

Rakhine Shelter Cluster Coordination Meeting

Minutes

- Venue:** Office of the State Minister of Transport and Communication
- Date:** Friday 7th February 2014
- Time:** 9:45 am to 11:15 am
- Chair:** U Hla Han, State Minister, Transport and Communication and Chairman Rehabilitation and Relocation Sub Committee (RRSC)
- Co-chair:** Wilfredo Jr. Tiangco, Associate Site Planner, UNHCR
- Minutes:** Zaw Min Htet, UNHCR
- Participants:** RSG/RRSC/Department of Rural Development (DRD), UNHCR, DRC, UNICEF and MRCS
- Updates:**

Agency	Update
UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greeted and thanked all the participants for coming. Gave update of activities and other related developments in the field. Shelter maintenance tool kits (600 sets/boxes) composed of 19 items (hammer, handsaw, file, etc.) to arrive in Sittwe by mid-February for handover to the State Government (through DRD's IDP training program and distribution) and storage at the Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD) warehouse. The progress of construction of walkways, shade nets, elevated road, jetty and other camp infrastructures in Pauktaw and Sittwe IDP camps is nearing 50%. A portion of hanging shade net was tested on how it will react in case of fire. The joint team of UNHCR and Pauktaw DRD observed that it just absorbed the heat and melted. Hence, the team was convinced that it will not serve as a conduit to spread fire to the shelters and other infrastructures. Shelter Team to visit Nget Chaung on or before 12 February to check the concern raised by Solidarites regarding digging of soil inside the camps. Mentioned that on 25th January, the team together with Pauktaw DRD engineer and contractor visited the camp and reminded the community leaders/workers of the initial plan to get soil only from the existing ponds/shrimp farm/barren land outside the camps. Construction of camp infrastructures is on-going in 12 camp sites in rural Sittwe. Secured 80% of the identified/agreed land sites. In Baw Du Ba 1 and 2 IDP camps, construction of 2 camp management offices (CMO) and 2 multipurpose buildings-large (MPB-L) have not started yet due to some demands from the camp committees/community/village leader about donations, land claim, compensation issues, etc. The contractor requested that he will settle the issues on his own up to mid-February. If no progress, to be raised to the attention of RSG. Contract award for the construction of walkways and camp infrastructures in Myebon was called off in December 2013 due to lack of funds. Currently, UNHCR found available funding and discussions with the contractor already started. Although this activity was already approved by the RSG last year, UNHCR would like to get advice from the Minister if it is possible to start construction activities due to the current situation in Myebon. Construction of Min Chaung wooden jetty was complete and renovation of Sittwe jetty is nearing completion. A letter to the Chief Minister (CM) and Development Affairs Minister on this regard was sent to RSG together with the request for the construction of one guard/boat operator's house. Mission to Zone 1 (Kyauktaw, Mrauk-U and Minbya Townships) on 28-30 January 2014. Meetings and discussions with the District Commissioner (DC) and 3 Township Administrators (TAs) regarding possible durable solutions in shelter response. Verified the report about

	<p>government's order to dismantle temporary shelters and use materials to construct individual houses. Zone 1 GAD key officials told that no such order was given nor they receive any official instructions from RSG. Also discussed is the issue of unpaid wages for some IDPs during the construction of shelter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 6 temporary shelters (in good condition) in Parein IDP camp in Mrauk-U that are vacant and not in use. This is in connection to MRCS's plan to construct 38 temporary shelters in Zone 1. UNHCR suggested to RSG and MRCS to reassess the shelter gaps and needs to avoid waste of resources. Zone 1 key officials suggested 3 locations: Thi Kyar IDP camp (Mrauk-U), Parein (Mrauk-U) and Sam Bar Lay (Minbya) for possible piloting of individual housing and/or shelters materials assistance projects. They also advised that individual houses pilot project for Muslim IDPs should be low profile because Rakhine will not accept to see those nice and shiny roofs of the houses. Visited the points of origins (PoO) of Maramagyi IDPs (10/11 HHs) who are currently staying in Ra Ma Ni Si Oe in Mrauk-U. The TA confirmed that said IDPs owned the lands at the PoO but they cannot return now because of security concerns. In Parein, the IDP camp where the 24 temporary shelters are located are close to the PoOs. Some families went back to their own land plots and built makeshift houses. Renovation of water ponds by UNDP in Parein Muslim and Rakhine villages are on-going.
DRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With regards to shelter perspective views, camp infrastructures like warehouses and multi-purpose buildings (large and small) in Sin Tet Maw and A Nauk Ywe IDP camps were complete. Those structures were handed over to Save the Children in Sin Tet Maw. There is no camp management agency yet in Ah Nauk Ywe; however Solidarities International might be managing the camp. For the construction of community halls/centres in 3 Rakhine villages: Kyauk Pyin Seik, Sin Tet Maw and Sin Aing, the projects have not started yet. The community agreed to those projects. In Kyauk Pyin Seik, one school will be renovated. However, DRC is facing problems due to unclear messages from Pauktaw TA. Due to limited time frame, DRC might cancel those projects and allocate it to other areas. DRC will start construction of about 450 individual toilets in Pa Lin Pyin village on Monday, 10 Feb.
MRCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy Program Manager will arrive in Sittwe around 17-20 Feb 14 for the construction of 50 temporary shelters in Zone-1 and Rathedaung. Donor (Qatar Charity) would like to go to those project areas before the start of project implementation. Donor visit to Rakhine was postponed due to the recent demonstrations in Buthidaung. MRCS will reassess the shelter gaps/needs in Zone-1 (Kyauktaw, Mrauk-U and Minbya) on 14-16 February 2014 as per Shelter Cluster/UNHCR's request/advise. The Minister advised MRCS to also reassess the needs in Rathedaung Township to have more accurate information. Though there were some demonstrations happening in Maungdaw, Buthidaung and Rathedaung Townships, MRCS said that they can still go to those places because they are not targeted or considered as L/INGOs.
MRF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ko Ko Lwin, Program Manager of MRF sent notice that he will not be able to attend the meeting because of their donor visits in the field. He will give update on the construction of 19 temporary shelters in Sin Tet Maw a bit later. In Sin Tet Maw IDP camp, the new shelter arrangement in the burnt area proposed by the IDPs was agreed by the Pauktaw GAD and DRD. UNHCR gave inputs on the site plan. The distance between two shelters was increased from 15 feet to 20 feet as land space is available in that area.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Minister joked that the shelter related response for the IDPs in Rakhine looked like it is already finished as there were only few participants attending the meeting. Within the RSG, only 3 persons are active and they are the Minister, State Director of DRD and District Officer of DRD. The Minister suggested MRCS to arrange Travel Authorization from Nay Pyi Taw for their donor missions and RSG will take care of the mission in Rakhine State. Travel plans should be notified in advance so that they can support security arrangement. State Minister of Border Affairs and Security is away from Rakhine and it is advised to contact State Director for any supports.

<p>Rakhine State Government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For MRCS, when making reassessment in Mrauk-U or other townships, the TAs or GAD representative should be invited to join the assessment. ▪ With regards to dismantling of temporary shelters, respective TAs needed to report to RSG before dismantling them because those projects were implemented by RSG in collaboration with Union Government. ▪ With regards to possible individual housing or shelters materials assistance pilot projects in three locations: Thi Kyar IDP camp (Mrauk-U), Pu Rein (Mrauk-U) and Sam Bar Lay (Minbya), it was not the right time for the agencies. If the situation becomes stable, RSG will inform the agencies to start pilot projects and to implement them. RSG has to consider affected 10 Townships for all the consequences of the projects. ▪ The Minister would like to know MRF's progress of shelters construction in Sin Tet Maw and plans for Nget Chaung-1 IDP camp so that he can report to RSG in relief meetings. ▪ Due to shortage of fire wood and charcoal in IDP camps, the Minister would like to request agencies to convey these gaps to their donors. RSG distributed cooking stoves to IDPs. ▪ For handover of shelter maintenance kits, the Minister will check with Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD) to know the Government warehouse capacities. ▪ State Director suggested UNHCR to mention about handover of 100 kits to DRD when submitting a letter to RSG for handover of 600 kits. RSG, DRD and Dual Tech Company will organize carpentry and masonry trainings and those kits will be provided to the participants after trainings. ▪ The Minister will be available to support UNHCR about the issue of soil digging inside Nget Chaung 1 & 2 IDP camps. ▪ The Minister has not seen Sittwe rural areas for 3 to 4 months now and he would like to know the current situation. He invited UNHCR and UNICEF to join him for Saturday, 8 Feb camp visits. UNHCR and UNICEF agreed with the request of the Minister ▪ The Minister will check with Myebon TA the feasibility of starting the construction of walkways and camp infrastructures as requested by UNHCR. ▪ The Minister will discuss with CM for the approval of UNHCR's request to construct a guard/boat operator's house at Sittwe jetty. ▪ With regards to the unpaid wages of the IDP shelter construction workers in Zone 1, the Minister said that the RSG's remaining balance to pay for the construction companies is only 10% or 20% of the total contract. The companies should pay the payment to the workers while waiting for the small balance payment from RSG. ▪ Rakhine State peace and order situation is not stable yet. So, it will take time to consider individual houses for the Maramagi and Muslim IDPs. The Minister would like to convey the message to Mrauk-U TA through agencies that the IDPs will have to stay in temporary shelters until situations were stable. ▪ For DRC's renovation of school project in Kyauk Pyin Seik and construction of community halls/centres in the discussed 3 Rakhine villages, the Minister said that Pauktaw TA was very active for the needs of IDPs and the community. Maybe some misunderstanding between DRC and TA. State Director checked with TA and he said that he was in the field so he could not look at the DRC's proposals. But, he confirmed that DRC can start their projects. ▪ The Minister shared the update of modular houses distribution in Rakhine State as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) 18 in Sittwe urban camps (2) 47 in Sittwe rural camps (3) 21 in Pauktaw (4) 5 in Rathedaung (5) 6 in Mrauk-U (6) 5 in Kyauktaw (7) 9 in Minbya (8) 33 in Maungdaw (9) 4 in Kyauk Phyu (10) 2 in Ramree ▪ About 50 of the modular houses went to the Rakhine IDP camps/sites and 100 to the Muslim IDP camps/sites. The modular houses can be used as clinics and schools in the camps. In
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	Rakhine IDP camps, there is no proper clinic. RSG covers the cost of the foundation works for all the 150 modular houses.
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Participants List:

Name	Title	Organization	Email	Contact #
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