

**INTER-AGENCY REFUGEE RESPONSE COORDINATION MEETING
UN BUILDING – LUANDA, 5th SEPTEMBER 2017
Minutes**

Welcome and Introductions

- **Participants:** MINARS, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA, FAO, MAG, CEPAMI, RCO.
- **Chair:** MINARS National Director, Ms. Teresa Quivienguele

Approval of the previous meeting's minutes

- Participants approved the minutes of last week's IA Refugee Coordination meeting without further comments.

Operational Update, Needs and Gaps

MINARS

- From now, Ms. Teresa Quivienguele, National Director of MINARS for Social Assistance, will chair the Inter-Agency Refugee Coordination meetings in Luanda on behalf of the GoA. Should Ms. Teresa Quivienguele not be able to attend a meeting, Mr. Sebastião Moando will act in her stead;
- Ms. Teresa Quivienguele expressed the GoA's continued support in working with the IA coordination forum on the refugee response in Lunda Norte;
- Ms. Teresa Quivienguele stressed the need to have all reports and documents in Portuguese as it is the official language in the country and also to ensure that the GoA is following closely all developments related to the ongoing refugee situation and its response.

UNHCR

- A brief presentation was made to highlight the main points in the Angola Inter-Agency Contingency Plan (CP) for the DRC Situation. The CP for the refugee response was drafted with close collaboration with partners in the field (Dundo). Participants provided comments and clarifications were made;
- As of 31st August, the number of biometrically registered refugees stands at **33,248** Individuals – these figures will continue to fluctuate due to births, deaths and deactivation of refugees who do not show up for two consecutive food distribution cycles (and who may have returned to DRC). There is a growing number of family reunifications among the refugees;
- The Minister of MINARS is planning to go to Dundo and Lovua on Thursday 7th September. The purpose of his mission is to assess the progress of relocation to Lovua three weeks after his last visit to the settlement. A number of UN Agency Representatives have been invited to join this mission in which government officials will also participate;
- UNHCR's newly appointed Representative will arrive in Luanda on Thursday the 7th September and will take on the co-chair of the IA coordination meetings;
- The priority of the local government and the humanitarian organisations continues to be the relocation of DRC refugees in the Cacanda reception centre in Dundo to Lovua;

- To date, 1650 refugees have been relocated to Lovua; the current plan is to organize two convoys per week to transport the refugee population to Lovua as per capacity of the new settlement;
- 2,237 Individuals did not attend the last two General Food Distributions (GFD) and have been deactivated from the UNHCR database. The latest distribution was missed by around 8,000 refugees;
- Mussungue reception centre has been vacated; there are no refugees living on this site. GFD will continue in Mussungue for the refugees registered on that centre who are currently living in the host community (in Dundo);
- The slow pace of refugee relocation to Lovua is largely due to technical issues: lack of heavy machinery to clear the site and open access roads. The site is being cleared and developed manually by refugees and workers from the host community which takes a considerable period of time;
- There are 31 UASC in a dedicated UAM/SC center in Cacanda; suitable host families are being sought;
- There are reports of the spontaneous return of refugees to DRC however figures have not been verified;
- The GoA has provided two water trucks (browsers) to the Lunda Norte provincial government that are yet to become operational. Provision of fuel and drivers will be confirmed by the authorities. This contribution is to facilitate the distribution of water in Lovua. For now, refugees in Lovua have access to 27 litres of water per person per day. While there is adequate water for refugees in Lovua, lack of adequate roads poses a challenge for residents of all villages to access water;
- Border monitoring: a mission (UNHCR and MINARS) was conducted to Nachiri and Chissanda border entry points in Lunda Norte. Chissanda is one of the main border crossings in the province as it is used for commerce and trade activities. In general, the situation at the border was calm. The UNHCR mission interviewed a refugee couple returning to DRC. They informed the mission that they lived a few km on the other side of the border and were returning for family support due to the imminent birth of their child.

UNICEF

- **WASH:** Provision of 27 litres of water per person per day in Lovua and 20 litres per person per day in Cacanda. In both sites water quality control is in place. The work of putting roofs and doors with internal locks on all latrines and showers in villages 2, 4, 5 and 6 in Zone B is in progress to ensure privacy, security and to protect the installations from the heavy rains. Currently, the gravel placement in all showers of Vila 1 and 2 of zone B is being completed. It was not possible to continue this work in villages 4, 5 and 6 of Zone B due to lack of access roads and the cleaning of the area. Installation of sanitation infrastructures started in zone B (8 latrines, 8 showers, 4 garbage pits). The team of social mobilisers have been reinforced with the use of garbage bags that were distributed. Main challenges: The access roads to the villages of Lovua are still the greatest challenge. With the onset of the rainy season, Cacanda's infrastructures will be seriously affected. Partners on the ground are taking action in order to ensure that mitigating measures are in place;
- **Health and Nutrition:** an agreement is in place with Caritas to work with health and nutrition partners in Lovua and Cacanda. Four nurses will be recruited this

week to work in Cacanda to support nutrition and health activities. From 658 cases screened, there were 10 cases of MAM 2 of SAM identified in Cacanda. The number diarrhoea cases have reduced to 7 cases this week vis-a-vis the 14 cases of the previous week (Cacanda). UNICEF continues to work with the government on the distribution plan of medication to Chitato and Lovua municipalities. The distribution will be made this week;

- **Child Protection:** last week a total of 1,604 children attended the child friendly spaces. A new CFS is being set up in Zone B in two villages. 26 birth registrations were conducted last week in coordination with the government and 19 more are scheduled for this week. Discussions with the government took place to intensify birth registration in the municipalities of Chitato and Lovua. UNICEF and the Faculty of Law of Dundo University (CICAJ) will launch a project entitled “More citizenship, involving public sector partners and civil society” to strengthen the refugee protection mechanisms in Lunda Norte. UNICEF has started actions throughout the province with INAC paying special attention to Lovua municipality, to strengthen the child protection networks;
- **C4D:** 15,304 people received key messages related to cholera prevention, malaria control, waste treatment and protection of their children from being lost during the relocation through social mobilizers, and 1,357 people received messages on the proper use of mosquito nets.

WFP

- The next GFD in Lovua will take place on September 14, and for refugees registered in Mussungue who are living with the host community and for those in Cacanda between 16-19 September;
- All commodities of the food basket are in Dundo, except for the Super Cereal that will arrive on September 11 from South Africa;
- 2 mobile storage units (MSUs) were installed in Lovua with a storage capacity of 400MT each;
- A joint mission of the Acting Regional Representatives of WFP and Regional Representative of UNHCR is scheduled for 18-23 September.

CEPAMI

- The solidarity campaign in Angola was organized by CARITAS and managed to send several tonnes of clothes to the refugees in Dundo. The campaign will continue until the end of the year and will also be launched internationally for funds to buy milk and clothes for children;
- Accurate figures for what was provided will be indicated in the next coordination meeting.

MAG

- The final report of the non-technical survey carried out in June has been finalised and will shortly be shared in both Portuguese and English with all partners. The 31 km² of Lovua site are mine impact free, nonetheless, this does not mean that the area is free of explosive devices;
- MAG continues to seek funds to be able to continue a Mine Risk Education project in the Lovua municipality.

UNFPA

- UNFPA received a formal invitation from MINARS to join the mission to Dundo (mentioned above/ Sept 7-8). During this visit UNFPA will officially hand over 78 reproductive health kits to the local authorities. This material arrived last week at the Provincial Health Department warehouses and will be distributed to the health centres in the area;
- 2,000 dignity kits for women are being shipped today to Dundo, and another 3,000 are arriving to Luanda soon;
- Two Women Friendly Spaces will be established in Lovua for recreational activities, workshops and trainings to learn skills for small income generating activities;
- UNFPA requested UNICEF and/or UNHCR to use their tents in Cacanda as Women Friendly Spaces while all refugees are not transferred to Lovua. UNICEF will check with the Team Leader in Lunda Norte and revert bilaterally to UNFPA;
- UNFPA has engaged in a partnership with MdM who will implement SGBV activities.

JRS

- Despite not being present, JRS requested UNHCR to convey the message that Education activities started in Lovua last week to ensure non-formal education: literacy and Portuguese lessons.

AOB

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 12 September 2017 from 15:00 PM at the UN Building Conference Room** on the 9th Floor.

END