

	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/29 th Sep 2006

Type:	Conference /Closed Door/ Lecture/ Special				
Purpose:					
Meeting Date:	29th Sep 2006	Start Time:	8.15 am	End Time:	9.30 am
Venue	LKIIR				
Meeting Chair:	Hashim	Phone:			
Facilitator:	CHA	Phone:			
Minute Taker:	Nira	Phone:			

Present

Organisation	Organisation	Organisation
Stromme Foundation	TRO	Leads
ACT	Help Age	CCF-SL
ADT	CASA	VSO
FAO	JMC	World Vision
Americares	SAH	MSF-Holland
MSF-Spain	Mercy- Corps	Sri Lanka Solidarity
SMEI Chamber	RADA	CRWRC
Plan SL	NWMIT	Solidarites
IFRC	NVPF	International
JRS	ADRA	British High Commission
CIDA-PSU	Helvetas	HIA
American Red Cross	CHC	French Embassy
Diakonie	Caritas	PCA

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IFRC	LCMS-WR	WUSC
NRC	UNICEF	GAA
CASP	UNDP Mine Action	LWR
Merlin	ICP	REDR
Don Bosco	SPC	Handicap International
International Alerts	Oxfam Australia	

Agenda No	Subject	Action by/ date
1	<p><u>Feedbacks and Update</u> <u>Inter agency standing Committee</u> The meeting was held on 25th of September. Highlights as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hashim said that Ambassador Julian Wilson briefed on behalf of the Co-chairs. He said that India and the Co-chair were concerned of the escalations of violence, human rights violations as well. The space for humanitarian assistance was discussed at the meeting. - It was emphasized that we need district level mechanism to operate all these issues and to have decision making authority in district level. - He assured that European commission and the co-chairs are with the I/NGOs who are involved with humanitarian assistance - The NGO delegation which has sought to meet Mr Tamil Chelvan and the Secretary to the President long time ago was scheduled and cancelled due to the escalation of violence. The government now has given the authority to meet Mr. Tamil Chelvan and Mr. Doug Graham of WUSC gave an update. He said that 11 organizations ASB, Care, FORUT, NRC, Oxfam GB, Save the Children, Solidar, WUSC, World vision, Zoa met Mr. Tamil Chelvan on 27th of September. They discussed on humanitarian issues, access, staff safety and getting materials etc. The same issues were discussed with government too. - In terms of transparency and ensure access, MoD was contacted for approval of the meeting and the access was given by MOD. The need for security of aid workers was also discussed. The outcome of the meeting was as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Received the assurance that they will strive to support access to deliver humanitarian assistance 2. A strong assurance was given in terms of staff security. It was said that they will make sure the staff working in humanitarian sectors are protected. <p><u>Meeting with Minister of Disaster Management</u> Hashim briefed on the coordination meeting with Minister of Human rights .highlights as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IDP statistics are collected by UNHCR - Minister said that he needs accurate information and requested all the agencies to contribute. - GA of Trincomalee was presented at this meeting. He briefed on district situation. 	

- There are 2000 IDPs in Trincomalee and most of them have returned. In Muttur houses are being repaired.

Update on the status of TRO and the IDPs in Uncleared Area

Arjunan from TRO made a presentation on the above topic. He said that TRO is not banned but the funds are frozen for investigation. He emphasized that TRO will continue to operate. In terms of freezing of TRO account he said that

- August 28 TRO accountants attempted transfer of funds to a TRO District Office Bank account
- Bank refused due to a “freeze” placed on all TRO accounts by the Central Bank
- 4 September Central Bank petitions Colombo High Court to freeze TRO accounts for 6 months for “investigation”
- This was “ex parte” and TRO was not informed of the hearing prior to the court date, was not present during the hearing, and was not notified of the Judges ruling
- TRO has still not received any OFFICIAL NOTICE from: the Central Bank, the Attorney General, Court
- The only information TRO has received has come from media reports
- TRO lawyers have attempted to get official copies of the court documents that the law states we should be given Thus far without success

Impact of freeze

- 18 Children’s homes TRO administers are without funds 1946 children
- Tsunami Development, Reconstruction & Resettlement Projects are all “on HOLD” and work has stopped

Statistics of IDPs in LTTE controlled area were given. and he said TRO has been operating in the LTTE controlled areas continuously, providing cooked meals, NFRI and coordination., TRO warehouses in LTTE controlled areas provided food and NFRI during initial displacement in July/August when UN, ICRC & INGOs were not allowed into the area by GoSL

(More details could be found in the presentation)

Update on situation in Batticaloa, Jaffna and Trincomalee Batticaloa

- Security in government held territories in Batticaloa district has been strengthened following the number of incidents in the East.
- Sri Lanka Army (SLA) troopers were seen deployed in the streets.
- Some main roads near Police station and Army camps were closed after 06.00 pm (DO Observation)

- People living in LTTE controlled Paduvankarai areas in Batticaloa District face starvation and danger of health hazards due to the closure of all the entry points

Jaffna

- The closure of A9 road stopped all access into Jaffna
- Civilian movements by air stopped as well.
- After one month this particular situation regarding access improved by extending the curfew hours.
- 3 shipments of food have reached Jaffna.
- This assistance was coordinated with the GA Jaffna, DS, UNICEF and WFP.
- Family with 3 members were receiving 2 kgs of Rice, ½ kg of sugar, 1kg of dhal, 1 tin of fish, 1 liter of kerosene

Trincomalee

- CHA observed that due to the anonymous leaflet issued in Muttur, the people who resettled three weeks before are displaced to Kinniya by boats and buses.
- IDP IN KINNIYA

-On 25th September, CHA observed that the displaced people were forced to go back to their homes by the Government.

-There are 200 displaced families in Al Hira School and Al Aqsa School in Kinniya

Latest statistics on Post- Tsunami Housing and Livelihoods

Rachel briefed on the DAD database housing statistics.

Tsunami Impact - Joint ADB, JBIC, WB report:

- 30,500 deaths
- 260,967 families affected
- 65,000 houses destroyed

Post- Tsunami Recovery and Reconstruction report:

- 150,000 livelihoods lost, 50% of which were in fisheries sector

NASIR-III:

- Colombo, Galle, Matara, Hambantota, Ampara, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Mullaitive and Jaffna account for 93% of all affected families.

IDB survey on Tsunami affected industries in Sri Lanka:

- 4,389 industries affected, of which nearly 60% are micro enterprises and 38% are small enterprises

Joint FAO and Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (MOFAR) assessment of the Fisheries assessment:

- 7,269 boats damaged
- 3,917 engines damaged
- 93% of all affected boats have fishing gear destroyed

FAO data impact in agricultural sector:

- 23,451 acres of agricultural land affected
- 101,053 numbers of livestock lost

Briefing on current Human Security implications and responses

- Internally Displaced Persons: Situation in Muttur and Kinnya
- Shortage of assistance in Jaffna
- Abductions a Human Rights concern
- Government criticises SLMM
- LTTE's has shown willingness to return for the peace talks

Discussion on incident faced by Humanitarian personnel and insurance schemes for Humanitarian Workers

Gowthaman provided an update on the above topic. The meeting was held to discuss the following issues:

- To follow up on ACF killing in Muttur. –In remembrance of 17 aid workers killed in Muttur, it was proposed that to have a quarter page notice in three languages in 3 newspapers saying “Remembering 17 aid workers killed in Muttur ...”
- Draw lessons on this issue for the agencies. Particularly on the safety and the security for the humanitarian staff.
- Keep the pressure on the investigations

In terms of staff security ,the discussed points were as follows:

- The security guidelines were given and requested all the agencies to go through the guidelines and make all the staff (especially field officers etc) aware of these guidelines.
- To have a proper compensation for staff and discussed how we could ahead with a proper policy.

Security Update

- 2 claymore attacks, 5 grenade attacks, 11 assassinations, 02 AP mines.
- Abductions have increased; There have been shooting incidents in Batticaloa.

AOB

- Mark from CCF invited the agencies to participate for the STAND UP CHALLENGE. The Theme is Stand up against poverty and standup for millennium development goals. The STAND Up challenge will start at 03.30 pm on Sunday 15 October and finish at 03.30 pm on Monday 16 October

(More details could be found in the presentation)

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