



UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator**Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)**

Timor-Leste

Tuesday, 11 August 2009, 10.00-11.30

UNMIT Conference Room A

Summary**1. Introduction and adoption of the agenda**

Agenda adopted, minutes were shared and no comment received.

- Co-chair Alfredo Zamudio updated on the meeting between representatives of the UN and INGOs in Timor-Leste regarding joint advocacy. He pointed out that there is a need for better information sharing on advocacy initiatives.

2. Political Update

(Presentation by UNMIT Political Affairs Section)

- The UNMIT Political Affairs Section reported that preparations are underway for the upcoming Suco elections. Training of the election support workers, 'brigadistas' regarding election procedures is currently on-going. 62 UNVs have been recruited to support the elections, which are being conducted by STAE and CNE. UNMIT has observed some confusion amongst the 'brigadistas' regarding election procedures and it has been recommended that additional training take place.
- The registration of lists will take place between 22-27 August.
- There have been no major changes of political positions. FRETILIN, though announcing to abide by the law which prohibits political party participation, is promoting its own lists and is currently trying to form a coalition with ASDT as a means to win enough sucos to undermine the AMP government and to eventually call for an early national election.
- UNMIT has been analyzing hotspots and looking for any prominent political divisions in the Sucos, in particular in communities with returning IDPs. The expectation is that the elections will run smoothly and that there will be no major security issues.
- The press release "battle" between the Government's Spokesperson and FRETILIN over corruption allegations continues. The Prime Minister has recently attacked the Australian media following accusations of corruption.
- Parliament comes back into session next week and priority will be given to budgetary discussions.
- A 'table top' exercise between the government and the UN will take place next week in order to ensure that all bases are covered for the election.

3. Update on Metinaro Movement**(Presentation by IOM)**

- According to MSS there were approximately 600 families remaining in Metinaro as of last week. These families have been divided into 4 blocks, A, B, C and D. Most of the families are concentrated in block B. Many families that previously left the camp left their 'barakas'

which have since been re-inhabited by other families. There are about four different categories of families currently living in the camp; 1) IDPs that don't agree with the government regarding the amount of money they should receive 2) IDPs that appear to have been unregistered but have been identified by MSS and IOM as having lived in the camps (this is not a large case load) 3) IDPs who (10 cases) are awaiting dialogue efforts in their communities of origin 4) families that have come to the camp who are not identified by MSS or IOM or by others as having originally lived in the camp.

- The government is doing tent by tent visits in the camp. The movement from the camp is ongoing. There were about 50 families left the camp yesterday (Monday August 10th). The population living in the camp has been significantly reduced over the past few weeks and it is estimated that there are approximately **150 families currently living in Metinaro**. A rumor has been circulating that the camp will be closed by the end of this week but there are no indications to substantiate this rumor.

4. Support to the government for the development of an exit strategy for transitional shelters

- Louis Gentile, Representative, OHCHR HRJTS on behalf of the Protection Cluster updated on concerns raised by the cluster regarding the planned closing of transitional shelters after 31 August, as stated under National Priority 4. The shelter cluster is against the arbitrary assignment of a date after which the transitional shelters will be closed. An ad hoc meeting of the protection cluster was held to develop a set of principles and guidelines for the government to follow in the development of an exit strategy for transitional shelters which stressed the point that any return should be voluntary. The cluster understands that there is urgency on the part of the government to 'deal' with the transitional shelters which does not necessarily go hand in hand with the basic principles of IDP return.
- Co-chair Alfredo Zamudio as head of the Norwegian Refugee Council provided a brief overview of the challenges currently facing the closing of transitional shelters: Approx 212 families living in the transitional shelters have never owned a house and are therefore not eligible to receive maximum recovery packages. There are also a number of families that require dialogue support before they can return to their communities of origin. NRC is recommending that a profiling exercise take place in order to determine which cases can be dealt with quickly and easily and which cases should be referred to other social mechanisms that may be more appropriate.
- IOM has met with NRC and offered support for dialogue and camp management.
- The DSRSG/RC/HC briefed that several meetings have been held with the government on the issue of transitional shelter. To date the government has always been very diligent with adhering to international standards. In addition to providing principles and guidelines perhaps the international community can offer to provide support for the development and implementation of a strategy to close the transitional shelters.
- **ACTION:** DSRSG/RC/HC to ask the SRSR to convey to the PM that we, the international community, are willing to give our assistance to close down the shelters.

5. Update on return, relocation and reintegration support to IDPs and IDP-Affected Communities in Timor-Leste projects (IOM/UNDP)

- Angela Sherwood presented on behalf of IOM. IOM has started to implement phase one projects, 16 of which will start building within one month. IOM is currently doing a feasibility assessment for the remaining projects. Calls for proposals were given to three Sucos, Hera, Camea and Becora. Youth, women and IDPs were consulted as well as Chefe

de Sucos and the wider communities. A water pumping station in Camea in Haduk Francisco is among the 16 projects currently being implemented in communities of return and it will provide water to the lower part of Camea.

- Alissar Chaker presented on behalf of UNDP. A provisional list of Sucos that have the potential to be involved in Community Infrastructure Programs has been developed, derived through consultation between Dialogue teams and Sub-District Administrators together with information captured by IOM's monitoring. The SERC Community Infrastructure Project has a target of 20 Sucos in Dili and 10 in other Districts. The Sucos in other Districts have yet to be identified clearly, however, it is recommended to consider working in 5 Sucos in Viqueque and 5 in Ermera given that they were strongly affected in the Crises of 2006/7.
- A list of 10 locations and ongoing work criteria has been developed and shared with MSS.
- Preparatory meetings are being conducted with key stakeholders. The project team is working in close coordination with IOM and the Dialogue Teams to identify the infrastructure priorities.
- Infrastructure Proposals. Visits to the field have been conducted in Camea and Comoro, where consultations with Chefes de Aldeia have taken place. Two projects have been identified and the tender process can begin in August pending on endorsement by MSS, these are: 1) 'Youth Centre Rehabilitation', 2) Recreational park in 'Mundo Perdido'
- Co-chair Alfredo Zamudio informed the meeting that several INGOs have recently communicated their interest to UNDP to support the community infrastructure component of the SERC project. UNDP responded favorably to this request and suggested further discussions take place with the INGOs. It was noted that the Recovery Cluster would be the natural for a where such discussions could and should take place and it was recommended that the Recovery cluster convene a meeting to discuss community infrastructure shortly.
- **ACTION:** Recovery cluster to report back on meeting at the next HCT meeting.

6. ICCG Update

- Thank you to those clusters who have submitted both their cluster work plans and the review of the TSA by the assigned deadline of 31 July 2009. Several clusters have not submitted these documents and they were reminded that they had a further two weeks in which to submit these documents. The new deadline for submission of cluster work plans and TSA review is August 14th. If clusters have delays or require assistance in meeting these deadlines, please contact Petra Demarin and Philippe Schneider for assistance.

9. AOB

a. Briefing on the H1N1 virus in Timor-Leste (WHO)

- The Ministry of Health has confirmed the first two case of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 in Timor-Leste as of 3 August 2009. The results were confirmed at the World Health Organization (WHO) collaborative laboratory in Australia.
- Both cases have been discharged from the hospital after spending an appropriate time in the isolation ward at NHGV. They have completed a course of treatment of Tamiflu and the follow up epidemiological investigation found no secondary cases among the close contacts of the cases.
- The Ministry of Health continues to remain vigilant and will strengthen surveillance measures designed to detect and treat cases early.

- Questions were raised regarding the need to increase public information regarding H1N1. Valerie Hunnam, of IFRC informed the meeting that local Red Cross volunteers stand ready to help disseminate public information in the districts if needed.

c. Next HCT meeting will be held on 8 September

Timor-Leste Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)

Meeting Attendance Sheet - Total Participants: 22

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