

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

WITH A FOCUS ON PROTRACTED EMERGENCIES

Summary Record and Action Points

30TH AUGUST 2017: 16.00 – 17.00

VENUE: ENVIRONMENT HOUSE

In Geneva: UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, IASC Secretariat,

On the phone: OHCHR, UNDP, OCHA, WFP, UNICEF,

Co-chairs: UNDP and WHO

Agenda Item 1: General Update on Preparations towards the Ad Hoc:

Introduction (Co-chairs, UNDP): Following the dissemination of the background document and through bilateral conversations with TT members over the last few weeks, the co-chairs announced that there was generally strong support it's the structure and content. However, one concern was raised regarding the language drafted around the TT's role of "Country Support".

Recalling that TT members were asked to provide amended language (and none was received) the co-chairs softened the language to reflect that it is the co-chairs understanding that no TT members wishes to see an operational support role for the TT. An additional communication to that effect was sent on 29th august further clarifying that without a budget and clear mandate, operational support would be conducted by other actors both inside of the group and beyond.

On the 27th of July, the co-chairs also met with the IASC secretariat. The secretariat asked for talking points to feed into the DERC opening remarks. The co-chairs have not yet received the draft of the talking points, but will revert with the IASC secretariat.

ACTION: Co-chairs to revert back to the IASC secretariat on DERC introduction remarks.

Agenda Item 1: Walk-through of the final contents of the background document:

Introduction (Co-chairs, WHO): The bottom line of the Ad-hoc meeting is to get clarity on the scope, content, and positioning of the TT; the aim to get back to work. The TT sits at the eye of the cycle in various reform agenda's so it is imperative that the TT does not get caught up in discussions about process, but gets to the substance of the issues to guide those reform processes. In that spirit the background document was drafted to be simple and clear on the task at hand and kept in mind at all times the results of the survey to RC/HCs. This includes:

- A. That the TT will be a place where we can collect lessons, and codify best practices
- B. Where there a gaps in policy guidance and tools the TT will be there to advice and complement. This will include working on the typologies and clarifying collective outcomes.

- C. Ensure coherence in offering support to field colleagues. This does not mean that the TT will do it. Instead the TT will seek to provide clarity on communication flows so that various operational support workstreams are visible and transparent to all those concerned.

Lastly, the co-chairs note paragraph 81 of the SG's report on the proposed reforms in the UN, outlining the production of a steering committee of principals. The co-chairs are aware that terms of reference for this committee are being prepared and that there may be some reference to the technical work that this TT is undertaking alongside the UNDG. These ToRs are not yet finalized, but the understanding is that the work of the IASC-UNDG SC will be coherent with the work already being done with in both the IASC and UNDG.

UNICEF: The ad hoc meeting will be a critical moment for us all to get feedback on the proposed way forward and to get some top level advice on how to connect all the different dots. **Question:** On the purpose and the expected outcome of the meeting, it is clear that we want the WG to provide us guidance. How is the format (written as a statement of intent by the WG) link to that, and did the CC get any feedback for the IASC in that regard?

Co-chairs: in fact the co-chairs were tasked by the IASC Secretariat to develop the format in such a way that WG members would be presented with one clear position that they could endorse in their totality.

UNICEF: On the link to other processes, UNICEF also understands that the process of drafting the terms of reference for the Steering Committee is underway, but has not formally been requested to input. Do the co-chairs know whether the ToRs will be shared with the TT? Should the TT be expecting any tasking from the steering committee?

OCHA: On the ToRs, a draft is indeed being developed; there is a plan to have a meeting with agencies as a consultation.

OCHA: Due to ongoing reform processes such as the development of these SC ToRs, it might be best for the TT to wait and see the outcomes before planning for 2018. As the SC will have an impact on the work of this TT.

UNICEF: we might benefit from the meeting at the Working Group to ask them if they see particular value in having such a body and perhaps use the meeting as an opportunity to gauge the level of commitment to engage with the proposed SC.

Co-chairs: propose to incorporate this in either DERC talking points, or through the co-chairs presentations.

UNICEF: On the UNDG results group Task Team A (on development peace nexus), we have an opportunity with the working group ahead of the first task team A meeting to get a sense of where points of convergence may lie, and articulate what the humanitarian community expects from that work stream. Linked to that, UNICEF will be co-chairing Task Team B on leaving no one behind.

WFP: clarification on whether the HDN TT will be rolled into the RG on PHA. And whether there is an option to disband the HDN TT.

Co-chairs: in reference to OCHA and WFP comments, it is important to note that the TT's lifespan is currently until March next year.

WFP: it is important to note that the IASC has a wider membership than other entities under the UNDG, as it relates to NGOs.

Co-chairs: Given the lack of clarity around various processes at principal and system level, it is imperative that we continue to push work forward at the technical level. It is in this spirit that the background documents emphasizes that “While the WG awaits the formalization of the UN SG proposals on repositioning the UN development system and clarification on the working relationship between the suggested Steering Committee, the IASC Principals, and the UNDG leadership, the WG acknowledges that much needs to be done in the short term and that progress in the operationalization of the HDN should maintain its momentum”.

UNICEF: The TT has a strong case to make that at this point in time where important considerations and decisions are being made related to the reform, the TT can add value in understanding where guidance gaps are and is the right place to support colleagues in the field who are navigating this new way of working.

On the RG on PHA, while there are some issues that overlap with the HDN TT related to the linkages between HDN and the peace elements, there are other workstreams that do not. It would therefore not be advisable to fold into

UNDP: there is an eagerness to move forward on concrete activities from the workplan, specifically on the position around collective outcomes, and evidence collection. This work should move forward as fast as possible. It is not because of ongoing reforms that we have to put everything on hold. On the country support UNDP welcomes the clarification. In light of the fact that it is drafted as a statement of intent, it might be useful to tweak the language in the document accordingly.

UNDP: in the area of connecting with other processes, for both the meeting on the 5 (ad hoc working group meeting) and the 6th (SB coordination meeting), it will be important to highlight the value of better connecting with the Grand Bargain.

OCHA: On how the TT practically approaches the lack of clarity we are facing in regards with the SC and how that will look like for groups working on nexus issues, OCHA suggests that by December if there is more clarity, we can review the work of the TT. **Proposal:** In that sense, it might not be necessary to propose an extension of the lifespan of the TT.

Co-chairs: recalling the point UNICEF made earlier about incorporating the issues around the SC in the co-chair presentation, so as to not block the work until these processes pan out, the TT should continue on its current trajectory including the extension, but also acknowledge that a review will be undertaken to course correct if needed.

ACTION: Co-chairs to incorporate the proposed SC as part of the presentation during the ad hoc.

Agenda Item 2: [AOB] Discussion on co-chair's meeting of IASC subsidiary bodies.

Introduction (Co-chairs, UNDP): The objective of this workshop is to collectively identify new and existing areas for collaboration, undertake a joint horizon scanning of major strategic milestones, and to initiate a first coordination meeting amongst subsidiary bodies to advance building synergies and possibly commonly agreed objectives.

ACTION: co-chairs to circulate agenda and content of meeting of IASC subsidiary bodies

ACTION: Agencies to propose where commonality and points of interest with other subsidiary bodies should be strengthened.

UNICEF: Are there any side events planned around the General Assembly

UNDP: there is an event being organized around the famine and the work between the UNDG- IASC Steering Committee and World Bank. Secondly through the UNDG Results group on sustaining peace and sustainable development there will be a side event on achieving the SDGs in fragile states.

UNDP: Meeting will be organized by the Grand Bargain facilitation group. It will include agencies and some HC/RC to discuss the implementation of the humanitarian development nexus.