

## Participants

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Radha Gurung – UNICEF	Jayoung Lee - WFP
Anthony Cardon – OHCHR	Lukas Heinzer - OHCHR
Vincent Omuga- OCHA	Arturo Lopez - OCHA
Trishna Lama Mocktan- ICRC	Sushil B. Karki - UNHCR

## 1. Introduction

- OHCHR thanked Annette Lyth for her excellent work. Anthony Cardon, with the support from Lukas Heinzer takes over the cluster lead.
- It is decided that there will be rotation in the note-taking among cluster members.

## 2. Protection of persons internally displaced by floods (OHCHR)

- OHCHR briefed on the deployment of 4 human rights monitors to the camps in the Koshi region (CERF project).
- OHCHR shared a background note on the situation of IDPs in the Kailali and Kanchanpur districts in the Far Western Region. Cluster members questioned the appropriateness of the paper's recommendation to promote voluntary return to pre-flood villages, given the high probability of new floods leading to new displacement.
- Cluster members suggested to raise the issue with the government on a senior level and called for a risk and hazard assessment (analogue to the one carried out in Koshi).

**Action points:** *OHCHR to redraft the paper taking into account the above mentioned discussion and to share it with the IASC. OHCHR to contact IOM to receive a draft of the note on sustainable return in the Koshi region and incorporate some of its elements in the note on Far Western Region.*

## 3. IDPs (NRC)

- NRC briefed about current situation of conflict-related IDPs and the fact that many are not able or willing to return.
- NRC noted the importance of ensuring a follow up to the letter of the UN Expert on Internally Displaced Persons, Walter Kaelin, that was sent to the Government.

**Action points:**

- *OCHA to verify if Government replied to the letter, to envisage drafting a letter to Government as a reminder and eventually convene a meeting with the Home Ministry and the MoPR.*
- *Cluster members to give feedback on IDP concept paper and recommendations on IDP issues*

#### **4. Child protection (UNICEF)**

- UNICEF briefed on ongoing child protection programme in Sunsari and Saptari districts.
- UNICEF informed that programme for missing and separated children has ended.
- UNICEF circulated the child protection contingency plan to OCHA; MHPSS contingency plan is in the process of being finalized.

#### **5. WFP protection training**

- WFP conducted training for its staff and implementing partners to raise awareness for protection issues. Participants familiarized with the international legal framework, went through protection checklists and concluded the training by running through concrete scenarios.

#### **6. SGBV (UNFPA)**

The GBV sub-cluster met for the first time on the 6th. The key points the group agreed on were:

1. the development of a work plan and timeline for the sub-cluster until June 2009. The work plan would focus on: provision of input into the protection cluster contingency plan to strengthen the GBV components; and development of joint response operating procedures and tool-kit, including trainings components for various service providers on GBV. Once the draft workplan is ready it will be circulated to all participants of the protection cluster for comments.
2. to hold regular meetings to follow-up on the issues agreed on in the work plan;
3. to share existing materials and assessments related to GBV in emergencies.

#### **7. Workshop on protection cluster contingency plan (OCHA)**

- Cluster member agreed to hold the workshop on 25 March.
- OCHA explained that the objective will be to define clear and concrete procedures to follow in case of emergency.
- Cluster members suggested to invite relevant national actors, e.g. National Red Cross Society.
- Child protection plan as well as elements from the MHPPS plan will be incorporated.

**Action point:** *OHCHR to send invitations for the workshop to all stakeholders and to share current contingency plan as well as child protection and MHPPS invited organizations.*

#### **8. Protection training module (OHCHR)**

- To ensure consistency among protection stakeholders in view of future emergencies, OHCHR shall provide a general framework for protection training module.

**Action point:** *OHCHR to share a first draft prior to the next protection cluster meeting.*

**Next meeting:** Members agreed to meet again on 9 April at 11.00 a.m. at OCHA.