

Minutes of the Head of Section Meeting

Dundo, Lunda Norte, 16 April 2018

Agenda points:

- General information
- Security briefing
- Sectorial update
- Action Points

A. Recent developments

- Meeting held with partners led to conclusions on gaps analysis regarding the relocation of the 11,006 Congolese refugees in the urban areas. The results and recommendations were shared with Luanda, and feedback is expected. Many partners in key areas such as WASH and Shelter do not have resources to carry out the relocation.
- The Protection Officer and the Head of Office met with Provincial Director of Immigration (SME) to discuss reactivation as well as family reunification. Both parties agreed on the principle, but the Provincial Director requested to receive the list of refugees concerned prior to the exercise, and that the modality and criteria for family reunification has to be worked out based on UNHCR guidelines and the Angolan policy on the matter.
- Press release from the Jornal de Angola broadcast news alleging that UNHCR Dundo is concerned about the evaporation of 11,000 refugees within Lunda Norte, and that UNHCR is seeking them. Consequently, Officers from the Provincial Directorate of the SME visited UNHCR to inquire about the situation. The Office shared once again the jointly elaborated relocation plan including the details on the refugees' location. The SME team was informed that the refugees' database was updated during the recent General Food Distribution in the new transit centre in Centralidade. UNHCR requested SME Lunda Norte to approach the journalist who wrote the news for more clarification on the statement. UNHCR Luanda issued a press release to contest the article.
- Meeting was held with Director of the Provincial Department of Health (DPS), the Directors of Dundo hospitals, Medicos del Mundo and UNHCR to discuss coordination on health issues and refugees' access to health facilities in Dundo, for instance pregnant women. Participants agreed on the need to having regular meetings and reinforce information sharing on individual case management.
- Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) is scheduled by WFP to review the impact of food assistance on refugees and the programme, as well as the need to extend and expand it or not. M. Flores Fernando, UNHCR Associate Programme Officer is the UNHCR focal point for the JAM.
- World Vision International (WVI) is undertaking a Real Time Review exercise. The team deployed from WVI headquarters spoke with UNHCR and other key informants. The outcome is expected.

B. Security

- A night burglary incident occurred at UNHCR staff member house in Dundo. Valuables were stolen, but no human casualty was noticed. All staff members are reminded to ensure compliance to the Residential Security Measures to mitigate the happening of such incidents.

C. Sectorial update

1. Shelter and infrastructure

- The government have donated 1,800m² (450x450) of land to serve as cemetery for refugees in Lóvua. Shelter team will report to Lóvua on Tuesday 17 April to begin the mapping, plotting and discuss with MSAFAMU and Griner company on access to the land situation at some 50m from the main road.
- A joint team comprising WVI, Grnir Company and UNHCR carried out the assessment of roads opened so far by Griner in Lóvua. The team completed the assessment of 30km, and the work is still in progress.
- Plotting was completed in the Zone H, villages 1-4.
- Some repairs are still required for the roofs of the facilities that will serve as transit centre in Centralidade. Heavy rains in Dundo make water get stuck and can put at risk the population who will overnight prior to their relocation. The meeting recommend that iron sheets be considered for the roofing, and evaluation should be conducted for further budget request.

2. Water and Sanitation

- NCA has completed WASH facilities in G3 and G4. Since last week, NCA have started to develop G5;
- LWF started water trucking in Lóvua last week with 1 truck. LWF will send 2 trucks to Lóvua as the relocation has not started. They have also built WASH facilities in the new transit centre with 12 latrines and 12 showers;
- 7 April 2018, borehole drilling work started and after 3 full days of work, the team managed to drill 84 meters. However, due to a lack of one product, the team stopped drilling;
- UNICEF will fund PIN to continue with full WASH activities. Until a new agreement has been signed, they will only focus on household latrines and after the agreement has been signed.

3. Field

- General Food Distribution occurred during the last 2 weeks. Refugees in urban areas were served food for the months of March and April, while those from Lóvua receive their April ration.
- Some 500 refugees deactivated from the database did not receive their food assistance. Others among them claimed to be victims of forced expulsion.
- The distribution of sleeping mats and mosquito nets for refugees in Lóvua is scheduled for the upcoming days.
- Field section was requested to complete the SOP on food and NFIs regarding requests, releases, distribution and reporting, before the end of April. The meeting also requested that assistance delivery in Lóvua should move from emergency to care and maintenance standards. Therefore, Field, WASH and Shelter sections should come up with the respective standards to be considered with the partners, using the UNHCR Field Guidelines.

Registration

- Pre-manifests for 2,542 refugees covering an initial period of 2 weeks of relocation has been generated and shared to enable preparedness works;
- 22,212 refugees reported during the during the General Food Distribution period;
- ProGrès training for users is scheduled for Thursday 19 and Friday 20th of April.
- The refugees' population in Lunda Norte stand at 23,982 individuals comprising 6,106 households. 13,475 refugees (3,359 households) reside in Lóvua settlement, and 10,507 others (1,046 households) continue to live with the host communities in Chitato municipality and surroundings.

4. Information Management

- Heads of sections were requested to take part in a meeting to discuss information to update on the UNHCR Angola portal prior to the meeting scheduled with Copenhagen.
- A dashboard for shelter section is been developed for a better visualization of the key performance indicators and follow up of the activities. It has been suggested to the others Head of Section to work with the IMO to initiate those tools;
- The compilation of protection data aimed at developing an easy reporting format is on-going.

5. Administration

- The Office has been allocated resources to improve the office and erect facilities for MOSS compliance. Supply was requested to accelerate the procurement procedure in order to complete the process on time;
- The installation of the fire extinguishers for the Office will commence as soon as the AFSA is back in the Office;
- The Office decided to change the payment modalities for the daily cleaners from the weekly to the monthly periodicity. This will enable payment through operational advance instead of petty cash;
- 3 drivers will travel to Luanda for periodic medical examinations. In order to ensure the smooth management of the Office, 2 will depart and the 3rd one will follow after the completion of the PME by the 2 first.
- 2 cars will be sent for maintenance as soon as replenishment is made.
- Recruitment process is ongoing for the position of Associate Protection Officer, Associate Livelihood Officer, Associate Public Health Officer, Senior Field Assistant, Senior ICT Assistant and Administrative Clerk.

8. Programme

- The operation has no new OL increase, except earmarked fund for education. Therefore, further discussions with Luanda and probably Headquarters will be required to fill the gaps for the current programme and the relocation of the 11,000 refugees in Dundo.
- Discussion is ongoing regarding WVI's 2017 extension of the implementation period for the procurement of wood and shelter construction. The partner has used only 28% of the budget authorised for the initial extension period up to March 2018. Suggestion is made for the carryover of the budget.

11. Supply

- The 1st quarter warehouse inventory was completed and the report shared with Luanda for further processing. A shipment of Core Relief Items (CRIs) such as mosquito nets, plastic sheets, sleeping mats and kitchen sets were received;

- The repair of the pump at petrol station did not take place as planned. The landlord promised to complete the work on Monday 16 April.
- A generator is received for the Office. Ground work preparedness is ongoing for its relocation from the warehouse to the Office.
- PO is being reviewed in the section for the security company and cleaning services.

Actions Points

- 1) Meeting with MSAFAMU, Griner and Shelter Officers on the opening of access to the cemetery land;
- 2) WASH and Programme should verify the timeframe for activities under WASH and Shelter and revert;
- 3) Registration should share with protection the list of refugees living in Lóvua and who missed food distribution in order to verify their presence;
- 4) Supply should accelerate the procurement process for service regarding the improvement of the Office, the procurement of office furniture and security/guards services.

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Dundo, Angola
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