

23 September 2017

COUNTRY DIRECTORS' WEEKLY UPDATE

1. Key Takeaways.

- Mr. Alain Noudehou, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, UN Resident Coordinator & Humanitarian Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative (DSRSG/RC/HC/RR), arrived on Friday 22. Forum will seek contact with Mr Alain Noudehou as the new Humanitarian Coordinator at the earliest possible opportunity.
- NNGOs held their AGM on Saturday 23 and elected a new Steering Committee. UAP supported the Forum by offering free Conference Room for the AGM. Names of the newly elected SC members will be shared in the next Weekly Update.
- The Secretariat encourages and continues to receive self-nominations for the Steering Committee for the year 2017/18. Elections of new Steering Committee is scheduled to take place at the **AGM on October 6**. Meeting will take place UAP building Conference Room.
- Forum held a farewell event for Deepmala Mahla, CD of Mercy Corps and current chair of the INGO SC, and Perry Mansfield, CD of World Vision on Friday 22.
- With key staff changes taking place in organisations, we ask members to share with the Secretariat relevant new contacts so that information shared by the Forum continues to reach all members.

HRP Timelines 2018 Updates

- The timeline for the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) has been circulated to the ICWG
- The intention is to keep the HRP as light as possible and based on the same activities and templates while building on what has been done so far.
- The zero draft of the HMO will be ready by mid november which should be completed by early December in time for the GHO launch.
- OPS registration is ongoing and CHF will be running a series of workshops on how to register and get involved in the HRP process.

2. Bureaucratic Impediments

- Traffic police continues to stop drivers, confiscate non-SSD issued driving licence and issue fines for drivers. The matter was brought to the attention of RRC and brought to HCT for follow up. In regard to this matter, we advise members to contact UNDSS for help in this matter.
- The State RRC in Renk is putting pressures on NGOs to terminate national staff who are not from the area or state. This demands contravenes the labour law of South Sudan. The Forum brought this matter to the attention of RRC and RRC leadership was to raise the matter with the Governor last week. Relevant advice has been shared with affected members. We expect to receive feedback on this in the coming week.

3. Security

Key risks. (not in any priority):

- Continued clashes between SPLA and opposition forces.
- Cattle raiding and inter-communal fighting - NGOs are not a direct target, but should take extra precautions.
- Warehouse / compound break-ins due to the declining economic situation and shortage of food.
- General threat of ambushes and robberies on road movement remains high - in all areas.
- Prevalent crime in Juba - national staff in particular can be targeted.

Highlights.

- **Road incidents Mundri, WEQ:** there appears to be an increase of incidents on the roads around Mundri - both robberies and ambushes. NGOs are to report all incidents so the problem can be better understood.

Outreach.

- DSFP will commence a security outreach programme as follows:
 - 25-27 Sep **YAMBIO**
 - 2-4 Oct **BOR**
 - 9-11 Oct **YEI**
 - 22-24 Nov **KAPOETA**
 - 27-27 Nov **KUAJOK**
 - 4-6 Dec **AWEIL**

The aim is to facilitate networks at field level, encourage best practice and better engage NNGOs.

- We continue to ask members to report incidences to the Secretariat either through the Security Incident Forum on the Forum website or through emails. This will enable necessary follow up to be made.

4. Information / communications.

- Ahead of the 2018 HRP process, the OPS login procedure was changed on 4 September 2017. Details of the new login procedure are explained in the attached documents (**OPS integration with HID.doc** and **Guidance on how to access the OPS_170919.docx**) from OCHA HQ.
- Cluster Meetings calendar is now available from our website frontpage (<http://southsudanngoforum.org>).
- The document portal now updated for better accessibility of documents. Please follow the link <http://docs.southsudanngoforum.org/> to access circulars, government acts and other documents. To access meeting minutes and security reports from the portal please ask for a login details from the Information Manager (infomgr@southsudanngoforum.org).
- Updated list of all CD contacts can be found here <http://southsudanngoforum.org/contacts/>
- All of the Security Skype Groups are now operative, with most working well. State / Area Groups are being used to share information about convoys and route trafficability as well as the security situation, which is of real benefit to the NGO community. The SFP will issue regular updates and reminders regarding members' protocols and the soon to be released

NGO Security and Safety Guide will also contain information about their use.

5. Training.

- **NGO Forum/CSRF** Conflict Sensitivity M&E training will take place on Monday September 25 at the Secretariat from 09:30-16:30. Only 25 participants are taken for training. The same training will also be conducted on Thursday October 26. All slots for the training for both dates have been filled. Members will be informed of future training opportunities.
- **Security training:**
 - o SSAFE course at UNMISS Topping: 3-5 October.
 - o Women's Safety Awareness course at UNMISS Topping: 12-13 October.

6. Secretariat Staff Issues / Movements.

- All Secretariat staff are at post and at service of members.

7. Forward Look.

- Secretariat is finalising the ToR for the CD Survey for this year.
- CD survey findings will not be included in the agenda of the AGM because there isn't sufficient time to conduct a CD survey ahead of the AGM, however once the CD survey is done, the report shall be shared with the entire membership before offices close in December. The findings of the CD survey will also be included in the NGO Forum Annual report.
- CD Survey – A third party will carry out the CD survey as proposed by the former Information Manager citing better methodology and analysis. One of our donors had also questioned the objectivity of the survey findings considering it's always been led by the Secretariat.
- NGO Forum Security Team will publish the NGO Safety and Security Guide on 2 October.
- There will be a Civil-Military Advisory Group meeting on Friday 29 September, which will discuss issues in the Equatorias and have presentations by UNMISS Force and OCHA. SFP will attend.
- Every Thursday at 13:15 hours, HCT representatives for the NGOs hold a pre-meeting to which all NGOs are welcome. Come and make your voices and concerns heard.
- Elections for INGO Steering Committee members for the period October 2017 to September 2018 will be held on 6th October. All positions except for Host Agency will be up for elections. We continue to ask members to submit self-nominations from members, including from current Steering Committee members. We thank all those who have submitted their nominations.
- Next Annual General meeting will be on 6th October 2017 at UAP building.
- Next South Sudan National NGO Expo will be from 26th to 28th October 2017.
- Registration for new members for the NGO Forum for 2017 is closed. Interested new members will have to wait till January when registration for 2018 will be opened.

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