

**Shelter & NFI Coordination Meeting**  
Held at UNHCR on 10<sup>th</sup> September at 3 p.m

**Participants:**

Laurent Raguin	UNHCR	Senior Programme Officer
Bernhard W. Kerschbaub	ZOA	Deputy CD
Sanja Saputantri	CARE	Head of RSS
Soira Benedict	ECHO	Programme Assistant
Rajinda Jayasinghe	Relief International	Country Director
Rob Delaney	NRC	Shelter Programme Manager
Lakshi Maliyadda	CHA	Programme Officer
Tahirih Qurratulayn	SCiSL	Advisor DRR
Alejandro Ruiz-Acevedo	UNOPS	Project Development Officer
Ramila Senanayake	OXFAM	Media & Communication Officer
Lisa Luginbuhl	SAH	Project Development Assistant
Jan Pavelka	PIN	Head of Mission
Jacobo Quintanilla	INTERNEWS	Project Director
Amalraj Nallainathan	IOM	Programme Assistant
Mil Illangasinghe	IOM	Information Management
David Evans	UNHABITAT	Chief Technical Advisor
Samantha Wimalasuriya	Habitat for Humanity	Project Manager
Kaushalya Navaratne	Sewalanka	Director – Programs
Annelise de Bruin	ZOA	Donor Account Manager
Amenthi Jasinghe	WVSL	Programme Officer
Babar Baloch	UNHCR	Public Information Officer
Nilkanthi Naranpanawe	UNHCR	Shelter Assistant

**1. INTERNEWS / LIFELINE :**

- The Project Director of Internews/ Lifeline made a presentation on their organization, the work that is being done by them and how best they could assist the Shelter Cluster through their media development.
- They work closely with the other cluster groups and the CBSM and will be able to share the information gathered by them.
- They are able to disseminate important information through the distribution of their Newspaper, Leaflets and Radio Programmes linked with the SLBC.
- At present they are focussing mainly on Vavuniya but hope to penetrate to Jaffna and Trincomalee as well.
- Participants suggested the News Paper to be also published in the Sinhala language for the benefit of the GoSL and Military Officials, to avoid any misunderstandings.
- It was suggested that the developments of the drainage improvement that is taking place in Manic Farm could be published in the next issue.

## **2. Return Plan :**

- Movement of nearly 100,000 IDPs from Manic Farm to Jaffna, Batticaloa and Ampara is expected to take place in the coming weeks.
- UNHCR is in consultation with the GoSL Authorities and Central Bank and is preparing to make the Shelter Grant payments through the Peoples Bank, Bank of Ceylon and the Sansa Development Bank.
- This grant will be made available only to the IDP Returnees from Vavuniya going to Jaffna and areas of the Vanni. IDPs returning to the East and Mannar South will not be getting the Shelter grant of Rs. 25000.
- The IDPs will be provided with a Form that will be duly completed and stamped by the Authorities, The coloured copies of this Form would be used to obtain the Shelter Grant, NFI Kits, Food etc.
- Sewalanka indicated that the GA and DS of Trincomalee are requesting for the Shelter Grant to be provided to the Returnees of Trincomalee. It was agreed that this would not be possible as these IDPs are relocated IDPs and would have already been assisted through Shelter Programmes in the East.

## **3. Manic Farm :**

- Access to Zones 7 & 8 are still a problem.
- GoSL has indicated that they will be building Community Halls / Recreational Halls but construction has not commenced as yet.
- Drainage Work is progressing rapidly and the work is expected to be completed by end of September 2009. UNICEF has drawn attention on the Safety of the IDPs with unprotected ponds and Cannals. This has already been addressed at the Drainage Improvement Meetings and DMC and SLLRDC with the assistance of the agencies will Take necessary action to seclude these areas.

In the recent Joint Humanitarian Update under the Logistics Contingency Planning it has been indicated that heavy Vehicles will not be allowed access to Manic Farm as there will be further deterioration of the roads due to the expected monsoon rains.

UNHCR confirmed that they will clarify this position with their Vavuniya Colleagues and inform the Shelter Sector.

## **4. Any Other Business :**

- UNHCR does not support the IDPs to be moved out from one closed camp to another closed camp but would continue to advocate the IDPs to be moved to an open camp. The Bishop of Mannar has agreed to provide accommodation to these IDPs at the Madu Church but he too has insisted that the camp should be an open camp with free movement and without the presence of the military.

UNHCR

Colombo.

10<sup>th</sup> September 2009.