

**TOPIC** : Shelter Meeting  
**DATE** : 27 May 2009  
**LOCATION** : UNHCR Conference Room

**ATTENDEES :**

Laurent Raguin	UNHCR	Snr. Programme Officer
Babar Baloch	UNHCR	Public Information Officer
Chris Nixon	UNHCR	Shelter Coordinator
Udayanga Warahagoda	ZOA	Donor Account Assistant
Kaushalya Navaratne	SLF	Program Director
Laura Donkin	CARITAS	Humanitarian Support
Edouard Jay	UNICEF	Field Coordinator
S. Sumathian	IOM	A & F Assistant
N. Amalraj	IOM	Project Assistant
Nikola Buljugic	UMCOR	Logistics & Procurement Coordinator
Sanja Saputantri	CARE	Head of RSS
Dinesh Thalpapwila	UNHCR	Shelter Cell Liaison Officer
Nilkanthi Naranpanawa	UNHCR	Shelter Assistant
Michelle Berman	UNHCR	Senior Programme Clerk

Following are the significant points discussed during the meeting:

1. Mr. Laurent Raguin, Senior Programme Officer introduced Mr. Christopher Nixon, the new Shelter Coordinator who would coordinate construction of shelters at Menik Farm Zone 4 and decongestion of schools. In the long run he would assist in the return of IDPs to their area of origin supporting in shelter and technical support.
2. **Current situation in Menik Farm** – Access is still not granted to enter Zone 2,3 and 4, resulting in no construction of tents in zone 4 and limited distribution of NFIs. Negotiations are done at the highest level and the military are in a process of resolution to the problem. The reasons of restricting access are;
  1. A group of doctors have complained that the UN and other NGO vehicles are causing dust and engine smoke within the camp.
  2. Till the screening process is done the restriction will continue
  3. Security reasons

The military has put up some Chinese tents, which are camouflage and there is a debate whether or not that these tents should be put up. Due to the scarcity of tents we could mingle these Chinese tents with the normal blue tents.

The security has switched from Military to Police and included police women within the camps as a result of a advocacy point from the Protection Working Group. UNHCR is advocating in placing vulnerable persons in camps which are near areas of quick access to Water and sanitation and welfare centres.

*WASH in Menik farm* – UNICEF has completed the pipeline and the pump which will reduce the need of water bowsers in Zone 3 and allocate those extra water bowsers to Zone 2 and 4. Pipelines will be constructed in Zones 2 and 4 at a later stage. The capacity of Pipeline and the pump will provide water to about 100,000 people. UNICEF is also looking into the capacities of all agencies in erecting latrines, and had negotiated with CCEB, a semi public company which will build 6,000 latrines. There are several treatment plant units of UNICEF in Vavuniya which are held back, due to the restricted access.

3. **Current situation in Trincomalee** – Around 6,000 IDPs have been moved out from schools in to camps resulting in a deficiency of the quantity of shelters/tents, and UNHCR is planning on transporting the shelters/tents (belonging to OfERR) from Mannar to Trincomalee. A representative of IOM stated that they have material in stock for around 500 shelters/tents, but is not able to construct due to unavailability of land. They further stated that these are sufficient to accommodate the estimated amount of people (750 families), ie 500 to be built by IOM and 250 that have already been built by ZOA. But there is a doubt that more IDPs would be brought to Trincomalee from other locations (Anuradhapura etc) would increase the need of more numbers of shelters/tents. UNHCR will discuss this matter further with IOM.

4. **Current situation in Jaffna** – Initially 4,000 IDPs were hosted in schools and transitional sites. Recently the government had allocated land (170,000 sqm) and DDG has cleared it. Plans were drawn to build 551 shelters on stage 1 to accommodate 2,435 IDPs. The decongestions were dealt and the cleared schools have started. Stage 2 would accommodate the rest of the IDPs who are still in schools subsequent to building 612 numbers of shelters. Due to the rains and floods a drainage system is ongoing to enable the construction of the 612 shelters. IDPs currently living in tents will be accommodated with shelters at Palmyra A, B & C sites. But water is a problem within these sites and the GA has been informed accordingly. Five Implementing Partners who are JSAC, IOM, ZOA, LEEDS and Sewa Lanka are currently constructing shelters. ICRC and UNICEF are also present there.

5. **Current Situation in Mannar** – The main focus in Mannar is Returns. IOM has agreed on the return shelter and pending technical discussions are to be held with Mr. Chris Nixon. A technical group consisting of UNHCR, UNOPS, ZOA and operational partners could be formed in Colombo and in Field level in Vavuniya and Mannar.

6. **CHAP** – Mr. Laurent Raguin, Senior Programme Officer, acknowledged the receipt of several proposals from IPs. A table will be shared among the participants in the future. UNHCR budget was reviewed and was decided to be increased by USD 12.5 million on the components of shelter, Protection and QIPs. The CHAP 2009 details were shared with the Ministries in order to make them informed and gain their inputs.

7. It was suggested that a briefing could be arranged on de-mining at another meeting.