

30 September 2017

## COUNTRY DIRECTORS' WEEKLY UPDATE

### 1. Key Takeaways.

- Humanitarian Coordination Forum meeting, Chaired by the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM), will take place on Wednesday October 4 at 10:00am at MoHADM. In case of any pertinent issues that you would like the Forum representatives to put forward at the meeting, please contact the Secretariat Coordinator before Wednesday at [coordinator@southsudanngoforum.org](mailto:coordinator@southsudanngoforum.org).
- 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 starting at 9:00am**. Meeting will take place **UAP building Conference Room**. Programme for the AGM is attached with this weekly update.
- 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.
- Draft ToR for Director's Survey has been completed. Please share your comments by Wednesday October 4 this week.
- The new Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr Alain Noudehou has presented his credentials to the Government and assumed his duties on Friday September 29. With this Mr Alain Noudehou thereby assumes his role as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative (DSRSG/RC/HC/RR). Please extend your usual warm welcome and cooperation to Mr Alain.
- The IPC report is expected to be released some time this week. The Forum will share with members all relevant highlights once the release takes place. It is expected that the situation will not be better.

### HRP Timelines 2018 Updates

- The timeline for the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) has been circulated to the ICWG. Humanitarian needs overview and scenario planning took place last week at the ICWG.
- High level workshop for the HRP will take place on October 11, attended by members of the Humanitarian Country Team, ICWG and Government representatives. This workshop will look at strategic objectives, prioritisation of areas and formulation of high level messages for the HRP.
- 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

- Last week Government issued a letter of suspension of activities against NGOs, UN and CD vehicles. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is expected to write a circular in regard to new number plates for INGOs, UN and CD vehicles. The Forum will inform members according once the promised circular is released.
- Where there are issues of violations have taken place against NGOs staff members, the Forum advises that Donors and the Forum should be first ports of call. Donors are clear that they will be willing to take action of suspending operations of both NGOs and UN agencies where violations take place.
- We would like to remind members to always be vigilant to and protect the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence as a package in responding to requests from local authorities in areas of operations. Compliance with these principles should govern all members conduct with local actors and authorities in areas of operations as it affects credibility of all humanitarian actors. Maintaining principled humanitarian action in the face of pressures is an essential and not an easy task for members to uphold.

## 3. Security

**Key risks.** (not in any priority):

- Continued clashes between SPLA and opposition forces in different parts of the country.
- 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.

It was a quieter this week.

### Outreach.

- DSFP will commence a security outreach programme as follows:
  - 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.

- 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](mailto: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 Thursday October 26 at the Secretariat from 09:30-16:30. Only 25 participants are taken for training and all slots are now filled.
- **Security training:**
  - o SSAFE course at UNMISS Tamping: 3-5 October.
  - o Women's Safety Awareness course at UNMISS Tamping: 12-13 October.

#### 6. Secretariat Staff Issues / Movements.

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

#### 7. Forward Look.

- feedback on ToR for the CD Survey for this year to be provided by Wednesday October 4.
- 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.
- For 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.
- 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 at UAP building**. Programme is attached. 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 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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