IASC Task Team on The Humanitarian Development Nexus (HDN TT)

with a focus on protracted emergencies

**Summary Record and Action Points**

2nd February 2018: 15.30 – 17.30

Venue: Palais Des Nations

**In Geneva**: UNICEF, WHO, WFP, FAO, NRC, WB, OHCHR, OCHA, UN Women,

**On the phone**: IOM, OCHA, IASC Secretariat, ICRC, UNDP, DRC, Interaction, ICVA,

**Co-chairs:** UNDP and WHO

**Agenda Item 1: Approval of Summary Report: Approved –** with UN Women requesting clarification on contents in separate bilateral.

**Agenda Item 2: Update on Key Messages:**

**Introduction (Co-chairs, UNDP):** Members will recall that this activity is done in collaboration with the UNDG Results Group and that key messages therefore refer to the HDP nexus, linking to the dimension of peace and prevention where and when possible. Comments were received from 12 agencies through the latest consultation round. By way of update, the co-chairs note that they are currently in discussions with DOCO, representing the UNDG. Preliminary analysis of the responses so far show that we have lost track of the audience of the KM and who is speaking (noting that the KMs are supposed to be pitched at the Principals level); useful language was provided by agencies from major reports; there is a confusion around what we mean by NWOW in relation to the HDN; comments on the KM revealed an appetite for joint-programmes/ and co-designed activities as a fundamental element of strengthening the HDN.

**NRC:** The RG on principled humanitarian action has been looking at different priority topics for its workplan. How HDN and NWOW impacts on humanitarian action came out as one of the priority areas. Request to share the KM with the RG.

**IOM:** offers to support as IOM is in the lead in that particular workstream

|  |
| --- |
| **ACTION**: Co-chairs to participate in next RG PHA meeting to brief on the KMs and the work of the HDN TT. |

**Agenda Item 3: IASC Principals Meeting Debrief**

**Introduction (Co-chairs, WHO):** The meeting held on December 4th and hosted by WHO was an interesting one, in that people felt that there was a new wave of energy. The meeting was the first for OCHA, WHO, and ICVA and the last for UNICEF, which contributed to the feeling of change. Of the four agenda items, two of them were Principals only. The agenda items included: the revision of the L3 process, re-visioning humanitarian financing; a simulation exercise on L3 activation for epidemics and lastly reviewing the structures of the IASC below the principals. This last agenda item included the creation of the suggested Deputies Forum.

**InterAction:** point of clarification: the intention for a new L3 system is two-fold. One is to generate a system wide scale up; while the other to instigate the external profile of the crises for donors.

**IASC Sec:** OCHA and EDG will be taking this work forward. They will come up with an early draft followed by a large-scale consultation including NGOs.

**ICVA:** point of inquiry: as to why the subsidiary body review was sent directly to the Deputies instead of the Working Group who commissioned the study in the first instance?

**IASC Secretariat:** This issue was discussed briefly during the focal points. It is not clear to what degree of specificity the Deputies want from the subsidiary bodies review. At this time, the results have been shared for information purpose and not for decision making or endorsement per se.

**Agenda Item 4: HFTT Retreat**

**Introduction (Co-chairs, UNDP):** The HDN TT co-chairs were invited to participate in the annual workshop of the Humanitarian Financing TT, given the fact that both TT’s have points and workstreams of common concern and convergence. FAO (Rodrigue) has kindly agreed to debrief the TT on this topic:

**FAO:** There was an agreement that the HF TT in collaboration with the HDN TT, through FAO, UNDP, and WB would work towards one common output in the HF TT workplan: “Contribute to aid effectiveness by strengthening humanitarian-development collaboration in particular in fragile contexts and protracted crises”. This output includes, 2 sub outputs; namely:

Sub-output 3.1: Understand and address financial fragmentation and gaps in contexts of fragility, conflict and violence. (In collaboration with OECD and MPTFO – to be confirmed)

Activity 3.1.1: Field level Surge Support: produce mapping of financial flows and pooled fund mechanisms in-country upon request from UNCT/HCTs. [aligned with 2.4, 4.1 in JPoA/ 3.1 in HDN TT]

Activity 3.1.2: Menu of Financial Flows: Produce mapping and quick scenario-based guide on resources both human and financial resources available to the field. [aligned with 2.3, 4.2 in JPoA/ 1.4 in HDN TT]

Sub-output 3.2: Shape and contribute to a common understanding among humanitarian and development actors to widen to financing base.

Activity 3.2.1: Collaboration with HDN TT: Develop system wide recommendations to strengthen IASC response in protracted situations [aligned with 2.5 in HDN TT]

Activity 3.2.2: Collaboration with HDN TT: Produce 2/3 pager on blending and leveraging in-country financial flows to support joint humanitarian-development planning and programming [aligned with 1.5 in HDN TT]

Activity 3.2.3: Outreach and advocacy events: Share findings and contribute to better humanitarian/development collaboration.

**ICVA**: Nothing more to add beyond deep appreciation for the HDN TT co-chairs’ presence and contribution to the HFTT workstream.

**Agenda Item 5: Capacity Building Project**

**UNDP:** UNDP has noted a growing interest both within and outside of the UN for predictable and deployable capacity for Humanitarian-Development (and peacebuilding) advisors. In light of this growing demand, a project has been commissioned by UNDP to understand and connect the totality of workstreams that are working on similar projects. The project known as the people pipeline is essentially a mapping to understand the profiles and skills needed to develop a new cadre of deployable capacity that are conversant in all three sectors of work, e.g. humanitarian, development and peacebuilding.

**Agenda Item 6: Collective Outcome Project**

**WHO:** To inform the work of the HDN TT in advancing a common understanding of elements of the humanitarian and development nexus, a consulting firm has been researching the ways the term “collective outcomes" (CO) has been used since 2015, and the extent to which the CO concept has guided evolving practice. The research also aims to learn from the ongoing collective outcome processes happening in the field in different countries and contexts. The project will be phased. The first phase is complete and consisted of a desk review of over 50 documents. This desk review provided a working definition with which the consultants will triangulate through interviews and survey, focusing on three sectors, health, displacement, and food security (phase II). Consultants requested that the TT contribute to the survey, to which there was no objection.

**OCHA:** unclear as to the purpose of the project given that the definition of collective outcomes is articulated in the commitment to action.

**UNHCR:** Welcome the project, but it is imperative that we properly sequence activities related to Collective Outcomes, otherwise we risk confusing field practitioners. The fact remains that there is considerable lack of clarity on the subject, as we heard from the peer network in Entebbe. UNHCR, will be exploring how best to provide guidance to its field operations, and provide pointers of collective outcomes for forced displacement.

**Agenda Item 7: Community of Practice**

**WFP:** After the Entebbe workshop there was a strong demand from the participants to maintain a dialogue and to continue sharing updates of their respective country contexts. During the workshop an agenda item was dedicated to outlining what the terms of reference would be for an “HDN Community of Practice”. A set of priority activities were identified including: peer support missions; shared calendars; and developing generic terms of reference for key process elements of establishing a nexus in-country (including terms of reference/profile for an HDN advisor, and terms of reference for a small inter-agency advisory group. It was also agreed to continue discussion on a virtual platform. To this end, a Yammer has been established.

**DRC:** is there a way to join the community of practice?

**WFP:** Quick criteria of invitation was established by the participants. The main gate keepers will be the co-chairs of the HDN TT. The main thing to remember is that it is a field focused group who have expressed not to have policy oriented participants join as it was sensed this diverted from the operational focus they wanted.

**OCHA:** The community of practice is an excellent initative. It would be useful to connect this agenda item with the two preceding ones (capacity building and collective outcomes). This community of practice is potentially very useful to generate good practice. Have you thought of any way to capture the practice that comes out of these discussions?

**Co-chairs** noted the query and stated it would be brought to the group.

**Agenda Item 8: Support Requests and UNDG cooperation**

**UNDP:** over the last few weeks the co-chairs have increasingly received requests for support. Currently we have requests from Mali and Iraq. Interestingly both of these requests are coming from units inside of missions – bringing an additional dimension in relation to the humanitarian, development, peace nexus.

Secondly, by way of update, until such time as the UNDG decides on a structure that will replace the now-closed results groups and associated task teams at the UNDG side, the HDN TT is without the inter-agency counterpart. During this period DOCO act as the port of call to maintain momentum on activities between the IASC and UNDG (as outlined in the Joint Plan of Action); particularity on the Key Messages and report that the portfolio will be allocated within the new setup.