



Meeting Minutes of Gaza Disability Sub-Cluster (DSC) Meeting

Date: Monday, 7th September 2009

Time: 10:30am to 12:00pm

Venue: Gaza World Health Organization Conference Room

Update on cluster activities

- The *DSC Lead* held a Disability sub-Cluster meeting on August 17th 2009 for all Disability Service Providers in Gaza to discuss the following issues:
 - Update on the Disability sub-Cluster
 - GRAD
 - The two new working groups (Incontinence Working Group and Assistive Devices Working Group)
 - Sector needs assessment
- The meeting minutes of the Disability sub-Cluster meetings are posted on the OCHA website in a disability sub-cluster link under the Health Cluster.

Gaza Response Activity Database (GRAD)

- On the 1st September 2009, all the updated data in the database was extracted and will be used to make maps that show; who is doing what and where.
- All Disability Service Providers in Gaza are asked to keep updating their own data in GRAD.

HRF

- The *DSC Lead* received a draft copy of the new HRF criteria from OCHA.
- OCHA released information about the new HRF criteria on their website.
- Information about new HRF criteria and guidelines was circulated to all disability service providers.
- The *DSC Lead* asked stakeholders to read the new HRF criteria carefully to make sure that their disability projects will be considered under the emergency and lifesaving criteria.

CAP Workshop

- A consultation CAP workshop was held on Sunday 16th August 2009. The purpose of the workshop is to identify vulnerable people, their needs and appropriate responses to these needs.
- The information will then be used to develop projects for the Consolidated Appeals Process 2010 (CAP 2010)
- The *DSC Lead* invited five organizations (ALPC, NSR, NCCR, SPHP, Welfare Association) to be part of this consultation process to represent the disability sector and to express the needs of PWDs.
- The *DSC Lead* stressed to these organizations that this is not a guarantee of funding for projects, but is an opportunity for them to express on behalf of all organisations the needs of persons with disabilities in Gaza.

- The oPT 2010 CAP National Workshop will be held on the 9th and 10th of September 2009 this week in Ramallah.

Update from the Disability Working Group Committees

Information Committee

- Developed information sharing between the National Society for Rehabilitation (NSR) and the Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS).
- Provided information on 921 PWDs.
- Working on validating information to avoid duplication.
- NSR sent invitation to all organizations to ask for information on PWDs based on the Disability Working Group Meeting.
- Joint report is available on the website of the NSR.

Services Committee

- No meetings for one month.
- Developed a form to collect data on PWDs & services.
- PNGO disseminated the form to organizations.
- 30% of the forms were filled in only.

Advocacy Committee

- In meetings, organizations agreed to provide information on PWDs.
- Not all organizations attend Advocacy Committee meetings.
- Approached service providers:
 - *UNRWA*
 - Focused on the rights of PWDs to education, employment and health.
 - UNRWA doesn't work on the 5%, they work only on poverty.
 - UNRWA needs information on accessibility and they will make all buildings more accessible for PWDs.
 - UNRWA always asks about driving license when considering employment of PWDs.
 - *Jawwal Company*
 - Discusses the rights of PWDs to employment
 - Jawwal Company only provides PWDs with SIM cards for free.
 - Does some employment activities for PWDs.
 - *Universities*
 - Discussed the rights of PWDs to education.

PNGO Workshop

- PNGO will organize a workshop for all disability service providers in Gaza on Wednesday 7th October at the National Society for Rehabilitation (NSR) to identify the true needs of PWDs in all areas in relation to the blockade and crisis in Gaza.

Update on the Incontinence and Assistive Devices Working Groups

- Draft ToR of the two working groups has been sent to all disability service providers
 - Nominations have been received from organizations that currently distribute both assistive devices and diapers.
- Dates and times of the meetings of these working groups have been scheduled:

- Monday 14th September 2009, at 10:30am, for the Incontinence Working Group (IWG)
- Tuesday 15th September 2009, at 10:30am, for the Assistive Devices Working Group (ADWG)
- Invitations to these meetings have been sent to members of both groups

Presentation by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) on data on PWDs

- MoSA took the responsibility to provide services (packages of health services, education and support) after classifying PWDs.
- No central base of information exists.
- MoSA took the lead with limited funding to conduct a national campaign for a comprehensive survey on PWDs.
- 25 Local partners participate in this survey under a Consultation Committee and 9000 PWDs registered in these centers in one month.
- Due to the lack of funds, MoSA started with a registration survey, but they changed it to a home to home survey.
- The survey started on 2nd August 2009 and is planned to be done in 3 months MoSA, the Ministry of Health, UNRWA, PNGO and disability sector representatives had a meeting on Thursday 3rd September 2009 to discuss the questionnaire used in the survey project.
- They used the WHO criteria in the questionnaire.
- The Questionnaire will be submitted to local experts for feedback.
- MoSA employed 120 social workers, database officers and rehabilitation workers to work on this survey.
- Survey team received 12 training hours.
- The accurate number of population in Gaza in 2008 is 295 households.
- Conducting home to home survey to 295 families to search for 70,000 PWDs needs time and money.
- Estimated budget for this survey is \$15,000 in 3 months.
- PWDs need electric wheelchairs from MoSA among other services.
- Gaza population is a developing nation and PWDs continue to ask for diapers and assistive devices.

Needs Assessment of the Disability Sector

- Handicap International will conduct a comprehensive sector needs assessment for planning long-term developmental projects to meet the needs of PWDs in all areas.
- Handicap International will organize focus group meetings with Disability Service Providers based on the type of activities their organizations are doing and their geographical areas.
- A draft schedule of focus group meetings is made and will be discussed with stakeholders in the coming Disability Sub-Cluster meeting to agree on the date, time and issues to be addressed in these meetings.
- Focus group meetings are planned to start after the month of Ramadan.

AOB

None

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

Attendees

Adele Perry	(Disability Sub-Cluster Lead / HI Project Manager)
Etienne Daly	(Field Coordinator "HI, Gaza")
Maha Mehanna	(Handicap International "HI")
Dayaa Saymah	(World Health Organization "WHO")
Rey-Mermier Corzlie	(ICRC)
Ahmed Mousa	(ICRC)
Hitham Al-Saqqa	(MAP.UK)
Sahar El-Hayek	(Mercy Corps)
Eman Abed	(Palestine Red Crescent Society "PRCS")
Mostafa Abed	(Palestinian Medical Relief Society "PMRS")
Awni Matar	(General Union of Disabled Palestinians "GUDP")
Talal Ouda	(National Society For Rehabilitation "NSR")
Nehal Al-Ashi	(Right to Live Society "RLS")
Nisreen Al-Borno	(National Center for Community Rehabilitation "NCCR")
Mostafa Sammor	(Ministry of Social Affairs "MoSA")
Alia El-Keshawi	(Ministry of Health "MoH")

Minutes prepared by: Maha Mehanna, HI Liaison Officer, Monday, 7th September 2009