



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

Date: Monday, 17th August 2009

Time: 10:30am to 12:00pm

Venue: Komodor Hotel, Gaza

Update on cluster activities

- The *DSC Lead* held a Disability sub-Cluster meeting on July 6th 2009 for organizations working in Rafah and Khan Younis to discuss the following priorities of the cluster:
 - Sector needs assessment
 - Mainstreaming disability in all early recovery plans
- The DSC Lead noted that an update letter on cluster activities has been sent to all Disability Service Providers.
- 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. You can access them by clicking on the following link:
<http://www.ochaopt.org/cluster/clusters.php?section=72&domain=8>

Gaza Response Activity Database (GRAD)

- All Disability Service Providers in Gaza are asked to update their own data in GRAD. The deadline for updating data is the 1st September 2009.
- On the 1st September 2009, all the updated data in the database will be extracted and will be used to make maps that show; who is doing what and where.
- When these maps have been produced they will be shared with you all, therefore kindly start updating your own data by clicking on the following link:
<http://grad.unochaopt.org>
- The *DSC Lead* will have a discussion with stakeholders on how best to use the available information to benefit persons with disabilities in Gaza.
- All stakeholders can have a look at the current maps by clicking on the following link:
http://www.ochaopt.org/gazacrisis/admin/output/files/ocha_opt_gaza_response_database_report_june_2009.pdf

HERF

- The *DSC Lead* received a draft copy of the new HERF criteria from OCHA, but the information has not been released yet on the OCHA website.
- When the information is made public on the website, the DSC lead will forward the information to all stakeholders.
- The *DSC Lead* asked stakeholders to read the new HERF criteria carefully when they receive it to make sure that their disability projects will be considered under the emergency and lifesaving criteria.

CAP Workshop

- The Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) for 2010 is currently underway. The objective of the CAP is to provide a common humanitarian framework for partners involved in relief and protection activities in the oPt.
- A consultation CAP workshop was held on Sunday 16th August 2009 to define key needs for specific vulnerable groups in Gaza.
- 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.
- Prior to the workshop, the *DSC Lead* invited these five organizations to attend a meeting on Wednesday 12th August 2009 in the Handicap International office to clarify any questions they have about the CAP workshop and also to brief them on the information she would like them to bring with them to the workshop.
- 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 the needs of persons with disabilities in Gaza.
- The information will then be used to develop strategic plans and projects for the Consolidated Appeals Process 2010 (CAP 2010)

Issue of duplication of services for beneficiaries

- After discussions with various stakeholders, several issues have been raised that require attention. The needs of PWDs for diapers and assistive devices are continually being raised in relation to a lack of funding. However, it is unclear how many PWDs actually need assistive devices and diapers and where duplication of services providing these items exists.
- In order to address these issues, the *DSC Lead* announced that two new working groups will be formed to focus on the issues of diapers and assistive devices and duplication of distribution.
- Terms of Reference (TOR) for each of the groups has been drafted, but the final TOR will not be circulated until the groups have met for the first time.
- The *DSC Lead* invited organizations that currently distribute assistive devices and diapers to nominate themselves for membership of the two groups:
 - **Incontinence Working Group (IWG):** Look at issues related to distribution of diapers
 - The goal of the IWG is to discover the true needs of PWDs and older persons for incontinence products.
 - **Assistive Devices Working Group (ADWG):** Focus on reducing duplication of assistive devices
 - The goal of the ADWG is to reduce assistive devices duplication and ensure that the true needs of PWDs for assistive devices are met

Sector Needs Assessment

- The *DSC Lead* announced that the Disability sub-Cluster through Handicap International will conduct a comprehensive sector needs assessment highlighting the long-term developmental needs of PWDs in all areas.
- The needs assessment will begin after Ramadan and will take the form of focus group meetings with Disability Service Providers and PWDs.

- Focus Groups will be based on service provision specialties and categories of disabilities and geographical areas.
- A draft schedule of focus group meetings has been completed and will be circulated to stakeholders during Ramadan. Final dates, times and issues to be addressed in these meetings will be announced following the next DSC meeting.

AOB

None

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

Attendees

Adele Perry	(Disability Sub-Cluster Lead / HI Project Manager)
Violaine Gagnet	(Head of Mission "HI, Palestine")
Maha Mehanna	(Handicap International "HI")
Mahmoud Douleh	(Palestine Avenir for Childhood Foundation)
Aladeen Khalafallah	(Palestine Avenir for Childhood Foundation)
Awni Matar	(General Union of Disabled Palestinians "GUDP")
Jamal Qdaih	(Al-Waleed Association for Handicaps)
Yusry Abubleam	(Deir El-Balah Rehabilitation Society "DBRS")
Jawaher El-Naje	(Deir El-Balah Rehabilitation Society "DBRS")
Heyam Sa'adah	(Al-Ataa' Charitable Society)
Samia No'man	(El-Nourain Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled)
Nisreen Al-Borno	(National Center for Community Rehabilitation "NCCR")
Eman Abed	(Palestine Red Crescent Society "PRCS")
Ibrahim Al-Nabaheen	(Palestinian Physiotherapy Association "PPTA")
Nabil Abusharekh	(Palestinian Physiotherapy Association "PPTA")
Mostafa Abed	(Palestinian Medical Relief Society "PMRS")
Emad Gelda	(Near East Council of Churches "NECC")
Talal Ouda	(National Society For Rehabilitation "NSR")
Khaled Abu Faddah	(Ministry of Education and Higher Education "MoEHE")
Adel Hamad	(Al-Burij Society for Community Rehabilitation)
Waleed El-Abadla	(Islamic Palestinian Welfare Home Society)
Amany Shltwt	(Islamic Palestinian Welfare Home Society)
Madeha Abu Sa'ed	(Humanness Succor Association)
Nada Abu-Salama	(Remedial Education Center "REC")
Hend Abedelrahman	(Balsam Rehabilitation Society)
Mohammed Al-Akhras	(Society for the Care of Disabled Families "SOCADIF")
Shaban Hattab	(AFAQ Association for Community Development)
Maysara Maima	(Al-Baqyat Al-Salehat Association)

Minutes prepared by: Maha Mehanna, HI Liaison Officer, Monday, 17th August 2009