

## MINUTES OF HEALTH CLUSTER MEETING

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*Meeting held at 10am, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2005, P.I.M.S*

### 1. PRESENT

SandBlandh (IFRC), Dr. Shadool (WHO), Dr. Abdul Bari (SC/US), Jose Silva (NATO/DRT), Dr. Zulfiqar (WHO), Taufik Zeribi (WHO), S. Khayam Ali (RI), David Vickers (RI), Naeem Durrani (HealthNet-TPO), Nadeem Durrani (Merlin), Venw Gopal (MALC), M. Ilyas Khan (MALC), Dr. Mobashar Malik (UNFPA), Dr. Amara Akber (UNFPA), Dr. Naveeda Rehman (UNFPA), Dr. Naila Butt (SC/US), Dr. Nabila Zaka (UNICEF), Jehangir Ali Khan (IMC), Dr. Arifa Alvi (IR), Jennifer Norman (Mercy Corp), Richard Martini (DFID), Ngoc Clark (USAID/DART), Dr. Rafah Aziz (UNICEF), Dr. Zareef Uddin (MoH), Maria Gjerloeff (ICRC), Rachel Lavy (WHO), Dr. Ejaz Khan (MoH), Fauzia Youseff (WHO), Saadia Khalid (WHO).

Chaired by Rachel Lavy (WHO), Dr. Bile (Country Head WHO), and Dr. Ejaz (MoH)

### 2. Dr. Bile

- Measles campaign will be reactivated next week. We feel that there are gaps and therefore to minimize deaths from measles it was decided to reactivate the campaign. Vaccines are available with the government.
- Spontaneous camps are potential risk. They should have a health post with at least one paramedic. Young girls will be trained to tell the camp residents about hygiene and vaccinations.
- If your agency's location is close to a spontaneous camp, it is requested from you to assist that spontaneous camp.
- Dr. Lee, the D.G from Geneva and Dr. Gezairy, the Regional Director from Cairo are visiting Islamabad on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December and Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. They will be going to Balakot and Muzaffarabad on the first day.
- Before the D.G and the R.G meets the prime minister and chairman senate, we would like to brief him with issues that the health cluster would want him to convey to the prime minister.
- We will have a get together on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, at 19:00 (7:00 pm) in Marriott. All the health cluster members are invited to attend.
- WHO is not in charge of this cluster. It just facilitates the agencies. This health forum is for all of you to discuss your issues, analyze inputs and then solve the existing problems.
- All the agencies should send photos taken in the fields, for the brochure that is being prepared by WHO for the Director General and Regional Director visiting Islamabad on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December.
- This brochure will have the concepts and ideas of the health cluster reflected in it.

- WHO and UNICEF are negotiating with MoH about staff's salaries. If the government doesn't have resources we will help them. Now the salary of a young doctor is 24000 rupees
- A salary ceiling should be set.

**Action Points:** => Spontaneous camps should be assisted and we should make them organized.

=> Measles campaign will reactivate next week.

### **3. BURNING ISSUES FOR D.G & R.G**

- Other partners should attend the health cluster meetings and assist coordination.
- Effective practices should be shared with each other. If one agency implemented something and got a good result, it should tell the rest of the health cluster members about it.
- There are some great ideas floating around, but implementation is very slow.
- There is a lot of information at the hub level. Therefore it is important for the center (Islamabad) and all the hubs to communicate on regular basis.
- A meeting with the hubs representatives should be organized. It could better the flow of information.
- DG should come to the health cluster meeting. This way he will understand the importance of information flow.
- Coordination is dependent on WHO and MoH and the other health cluster partners. Although partnership is great we can always improve.

**Action Point:** => D.G and the R.G will be briefed about the issues faced by the health cluster members.

### **4. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PRESENTATION**

- Taufik Zeribi, WHO, gave a presentation describing the impact of environment on health and what steps need to be taken to prevent pollution in the camps.
- Environmental health response plan was handed out
- Dr. Zeribi pointed that environment hazards are one of the most critical health risks.

### **5. MISCELLANEOUS**

- As health cluster we need to assist camp management.
- There are more than 1000 spontaneous camps. In Muzaffarabad alone, there are 23 spontaneous camps of which only 12 have PHC facilities.
- UNHCR has taken the responsibility of camp management. They are only responsible to detect problems and then it is the health cluster who has to solve the problems.

- Dr. Shadoul will be going to assess camps. You can contact him at ashadoul@whopak.org

## **6. NEW AGENCY**

- MALC

They have been working in Pakistan for many years. From post earthquake time they have provided primary health care at their centers. They are also involved in relief and rehabilitation.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

- American Refugee Committee (ARC) will give a presentation on their activities.
- Date and Time: 10am, Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2005.
- Place: Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, Private Ward, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Islamabad.