

	Meeting (Name)	
	Date	

Ref: 1/2.1/1/06/ Minutes 1

Document Information

Meeting :	Operational Meeting
Agenda Reference:	Ref. Eg 1/2.1/1/ 06/ Agenda -1
Prepared By/ Date:	Nira/15 th Sep 2006

Type:	Conference /Closed Door/ Lecture/ Special				
Purpose:					
Meeting Date:	15 th Sep 2006	Start Time:	8.15 am	End Time:	9.30 am
Venue	LKIIR				
Meeting Chair:		Phone:			
Facilitator:	CHA	Phone:			
Minute Taker:	Nileshi	Phone:			

Present

Organisation	Organisation	Organisation
SMEI Chamber	CHC	SLF
ACT	SLRCS	Oxfam Novib
Handicap International	Plan Sri Lanka	CASP
IRDSL	HIA	Malteser
NCC	ADRA	Help
People In Need	SDC	NWMTI
Mercy Corps	MDM	Helpage
IFRC	CRWRC	Christian Aid
Merlin	Leads	Diakonie
LWR	RADA	Sewalanka
Relief Int	Muslim Aid	Jen
World Concern	MSF	CPBR
Diakonia	GAA	Tearfund

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Caritas	UN Habitat	Oxfam GB
UMCOR	ARC	IRD
COHRE	Americares	Manitha Neyam Trust
WUSC	FORUT	MDM France
CCF	Stromme Foundation	World Vision
ADT	ASB	Danida
Acted	CHA Ampara	CHA Batticaloa
CHA Trincomalee	CHA Mannar	

Agenda No	Subject	Action by/ date
1	<p><u>Feedback and Updates</u> <u>Action from Last meeting- RADA Housing Progress</u> Draft of article with housing statistics sent by agencies will be circulated next week for comments</p> <p><u>Meeting with GA Trincomalee</u> <u>Work Permit</u>_GA requested all the international staff to get the work permit from GA.GA agreed to give two weeks work permit for the moment. Very few agencies have applied for the work permit. GA will give this permit till end of September.</p>	
2	<p><u>IDP issues</u> Most of the families who were displaced from Mutur due to recent conflict were returned back to their original places. Government will make all the arrangements and GA has made arrangement to provide one weeks' dry ration to the families in Mutur. A team of officials (16 members) visited Mutur to assess the damages in Mutur. Once the report is completed it will be sent to All the agencies. Army has started demining in Sampoor. No other Demining Group are allowed at present. A has requested I/NGO's to assist the people in cleaning wells in</p>	
3	<p><u>Updates from NGO's</u> GA requested that all NGO should send their Reports/updates On a regular basis to him directly and not through DS of the area.</p> <p><u>Coordination Structures</u> All meetings and discussions to be informed to the GA or it should go through the GA. GA stated that he will meet all the NGOs once a month at the Kachcheri</p> <p><u>Report on the situation of the displaced in Muttur</u> Kalaichelvan from CHA-Trincomalee made a presentation on current mutur situation.he said in kiliveddi they had a discussion with some people of the area and they were told that there were 250 families in this village and except these 10 families the other families were displaced to other parts of the country especially to Trincomalee town. The Government without the consent of the people has given three days time to vacate the camps. If they do so they will be provided all assistance and if did not vacate they would not provide the utensils and other support. They transported 48 families to Kiliveddi and no provisions were supplied. Now the relocated families have begun to move to Trincomalee and already 10 families have left to Trincomalee. They said that they face lot of problem to fulfill their basic</p>	

needs. We have identified the following problems:

The school is not functioning at present.

- No hospital facilities, no water in the wells.
- No shops to buy needy things in the village.
- No basic facilities in the village.
- No security
- No assistances from the government.

Also they had a discussion with Thopur people and found out that people are still in the camps in Thampalakamam, Kantalai and in Kinniya due to fear and on medical reasons. The Sub Office of the Pradeshiya Saba and Al-Humbra maha Vidyalaya have been badly damaged. Muslim Ladies college and other schools are functioning. The damaged buildings have not been rehabilitated as yet He said that the relief items supplied by WFP and Nation Building ministry have not been distributed to the people. They submitted the following requests:

- The CHA have to take action to hand over the fishing equipments of the people left at the sea side.
- To take action to provide permanent medical facilities.
- To clean the wells in the village.
- To take action to develop the villages through any NGO of 09 G.N. divisions in the village.
- To ensure the security of the community.

Also kalai added saying that in Muttur the people have been rehabilitated and people are freely moving in the town. The shops and other business places are functioning. The people are in their houses and as well as in 11 camps. In the town people are moving freely but at the same time in the suburb the movements of people are restricted. 75% of the people have resettled on their own and the rest by force of the Government. Most of the people are spending the night in the welfare centers due to fear.

Particulars of affected people got registered at the Ministry.

Place	Family	Members
Muthurcity	5553	21580
Paddithidal(Tamils)	187	1000
Pachchanoor	136	576
Alimnagar	11	42
Muthur city(Sinhala)	40	138

(More information could be found in the presentation)

Briefing on human rights implications arising from current situation of conflict

Dinusha provided an update on the above topic.

- Co-chairs statements issued in 12th of September has welcomed the expression of the willingness of the government and the LTTE to go into talks unconditionally. And has called on both parties to stop further violations of fundamental principles of humanitarian law and human rights.
- In this statement Co-chairs have said that even major cases of human rights abuses have not been successfully investigated. Also has welcomed the president's call for international assistance to send a mission of high-level experts to review the current situation and to suggest further actions before the end of October.
- EU parliament resolution on Sri Lanka has welcomed the announcement by the president facing attention to invite an international independent troop of eminent persons as observers of investigations into abductions, disappearances and killings in Sri Lanka. The setting up an independent credible effective commission in the interim is a courage move that could break the circle of violations in Sri Lanka. In this resolution they have made the recommendation to the government to seek the advice of the UN high commission of the human rights.
- The recent measures that been taken by CHA to ensure justice is brought to the families those affected by the 17 aid workers deaths in Muttur.
- 1st step was a letter sent to Eric Fort. In this letter we highlighted 5 areas.
- 2nd step- we have sent a letter to the Chairmen of Human rights commission of SL Mr. Ramanathan asking for an investigation into the causes of deaths and to seek compensations from the governments for the families of those affected. The letter was copied to Minister of Disaster management & Human rights, Heads of SLMM,ACF SL and UN
- Situation report of 8th Sep on Jaffna was forwarded to the president secretariat Mr. Lalith Weeratunge and we received assurance from him that this report will be placed at the relevant authorities.
- The situation report of 08. 09.2006 on Jaffna that was forwarded to Presidential Secretary, Lalith Weeratunga from CHA. CHA has received assurance from Mr. Weeratunga that this report will be placed at the relevant authorities. The latest information that we have received says that 2-3 ship loads of essential items will be sent to Jaffna (Sunday Leader, Pg.3) in the coming weeks. When contacted, GA Jaffna, K. Ganesh informed CHA that all

residents in Jaffna except 53,000 families all others will be provided with essential items free of charge. These 53,000 families will be able to buy the items. For those interested, the report of 08.09.2006 is available at CHA

- Amnesty International has called for appeals regarding *fear of safety/possible "disappearance"* of Reverend Fr. Thiruchchelvan Nihal Jim Brown and W. V Vimalathas in the village of Allaipiddy on Kayts Island off Jaffna since 20th August 2006. The report has called for appeals to be sent to the President, Secretary MOD and the Navy Commander on 5 areas.
- A letter was delivered to Mr Vandehove Toon, Head of ICRC Sri Lanka regarding
 - o Three children Kasthuri, Sumita and Thayalini from Mullaitivu.
 - o They were brought for medical attention with the help of ICRC to the Kandy Hospital.
 - o We believe that these children have no access for legal representation and are not allowed communication with their family members.
- We also requested the ICRC to pursue all feasible attempts to trace the family members of these injured children, to facilitate regular contact and for their safe return back to their families
- A letter has been emailed to Professor Philip Alston, the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions. The letter stated that there is an emerging crackdown against non-governmental organizations engaged in peaceful human rights and other advocacy in Sri Lanka, and asking him to advice us on how to bring justice to those affected.

The outcome of these letters will be shared with you in the weeks that follow.

(More information could be found in the presentation)

Kathleen from World Concern said that on Monday one of their staff (Mr. Ragu) at Trincomalee was shot five times. She said that Incident took place 800mtrs from Navy Checkpoints. Ragu, 31, known for compassion and hard work among the poor, was shot and killed on Monday, September 11th. He was returning to the office on a World Concern motorbike, after having lunch at home with his family and spending the morning helping to construct a community well in a village with little access to drinkable water. He was killed just north of Trincomalee town, on an open stretch of road in the Kuchchuveli division. The identity of the attackers and motive for the attack is still unknown.

The case is under investigation.

Discussion on response to negative media reports on I/NGOs

We discussed on the above topic and we also spoken to RADA and they were very corporative to provided accurate stats and we also should provided accurate information to them.

Security Update

- There were so many claymores detected. In Vauniya – 3, Trincomalee-1, Mannar – 2 and Jaffna –5. Please be aware of grenade too.
- Lots of robberies been happened.
- Keep your drivers informed.

We welcome organizations to make presentations on their assessments/projects at our meeting. Please feel free to contact HSRP team for further information.

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