

	Meeting (Name)	
	Date	

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Document Information

Meeting :	Operational Meeting
Agenda Reference:	Ref. Eg 1/2.1/1/ 06/ Agenda -1
Prepared By/ Date:	Nira/24 th Nov 2006

Type:	Conference /Closed Door/ Lecture/ Special				
Purpose:					
Meeting Date:	24 th Nov 06	StartTime:	8.15 am	EndTime:	9.30 am
Venue	LKIIR				
Meeting Chair:	Hashim	Phone:	4610943		
Facilitator:	CHA	Phone:	4610943		
Minute Taker:	Nira	Phone:	4610943		

Present

Organisation	Organisation	Organisation
Mercy Corps	CHF Galle/Matara	NCA
ADH	Sewalanka	Red Cross
OCHA	Challenges Worldwide	RADA
NCCSL	JMC	FAO
American Red Cross	Emace	Seeds
Oxfam Novib	UMCOR	ACT
GAA	Solidar	Oxfam Australia
Manitha Neyam Trust	People In Need	IFRC
ADRA	IBSL	International Alert
SCiSL	ARC	Northwest Medical Team
Malteser	NRC	CRWRC
CASP	Jen	CCF
SMEIE Chamber	IRD	Sewalanka
Green Life	HelpAge	IUCN
Muslim Aid	Camh	Oxfam America

<p>CONSORTIUM OF CHA HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES</p>	<p>Meeting (Name)</p> <p>Date</p>	
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ADT

Agenda No	Subject	Action by/ date
1.	<p><u>Feedbacks and Updates</u> <u>Development Partners Meeting</u> The meeting was held on the 22nd November 2006 and following issues were discussed at the meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Humanitarian Access/ Advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are 35-40000 IDPs in Vaharai - No food convoys have been allowed since 30th October to Jaffna and Vaharai. - LTTE wishes the IDP's to stay in and the Government wishes to drive them back to the original villages - TRO is the only source of help in Vaharai. 2. Access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 18 agencies and NGO's applied for under UN to work in uncleared areas not yet received the approval - Echchalampaththu below Trincomalee no access to any parties since the conflict and no information available 3. Pressure and Ground Reality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development partners requests all members to keep up pressure on both of the conflicting parties stressing humanitarian issues, security, protection and honor of Geneva Convention and international law. - The situation in Jaffna is deteriorating and near malnourished levels in parts of Jaffna and Vaharai 4. Security Concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - civil society leaders and local NGO's not willing to act beyond statement issue and small action of protest with fear of safety and longer term risk mitigation led reluctance to organize mass movements of "voice of people" - The catholic and Christian religious leaders willing to intervene and lead if supported as they are aware of the ground situation - The reaction to claymore mines seriously impact on civilians <p><u>Meeting at Presidential secretariat</u> Following issues were discussed at the meeting. Essential Items to Jaffna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30000 tons of food • One month buffer stock • 250000 people below poverty line • Logistical delays 	<p style="text-align: center;">DRMU</p>

- Vaharai
- Use of A9 route
 - Access

RADA mandate was being revisited and they will continue until completion of tsunami work. The future will be more on coordination.

Workshop on operationalising the Guidelines on Confidence Building and Stabilization Measures

The workshop was held on 21st November 2006. the Objectives are as follows:

- Through effective protection monitoring and interventions, stabilize the IDP population and build confidence between communities on the one hand, and between the communities, the civil administration, the armed forces and the law enforcement agencies on the other
- Ensure restoration of necessary infrastructure and services in places of return to enable the IDPs to return voluntarily and resettle

CHA

To ensure that these guidelines lead to an effective programme of action, discussions were held with

- Government Stakeholders on Nov 8, 2006
- Non-government Stakeholders on Nov 21, 2006

At these workshops discussions were held on

- o Civil-Military Liaison Committees
- o Human Rights
- o Community involvement in CBSM
- o Reconstruction/Assistance
- o Compensation programmes & Effective Communication Strategy

RADA Report

RADA

Rachel from RADA said that the first draft expected soon and thanked the agencies for providing information to the report. Also she requested the financial information from all the agencies.

Introduction to Village Rehabilitation Advisory Committees- DRMU / Practical Action

Mr. Lionel Fernando briefed on the Village Rehabilitation advisory committees. the role of village rehabilitation advisory committees arises out of following two things

1. DRC village rehabilitation committee met RADA last year and had a discussion on how to get about housing which has an enormous devastation of about 100,000 units going down to the sea. DRC is playing a main role for member committee within the village.
 2. The People's consultation was carried out in mid 2005 by the DRMU with the assistance of the UNDP aptly supported by the five universities in Sri Lanka led by the Colombo university, Jaffna', Trincomalee campus, Southeast university and the Ruhunu university. He said that they completed the report compilation within the given time of 3 months, submitted the report to the government and UNDP main stakeholder for the people's consultation.
- VRAC (Village Rehabilitation Advisory Committee) comprises the best of the UN guidelines. VRAC is not a highly legal body. It emanates from a home grown unit or association society which has been going on for years in Sri Lanka which is called funeral assistance society in the village. The village leaders come together to assist a help when there is a deceased in a family. The best practices of this is been taken into consideration and village comes together to help the family.
 - Divisional Secretary plays a major role in VRAC. The main motivations of the VRAC are to advice and guide the civil authority to do their job properly and efficiently.

Analysis and discussion – Vaharai Visit

In the coordination with the Civil Coordinator Officer (Brigade 233) of Batticaloa, CHA organized an official visit to Vaharai (LTTE Controlled area) on the 20th November 2006 with the under-mentioned NGOs representatives participated during this visits. The NGOs are World Vision, CCF, EHED, IROP, MOH, DPDHS, Teaching Hospital Batticaloa, ICRC, UNICEF, WFP, Sarvodaya, GSS and Media.

During the visit CHA- Batticaloa officer observed that 5000 children (below 10 years age) were roaming in the street without proper food, clothes and other medical facility. He said that their y food is Roasted (Burned) Crabs and cooked Murunka Leaves (Drumstick Leaves) with coconut.

85% of the IDPs are from the Trincomalee District ei Muthur, Sampoor, Kiliveddy, Kattaparichchan, Pallikudieruppu,

Kathiravelly, Poonahar, Echalampattu, Kandalady, Vinayagapuram & etc...

When CHA- Batticaloa officer spoke to the IDP's, he said that most of them are willing to go back to their own places provided transport, proper shelter, water and sanitation facility, essential commodities and medical facilities. Also the IDP's stated that there is a continuous shelling taking place in Vaharai by the Army force and they are living in fear. The urgent need of the IDPs at this moment are Food, Medical, Clothes and Transport.

Vaharai Displaced in Valaichenai - Venayakepuram camp

- Total No of Families 520
- No of Members 1906
- Male Members 811
- Female Members 895
- Pregnant Mothers 33
- Feeding Mothers 70
- School going children 120

- Their Needs
- Tooth paste 550
- Tooth Brush 550
- Pair of Slippers 500
- Broom Sticks 175
- Umbrellas 300
- Milk Powder Pkts. 33
- Viva 132

Gamunu provided an update on the Vaharai situation and he said that Food convoy is arranged by the AGA of Batticaloa with ICRC protection. There were 8 trucks belongs to different agencies were prepared to go to Vaharai but after Mankerny one road was blocked and they were unable to move further. Therefore IDP's in Mankernny tried raiding and emptied few trucks within minutes and it was led by some youths in that area.

Human Rights

'Nayomi provided an update on Human Rights. The details are taken from Morning Leader dated 22nd November, Daily Mirror dated 21st and 22nd November.

- The LTTE have rejected the President's move to open the A-9 highway to Jaffna to allow for the transportation of food to 500,000 civilians, issued in a statement on the 19 November. The LTTE have noted this as unacceptable and they want the A-9 to be open permanently.
- The government has been transporting civilian food

mostly by sea, however the monsoon rains and rough seas caused sea transportation to be difficult. This led to the proposition to open the A-9 for a single convoy of food to go to Jaffna.

- LTTE media have insisted that the government requires LTTE consent to go ahead with the transportation of supplies via the
- A-9. The LTTE Military Spokesperson, Rasiah Illanthariyan told the Morning Leader that the LTTE would not allow the government or the UN for that matter, to pass through the A-9, until the highway was permanently opened. Until then, no one shall be able to pass through.
- LTTE rejected claims that they have ignored the plight of the civilians for their own gain, by adding that there has been no official communication about the move of supplies to Jaffna via Muhamalai on the A-9.
- The people in Jaffna have also welcomed the move to open the A9 but according to the Bishop of Jaffna, Rev. Thomas Soundaranayagam, civilians want this move to be permanent as they are isolated from the rest of the country if not.
- The Co-Chairs of the Tokyo Donors Conference the United States, the 25-nation European Union, Japan and Norway met in Washington on Tuesday, where they called for the government and the LTTE to depoliticize the issues of humanitarian access and called for the immediate, permanent and unconditional opening of the sea and road routes for humanitarian convoys of essential supplies.
- The Co- Chairs called for both sides to set aside demilitarized zones to protect IDPs and to respect international humanitarian law

Security Update

- Claymore incidents 4, Grenade attack 02, 10 assassination
- There are AP mines in Mankerny and keep your drivers informed about AP mines

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