

IASC TASK TEAM ON THE HUMANITARIAN DEVELOPMENT NEXUS (HDN TT)

WITH A FOCUS ON PROTRACTED EMERGENCIES

## Summary Record and Action Points

4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016: 15.30-17.00

VENUE: ROOM S.212, PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

**In Geneva:** UNDP, WHO, WFP, IASC Reference Group on Early Warning and Preparedness, IOM, OHCHR, ICVA

**On the phone:** FAO, UNHCR, WB, UNICEF

**Co-chairs:** UNDP and WHO

### **SUMMARY:**

**Agenda Item 1: Approval of Summary Report:** While no comments were received in writing following the dissemination of the summary report of the TT's first meet, the co-chairs opened a final round of comments on the content and structure of the summary report. No further comments were made and the report was approved as distributed.

### **Agenda Item 2: Discussion on the revised Terms of Reference:**

**Introduction (Co-chair, UNDP):** It the last TT meeting it was suggested by members that the ToRs be reviewed and revised in light of the outcomes of WHS (included the Grand Bargain process). To this end, the co-chairs circulated a new revised version incorporating language from the outcome documents of these global processes. And given the upcoming ad hoc Working Group meeting where the workplan is to be discussed, the co-chairs opened the floor for an additional round of comments on the ToRs.

**IOM:** Proposed minor editorial changes, correcting an oversight in language in the subtitles.

**FAO:** Noted that the group should be mindful of the ongoing discussions to develop a common or 'hybrid' workplan between IASC and UNDG. Given this parallel process, FAO suggests that the ToRs be kept dynamic and flexible enough to accommodate the outcomes of that discussion.

**ICVA:** Enquired whether the work under 'Adapting the Transformative Agenda (TA)' would be done in consultation or at least linked with the IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG).

**FAO:** FAO, the World Bank and UNDP, under the work of the Humanitarian Financing TT will be conducting a feasibility study on how elements of strengthening the Humanitarian /Development Nexus can be financed. FAO will keep the HDN TT apprised of those developments, as it will surely intersect with the HDN TT's work.

**Co-Chairs:** Noting that the ToR includes language on maintaining strong functional and information-sharing linkages with other IASC subsidiary bodies, the co-chairs welcomed both the news of this study, and welcomed FAO's willingness to feedback regularly to the group in this regard.

**WHO:** suggested that language around adapting the TA protocols be refined so as to minimise any misunderstanding. It should be made clear that the TT should not be redesigning the TA protocols as they currently stand, but will work on developing a new set of inter-agency response protocols that can be used for protracted emergencies, and where necessary provide additional content related to making the connection between humanitarian and development actors more explicit.

**OHCHR:** suggested a few changes in the Background Section. In addition, OHCHR warned that the sheer amount of overlapping workstreams, processes, and fora are such that clearly demarcating the scope of this Task Team will be essential to its success.

**WHO:** echoed the comments made by OHCHR, and pointed to the background documents (mapping of existing workstreams in Humanitarian, Development/peacebuilding, and Climate DRR) as a potential tool that will help the TT to demarcate the scope of its work.

**UNDP:** announced to the group that the think piece drafted by the Humanitarian Development Advisory Group (HDAG), was formally launched on the margin of ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment. UNDP suggested that this think piece serve as a basis for discussion, elaboration, and eventual validation in the IASC HDN TT and proposed to the co-chairs that the think piece be referenced in the mapping.

**ACTION:** Co-chairs to incorporate latest round of comments on the ToRs, acknowledging the editorial suggestions (IOM); the need to keep the text dynamic (FAO); and including explicit and clear language on the scope of TT's work on the TA protocols (WHO), as well as the content related comments from (OHCHR, and UNDP).

**ACTION:** OHCHR to propose new language in reference to particular paragraph in Background Section of ToRs.

### **Agenda Item 3: Suggested Retreat content, scope, and date**

**Introduction (Co-chair, UNDP):** During the last meeting it was raised by a number of members that closer links be made between the HDN TT and the UNDG WG on Transitions (WGT), as its work would benefit from their input. On the margins of the ECOSOC HAS, the co-chairs, met with their counterparts in the WGT (UNDP and PBSO) to begin preliminary discussions, where the draft ToRs and the circulated background documents were shared. In addition – and in line with the outcome documents from WHS/GB highlighting peacebuilding stabilization element -- DPKO, DPA, and the newly established planning unit in the SG office were also invited.

The main outcomes and content of the meeting: a) participants agreed that the further mapping was required, the outcome of which will be used to delineate roles and responsibilities going forward; b) all acknowledged the need for aligning workstreams, albeit with the understanding the some autonomy would also be required; c) welcomed the idea of a joint retreat in the coming months; and d) analysis and planning were highlighted as potential focus areas for the retreat.

**WHO to ICVA:** Given that colleagues in New York (DPKO, PBSO, etc) primarily work on peacekeeping and peacebuilding, to what extent can the NGO community associate and work

with that side of the workload, specifically does ICVA as a representative of NGOs envisage any barriers to jointly working with that community.

**ICVA:** While the ICVA secretariat will have to canvas its constituents for a fuller picture, in principle, engaging in this process should not be an issue. ICVA welcomes the opportunity to bring the voices of NGOs into the conversation about bridging the humanitarian development divide.

**FAO:** It is important to strike a right balance between process and content. While at first glance joint work-planning with development, peace, and security actors may seem process-heavy, FAO reiterates that the successful achievement of the HDN TT's work will hinge on, and will necessitate strong collaboration with those workstreams. FAO proposed frequent meetings with the WGT beyond the retreat to periodically 'check-in' on the latest developments.

**WHO:** Welcomes the idea of a joint retreat, but noted that before such a meeting was held, the 'IASC side' will need to gain a strong understanding of what it sees as its part in the joint process in practice. In addition to finalizing the ToRs, the TT must begin work *ahead* of the retreat. WHO proposes that the TT start drafting products, as tasked by the working group workplan with the aim of presenting this preliminary work during the retreat.

With the view of gaining a better understanding of what 'collective outcomes' means in practice, WHO proposes as an activity during the retreat one or two cases studies are identified wherein both IASC and UNDG can gather the most recent analysis and planning tools, to simulate what such a new way of working would entail. To this end, WHO also proposes that invitations be sent out to select HCs, and RCs to provide a field perspective.

**IASC RG on EWAP:** sought clarification on what the group meant by joint analysis and planning, noting that the IASC Reference Group on Early Warning and Preparedness will soon be initiating a process to review how early warning, risk analysis, and preparedness planning can fit into development action and its norms. It was therefore proposed, that a distinction be made between normative guidance around planning and analysis which falls under the TT, and the more operational guidance tools and products which the RG on EWAP will take on board so as to avoid duplication of efforts.

**UNDP:** echoes the comments from WHO about emphasizing a field perspective.

**Co-Chair (UNDP):** The participants in NY also discussed potential retreat dates and locations. It was suggested that the meeting take place in Geneva, on the margins of other important meetings occurring in Germany, and that the meeting take place tentatively in the early week September. The floor was opened for comments and suggested.

**OHCHR:** The TT can learn a few lessons from the joint-process to develop the 'Integration Strategic Framework' – given the nature of different perspectives that needed to be captured in the outcome document, it ended up having a fractionated feel. If the TT wants to invite DPA, DPKO etc, it should be mindful of the different cultures. For instance humanitarians often work in substitution mode, while development actors by definition act in a complementary manner - one is direct deliverable, and one is delivery through existing governmental structures. These are the two cultures that need to be reconciled, and Protection might be the glue to bind these two sides.

**FAO:** echoes the proposal to invite operational minded and field based participants, noting that in the lead up and during the joint retreat the TT should not adopt a prescriptive position. We cannot prescribe guidance for every possible situation.

**Co-Chair (UNDP):** Following the points made by FAO, UNDP proposed that the HDAG think piece section on typologies might present a good common understanding of the scenarios the TT can contend with as it produces its deliverables.

**ACTION:** TT to begin work on deliverables in order to produce draft documents ahead of the IASC-UNDG joint retreat.

**ACTION:** Co-chairs and interested agencies to convene preparatory committees in the lead up to the joint retreat to move this work forward.

**ACTION:** TT members to review HDAG paper, specifically the section on typologies, and hold brief discussion and produce brief common picture of hum/dev Nexus scenarios

#### **Agenda Item 4: Mapping of Existing efforts**

**Introduction (co-chair, WHO):** Building on the request made to members during the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to send in relevant documents, the floor was open for other participants to highlight further workstreams as well as give their thoughts on the usefulness of the mapping exercise thus far.

**IOM:** shared a “Progressive Resolution of Displacement Situations” Framework, which outlines an approach in seeking to resolve complex displacement situations through incremental efforts that strengthen coping capacities; and shared the latest version of the Migration Crisis Operational Framework.

**WHO:** The second mapping, that lists the TA protocols and related planning documents, with analysis of their applicability and relevance in protracted crises and for the HDN can serve as a starting point for drafting adapted protocols and provide new thinking for protracted settings and the nexus. There is still one thing missing, however, which is to go through the Summit outcomes to identify statement and policy commitments related to protracted emergencies and the nexus.

**FAO:** Thank the co-chairs for producing very useful mapping, acknowledging that there are still some gaps. To that end, FAO suggested that the mapping products be shared to the UNDG WGT to have their input, as that may reveal elements that the IASC might not be thinking about.

**UNDP:** During the preliminary meetings in NY, these documents were shared with the co-chairs of the WGT. They, like this TT, saw it as very useful and saw the need to build on it further. FAO’s proposal to formally request their input will therefore be feasible.

**WHO:** At some point, the TT will need to contend with who its target audience is going to be, particularly in light of ongoing conversations in the QCPR about reassessing leadership structures in development settings.

The mapping fails to capture the government and the role and processes of National disaster management authorities, as well as government led poverty reduction strategies etc. If we indeed want to connect with development processes as such, then the TT will also have to contend with nationally led processes. WHO, for example, looks at how its package of emergency health service fits into the larger MoH health service provisions strategy.

**ACTION:** TT members to continue to send relevant documents as and when they become finalized/published.

**ACTION:** TT members to also begin sending national planning and policy documents and process relevant for national emergency management and development

### Agenda Item 5: Work Plan and assigning leads to activities

**Introduction (co-chair, UNDP):** As agreed, during the first meeting, the TT will move forward with its deliverables until such time as it is tasked otherwise. In the original workplan, it was anticipated that some outputs will be delivered before the end of the year. To this end, a workplan that outlines these key assignments and agencies who wish to lead them is needed. As has been done in other IASC subsidiary bodies, fleshing out the workplan and the designation of activity leads will rely on volunteers. However, this does not preclude specific parts of the workplan being developed into ToRs to be outsourced to a dedicated consultant for example.

While the co-chairs will work on producing a proposed list of activities, some workstreams have already come to the fore during these TT meetings; such as furthering the thought and developing a common understanding of typologies around protracted crises, building on the normative work presented in the HDAG think piece; and begin drafting adapting TA protocols to be relevant to protracted crises.

**OHCHR:** sought clarification on how the workplan will be developed vis-a-vis the upcoming retreat with WGT. Shouldn't the TT wait for the outcomes of that process, so as to not duplicate efforts, and move only half the agenda forward with no complementarity?

**Chair:** The workplan will need to include the identification of task that are *both* under the purview of the TT from a humanitarian perspective, as well as the possible workstreams that will require joint effort. The latter category can then be presented during the retreat for validation, refinement and/or amendment.

**FAO:** Agreed with Chair's approach, as the TT needs to begin work on moving the deliverables forward and not wait for the retreat. On specific activities that can be taken forward, UNDP, OCHA, and FAO will be trying to resuscitate the efforts made to produce the principles of resilience which is in line with the TT's second key output.

**WHO:** Echoing FAO—and in response to the comments made by OHCHR, and the Chair's call for moving forward with the plan, it is important to note that the WG on Transitions has finalized its own workplan. In this sense, the UNDG side of the process is slightly ahead.

**ACTION:** Co-chairs to draft preliminary workplan and circulate to the group for comments and amendments, with the understanding that some aspects (those related to humanitarian work) will be taken forward regardless, while others (pertaining to the nexus) will be developed with the view of validation in the retreat, and in consultations with others.

## **Agenda Item 6: Discussion of 4 main deliverables.**

**Introduction (co-chair, WHO):** As they stand right now, there are four deliverables that the group has agreed upon: a) developing inter-agency response protocols for protracted emergencies; b) building on the joint principles with the UNDG on resilience, and expand around joint planning cycles; implementing development-principled responses in protracted crisis contexts; and d) from discussions, producing a common framework of typologies. The discussion was then opened for comments, and volunteers for activity leads

**FAO:** As mentioned, FAO alongside OCHA and UNDP offer to take forward, and define activities under second objective: “building on joint principles of resilience” and how it will connect with the Grand Bargain process, and the TT on Humanitarian Financing.

**WHO:** Proposes to continue and building on and continuously updating the mapping.

**ICVA:** Offers to lead on the compendium of best practices, alongside the World Bank – with potential additional support from InterAction.

**WFP:** Through its work as the co-chair of the IASC RG EW and Preparedness wherein they ERP will be reviewed and adapted to protracted settings, WFP offered to lead on that area of the HPC with the help of WHO and perhaps OCHA.

**WHO:** On the process for defining activity leads, WHO proposes to break up the TA Protocols into its constituent parts, this might make it easier for agencies to volunteer.

**Co-chairs:** propose that the next TT meeting be dedicated to fleshing out the first deliverable, ahead in preparation for the retreat. Date tentatively set for **17<sup>th</sup> August, in the afternoon 15.00-18.00.**

**ACTION:** FAO, OCHA, UNDP to propose specific activities for second deliverable, drawing on the work already done on developing principles of resilience.

**ACTION:** Hearing no objections to the deliverables in the terms of reference at the meeting, TT Co-chairs, would look into any further comments provided in writing and begin contacting suggested and/or potential activity leads bilaterally, with the view of generating draft workplan and activities.