

# IASC Inter-cluster Meeting

20-12-2007

10.00.a.m.

**Dhaka, UN House**

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<b>Facilitator:</b>	Pablo Ruiz, RC Office	<b>Type of meeting:</b>	Regular IASC inter-cluster meeting
<b>Participants:</b>	WHO (health), WFP (food), UNDP (Early recovery), UNICEF (watsan) and RC Office		

## ***Draft Minutes***

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### **Agenda item 1-2:      *Consolidations of assessments and National Workshop***

#### **Discussion:**

At the ER cluster, the idea of a common Government/UN presentation of consolidated Early Recovery Assessment at a National DER workshop was endorsed (tentatively on January 7). This Workshop will include technical representatives from government Line Ministries, UN agencies, the Red Cross, key NGOs (including big national counterparts such as Grameen and BRAC) and donors. This workshop will provide the platform for in depth sectoral/thematic discussions on (i) the priorities of the Government's draft action plan and (ii) the findings of the needs assessments. As a result of these discussions, an Early recovery Framework will be finalized. A matrix summarizing the critical elements of ongoing/planned assessment was distributed at the meeting.

Following this event, a Second Workshop at the political level will take place (tentatively on the 20 of January) in order to present to development partners the final document. The profile of resource mobilization efforts of UN agencies will be discussed at a meeting of the UNCT early January.

It was also mentioned that the WB Damage and Needs Assessment (DNA) timeline, scope and presentation (e.g. Donor conference) is still under discussion with the government. It was also noted that the WB will look at medium and long term needs, and is not planning to undertake any data collection exercise.

It was also noted that WHO assessment is under discussion with the Ministry of Health (due early February). It was also suggested to the group (i) to obtain more information on scheduled UNICEF survey and (ii) to further coordinate the nutrition component and analysis of the assessment on nutrition (UNICEF, WFP and WHO) and water and sanitation (WFP and UNICEF).

**Conclusions:**      *The results of the assessment will be presented in a consolidated manner at a national DER workshop on the 7 of January, in view of the finalization of an Early recovery Assessment/ Framework.*

<b>Action items</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
ü The Cluster Heads will send to Pablo Ruiz the TOR and summary of preliminary findings as soon as possible. After December 28, they will send it to Puji	Dec 23
ü Coordinate government for the finalization of TOR and invitations	Dec 31
ü The RC office (Pablo en then Puji) will work on the consolidations of the assessment	Jan 04
ü The cluster heads will work with their counterparts in advance of the meeting (coordinate at ERC level)	Jan 04
ü UNCT meeting	Jan 08

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**Agenda item 3: Coordination: clusters strategy**

**Discussion:** The government has expressed its interest in receiving suggestions on possible improvements on existing coordination mechanisms, including the cluster approach. It was noted that, while the background document prepared by the RC office past week was not sent in advance most of the recommendations have been discussed and partially implemented.

It was also noted that (i) the logistic clusters has been deactivated (ii) FAO has proposed the set-up of an agriculture working group with the Line Ministry, (iii) ILO has expressed the intention to set-up a working group for livelihoods (e.g. cash for work schemes, support to small scale business, vocational training) and (iv) in addition to these groups, the government has expressed clear interest in an education cluster. The group had no objection to agriculture and livelihoods new working groups, provided that this is agreed under the ER cluster after a clarification of their value added and tasks. Regarding education, UNICEF expressed a potential interest. The next Joint Government /UN coordination meeting has been tentatively schedule for the 2 of January.

It was also noted the need to bring gender lens to our work, in order to improve the gender orientation of our ongoing work (with clear entry points, such as ownership). Regarding specific gender contribution to the overall UN recovery efforts, the potential human resources of agencies like UNDP, FAO or UNFPA were mentioned.

In addition, it was mentioned that some progress has been done in a proposal to the government on the coordination of recovery efforts. Feedback received suggest the need of an increased support to the district level, and to a lesser extent at the national level, including the potential set-up of a Donor Assistance Database to track commitments, disbursements and expenditures for early recovery, and a centralized coordination cell. WHO has noted that they are currently deploying one officer in each district for the coordination of the health cluster.

**Conclusions:** *The team agreed with the need to pursue the revision of the current cluster structure, in line with emerging government coordination mechanisms.*

<b>Action items</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
ü A proposal for the cluster to be drafted	Dec 20
ü The strategy prepared by RCO circulated	Dec 20
ü The new cluster organization shared for discussion at the ERC	Dec 20
ü The need and TOR agriculture and livelihoods ERC working groups discussed	Dec 25
ü Readiness to support coordination efforts on education confirmed	Dec 25
ü UNDP, FAO and UNFPA to confirm part-time dedication of gender experts on the ERC and inter-cluster in support to cluster needs	Dec 25

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**Agenda item 4: UN communication strategy**

**Discussion:** A draft of UN communication strategy has been prepared, but is not well know but all IASC members and requires further technical detail. It was agreed that further efforts are required in order to portray a positive image of the UN work on the *Sidr* humanitarian and early recovery efforts. It was noted that work on key messages (e.g. food security) have to be agreed at inter-cluster meeting.

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**Conclusions:** A meeting of the Public Information officer will take place, convened by the media expert of the RC office in order to (i) review the Un communication strategy and (ii) explore joint initiatives.

**Action items**

**Deadline**

ü First meeting to be convened

Jan 6

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**Agenda item 5:** *Any Other Business*

**Discussion:** The table “UN funding requirements as of 19 of December” was discussed. This table is useful and needs to be updated regarding “total received” funds, as well as the “funding requirements”, which do not represent anymore the reality on the ongoing operation. Besides, “fund received”, the table should capture UN delivery (i.e. funds committed/obligated). Once updated, this Table should be available in the webpage for transparency and accountability purposes.

It was noted that information group has agreed to make available all database information from the ongoing assessments to the DMIC as soon as becomes final.

**Conclusions:** The table will be renamed UN humanitarian/early recovery funding requirements, updated and upload into the webpage.

**Action items**

**Deadline**

ü To send information to RC office (Magnus/Rune)

Dec 27

ü To update the UN funding requirements table and share with the UNCT

January 8

ü To upload in the webpage with some narrative text

January 9

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### ***Other Information***

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**Special notes:** The next Joint Government /UN coordination meeting (Line Ministries/Head of Clusters) has been tentatively schedule for the 2 of January.

Next inter-cluster meeting next date will de determined at a later stage.