Regional Director in her functions related to general coordination, and with a view to expanding the RDRA function to be Regional Support Office;</li> </ul>	OCHA	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed the proposal that OCHA establish a Southern Africa Humanitarian Information Management Service (SAHIMS), also to be based in Johannesburg;</li> </ul>	OCHA	August
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed the idea that the Secretary-General consider appointing a prominent personality from the region to serve as Special Envoy for the crisis, and invited member agencies to propose names of possible candidates for consideration by the Secretary-General.</li> </ul>	OCHA	July

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<b>6. IDP Unit: Zimbabwe</b>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed the recommendation that a Senior IDP Advisor be deployed to assist the Country Team as soon as possible, for a period of at least six months;</li> <li>• Endorsed the recommendation that WFP pursue additional partnerships with the local NGO community (particularly FCTZ) to assist in the provision of food to the displaced in the area of large-scale commercial farms;</li> <li>• Endorsed the development of a database for Zimbabwe IDPs;</li> <li>• Endorsed the proposal for a workshop on the Guiding Principles for IDPs, to which all stakeholders, including the Government of Zimbabwe, should be invited;</li> <li>• Encouraged agencies to develop contingency plans for scenarios involving a possible spill-over into neighbouring countries as IDPs are disenfranchised.</li> </ul>	<p>IDP Unit</p> <p>WFP</p> <p>RRU (RC's Office), OCHA</p> <p>IDP Unit, RRU</p> <p>UNHCR, Country Team(s)</p>	<p>End July</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>End July</p> <p>September</p> <p>September</p>
<b>7. IASC Taskforce on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crisis</b>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed the Plan of Action of the IASC Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises and its recommendations (ICVA, InterAction and SCHR endorsed the Task Force report and recommendations and indicated that they would urge their members to endorse them as well);</li> <li>• Recommended endorsement of the Plan of Action by Heads of IASC Agencies without delay, and invited them to recognize the urgent need to incorporate the core principles identified in the Plan of Action in their agencies' staff rules and codes of conduct.</li> </ul>	<p>Agencies</p> <p>Agencies</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>July</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed the proposal that UNMAS and its UN partners participate in inter-agency assessment of mine-affected countries</li> <li>• Stressed the need for the further development of rapid-response capacity for mine action;</li> <li>• Emphasized the need for effective in-country coordination of mine action.</li> </ul>	<p>UNMAS</p> <p>UNMAS, Agencies</p> <p>UNMAS; CTs</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>9. CAP</b></p>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed on the need to strengthen dialogue at the field level between donors and the Country Team, and endorsed the idea of in-country mid-term reviews;</li> <li>• Requested OCHA, with the CAP Sub-Working Group, to include criteria for the nomenclature of different types of strategy and appeal in the updated technical guidelines, stressing that the CAP remains the preferred funding mechanism; and agreed to promote regional CAPs where relevant;</li> <li>• Agreed to provide OCHA, by 1 July, with input for a grid on planned humanitarian programmes in countries not presently covered by a CAP; and requested OCHA to distribute the consolidated grid to assist partners in deciding whether or not to launch a CAP in those countries;</li> <li>• Agreed on the need to discuss the increasing comprehensiveness of Donor Alerts;</li> <li>• Emphasized the need for agencies to finalize the list of countries for which a CAP will be launched in 2003, and to send OCHA by 1 July a list of non-CAP countries they are supporting, including details as to the magnitude of such programmes; and requested the IASC CAP Sub-Working Group to consolidate agencies' input into a</li> </ul>	<p>OCHA/HC's</p> <p>OCHA</p> <p>Agencies</p> <p>OCHA</p> <p>OCHA, RCs/CTs</p>	<p>August</p> <p>September</p> <p>1 July</p> <p>September</p> <p>1 July</p>

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	<p>Working Group to consolidate agencies' input into a comprehensive grid reflecting the global funding for non-CAP countries, and to circulate this by 10 July, for possible endorsement at the ECOSOC Humanitarian Segment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted with appreciation the efforts of UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP in mainstreaming the CAP, and noted support for others wishing to do the same;</li> <li>• Emphasized the need to provide CAP training for Resident Coordinators;</li> <li>• Requested OCHA and other interested parties to form an ad hoc, informal working group further to study on the financing of humanitarian assistance and its implications, especially for the United Nations system.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p> <p>CAP SWG</p> <p>OCHA</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>November</p> <p>September</p>
<p><b>10. Terms of Reference for Humanitarian Coordinators</b></p>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreed to establish a reference group for the elaboration of revised terms of reference for Humanitarian Coordinators, and invited OCHA and SCHR to lead this group;</li> <li>• Agreed that the reference group comprise representatives of OCHA, SCHR, UNDP, UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF and, if necessary, others, and requested the agencies to nominate suitable representatives;</li> <li>• Agreed that the reference group should report on initial progress to the September meeting of the IASC Working Group, at which time comments would be provided by WG members; and agreed that a draft text would then be prepared by the reference group for discussion by the Humanitarian Coordinators at their annual retreat, after which a new draft would be prepared and submitted to the November meeting of the IASC Working Group for</li> </ul>	<p>OCHA, SCHR</p> <p>OCHA, SCHR, UNDP, UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF</p> <p>OCHA</p>	<p>July</p> <p>July</p> <p>September</p>



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	possible endorsement.		
<b>11. The Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Complex Emergencies</b>	IASC WG : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomed the Draft Guidelines, and endorsed the process;</li> <li>• Requested MCDU to call for a Review Committee and to arrange for the hand-over of the draft document;</li> <li>• Envisaged, for the time being, a final report to the November Working Group, for transmission to the IASC principals in December 2002.</li> </ul>	N/A OCHA OCHA	N/A August November
<b>12. ECOSOC 2002</b>	IASC WG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urged OCHA to keep members fully involved in the elaboration of the ECOSOC agenda and schedule;</li> <li>• Asked OCHA to review preparations for the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 46/182;</li> <li>• Agreed that preparations for the 2004 ECOSOC humanitarian segment, to be held in Geneva, should start as early as possible.</li> </ul>	OCHA OCHA OCHA	July July Ongoing
<b>13. IASC Subsidiary Bodies</b>			

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<b>Preparedness and Contingency Planning RG</b>	<p>IASC WG :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commended the achievement of the Preparedness and Contingency Planning RG, and endorsed the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) of the RG,</li> <li>Encouraged the RG to review strategies that ensure rapid operationalization of the contingency plans.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p> <p>Contingency RG</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>December</p>
<b>Human Rights and Humanitarian Action RG</b>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appraised the work completed by the RG;</li> <li>Encouraged involvement of HCs in the process of drafting the Guidelines/Guidance;</li> <li>Noted the concerns raised by RGs on the issue of its role in providing advice to immediate field requests;</li> <li>Recommended strengthening linkages with the sexual exploitation Task Force.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p> <p>HRHA RG</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>HRHA RG</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>November</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<b>Gender and Humanitarian Assistance RG</b>	<p>IASC WG :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully supported RG's request for IASC Agencies to encourage participation of appropriate staff to the CAP workshop;</li> <li>Appreciated RG's efforts to promote cross-fertilisation, and recommended the IASC Secretariat to explore appropriate mechanism.</li> </ul>	<p>Agencies, OCHA</p> <p>IASC Secretariat</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>September</p>
<b>CAP SWG</b>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underlined the importance of IASC Agencies arranging secondments to OCHA's CAP and Donor Relation Section.</li> <li>Reiterated the importance of integrating CAP deadlines into agencies workflow.</li> <li>Agreed tentatively on 'Hope for the Future' as the theme for the 2003 CAP launch.</li> </ul>	<p>Agencies</p> <p>Agencies</p> <p>OCHA</p>	<p>December</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>Training Task Force</b>	<p>IASC WG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endorsed the extension of the Training Taskforce's mandate until the end of 2002;</li> <li>Would endeavour to identify funds for the Staff Safety Co-ordination Study; and</li> <li>Recommended that the Taskforce establish linkage with other IASC subsidiary bodies with possible priority being</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p> <p>IASC Secretariat, Agencies, Training TF</p> <p>Training TF</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>August</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

