

15 October 2017

COUNTRY DIRECTORS' WEEKLY UPDATE

1. Key Takeaways.

- Humanitarian Country Team is currently looking at the Framework on Returns and Relocation paper for adoption; the document looks at standards for returns and relocations yet also provide enough flexibility on how returns and relocations are done. The framework would be relevant to Beyond Bentiu Project and Wau De-congestion Strategy.
- There will be International Health Regulation Joint External Evaluation for South Sudan planned to take place from **16-20th October 2017 at Landmark Hotel**. This is a voluntary, collaborative, multi-sectoral process to assess country capacity to prevent, detect, and rapidly respond to public health risks whether occurring naturally or due to deliberate or accidental event. The process looks at a) National legislation, policy and financing; b) Coordination and National Focal Person communication; c) Surveillance; d) Preparedness; e) Response; f) Risk Communications; g) Human Resources; h) Laboratories; and i) Points of Entry. The note and programme for this are attached with this CD Weekly Update.
- Handover from the outgoing Steering Committee to incoming Steering Committee will take place at the Steering Committee meeting of October 16.
- Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was held on **October 11 at Juba Grand Hotel**. Once the draft document has been updated to reflect inputs from the participants at the meeting, we shall share it with all. The proposed focus for the 2018 are: saving lives, priority of protection and capacity to cope. The six key strategy elements envisaged are: maximising efficiency and effectiveness, enhancing protection, being flexible and adaptive, delivering despite challenges, strictly prioritising and targeting, and putting communities at the centre of all responses.
- Next steps for the HRP are draft of humanitarian needs overview, Humanitarian Coordination Forum discussions of the HRP to ensure government ownership and buy-in, developing the text of the HRP by November 22, and launch of the HRP by early December. We shall keep members updated of each of the relevant development.

2. Bureaucratic Impediments

- A number of organisations are under increasing pressure to pay PIT for national staff at state levels. The SC is aware of this and working on next steps for engagement of the matter with HCT and Humanitarian Coordinator for follow up and clarification with relevant government institutions and authorities.
- The Forum continues to support members, quite a bit on a case by case basis, in addressing some of the challenges members face in the operational delivery of humanitarian assistance to South Sudanese populations in need. In view of this, **we continue to ask members to report incidences to the Secretariat either through the the Security Incident Form available on the Forum's website**, or through emails, directly reporting in person to the Forum Secretariat or through the Steering Committee members for prompt follow up.

- Secretariat sent out communications to members asking members to share with the Secretariat **lists of bureaucratic and access impediments encountered this year**, together with relevant formal communications/circulars where applicable. Government has asked the Secretariat to compile lists of impediments faced by NGOs nationally and locally for purposes of streamlining engagements between government entities and NGOs at national and state levels.

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, especially in Lakes and Warrap areas.
- 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.

- IGAD Revitalisation consultation commences 13 October with government.
- Fighting continues between government and opposition forces around Waat, Jonglei.
- Government hosts oil conference in Juba.
- IGAD foreign ministers arrive in Juba to carry out consultations

Field outreach.

- DSFP will continue his security outreach programme as follows:
 - 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.

- The NGO Safety and Security Guide has now been published. All CDs and Security Advisers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with its content.

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).
- Updated list of all CD contacts can be found here <http://southsudanngoforum.org/contacts/>

5. Training.

- **Security training:**

SSAFE

14-16 Nov

28-30 Nov

12-14 Dec

Civil-Military Coordination training @ OCHA

18 and 20 October 0900-1600 @OCHA 1st floor conference room

Open to: Humanitarian community: AFPs, ICRC, INGOs, donors etc

Topics:

Humanitarian principles and guidelines

Humanitarian and UNMISS architecture

UN Civil-Military coordination

MCDA, UNMISS assets, convoys and force protection

Email attendance form direct to OCHA: heric@un.org AND prasopa-plaizier@un.org

6. Secretariat Staff Issues / Movements.

- The Security Analyst is on leave until Monday 23 Oct.
- The SFP is on leave until 29 Oct. D-SFP holding brief.
- The Information Manager is on leave until October 30; however he remains reachable online.
- National NGO Focal Point is leave until October 19.

7. Forward Look.

- International Health Regulation Joint External Evaluation for South Sudan planned to take place from **16-20th October 2017 at Landmark Hotel.**
- World Food Day celebration will take place on October 16 at Nyakuron Cultural Centre. A separate communications to this effect was sent to all the members.
- RRC will be in Renk in the week of October 15 to tackle some of the challenges that members operating in Renk are facing.
- 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.
- 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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