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Participants: Sandra Lattouf (UNICEF), Jean-Nicolas Beuze (UNHCR), Monique Maani (OCHA), Clementine Favier (IOM), Mads Oyen (UNICEF), Arefu Araki (UNHCR), Asaad Ibrahim (RCO), Ekram Elhuni (WFP), Ruth Coverdale (FCDO), Charles Denhez (Canadian Embassy), Douglas Wiitala (USAID/BHA), Fredrik Palsson (DRC), GRANT Kenneth (ECHO Erbil), Raeda (Switzerland Embassy), Raimondo Bonu and Martina Disanto (AICS), Samar Abboud (IRC), Mira De Vries (Dutch embassy)

Secretariat: Precillar Moyo and Mohamed Osman (IOM), David Videira (UNDP), Layth Salman (NRC), Mohammed Abdelrazzak (RCO)

Action point from DSTF meeting #21 (Secretariat)

1. Drafting Team to share a final review of the roadmap with consolidated feedback from DSTF members, Federal Government and KRG. Still pending feedback from KRG authorities.
2. Secretariat (RCO) to recirculate the call for interest for co-chair for SAD JCF. Completed.
3. Secretariat (RCO) to share copies of the RCO communications which have been shared with the governorates with the agencies who are co-chairing the JCFs. Completed.
4. Secretariat (DSTWG) to circulate a notice to all ABCs on the establishment of the JCFs and notification of cessation of the ABC except for Sinjar ABC. Completed.

Roadmap Update (Resident Coordinator)

RC: The UN worked with GOI and KRG to develop the roadmap to end displacement for all IDPs (in and out of camps) which was meant to be endorsed by both governorates. Following the presentation of the Roadmap to the Supreme Committee with the participation of the KRG. Feedback from GOI was received, but no feedback has yet been shared by KRG. Political dynamics are affecting the collaboration between MOMD minister and KRG. The UN will continue to advocate for the roadmap regardless of how that will affect the government's decision and also to include other GOI ministries (MoP, MLSA, MoH, MoE, etc.) The RC added that he met with the special adviser on displacement and urged that the DSTF continue the engagement on the Roadmap despite the political complications between the two governments. It was noted that the government is appreciative of the UN support on the Roadmap even though it is not financial as it is about how we streamline government procedure and make sure there is fairness and equity and how to unlock some bureaucratic processes whether related to compensation/return grants, civil documentation or support on re-integration.

- **Action point:** The Roadmap drafting team to re-adjust the roadmap and develop an operational plan to ensure that the UN is consistently included in the discussion and able to influence some complexities during the implementation of the plan.

Joint Coordination Forums

RC: JCF formal launches were postponed due to the delays in appointing new governors/council assignments. Soft launches will proceed. At a later stage, the RC could join one of the future meetings with the governor to provide advocacy as needed. The launch of the KRG JCF is anticipated shortly with the participation of the RC and KRG MoI.

Camp closure plan

- The **RC** presented an overview of the main concerns included in the letter that was shared on the 21st of January 2024 with MOMD prior to the endorsement by the Council of Ministers. The letter emphasized the following:
 - 1- Inclusion of out-of-camp IDPs.
 - 2- Ensure that decisions are voluntary, informed, safe, Inclusive, sustainable, and without discrimination according to IASC principles.
 - 3- Extension of timeline.
 - 4- Incentive package to cover out-of-camp IDPs to avoid creating differentiated approaches and tensions.
 - 5- Engagement and cooperation with KRG authorities.

The **RC** invited DSTF members to share their positions and key messages before meeting the MOMD minister to then share a collective message on how to engage with or support the implementation of the government plan.

British Embassy: Enquired if the Roadmap remains deliverable and whether there would be any challenges with implementing it once the camps are closed.

The **RC:** Responded that the role of the international community is to support GOI and KRG to end displacement and that the closure of IDP camp is a government priority and the government will proceed with their plan. The UN had outlined its position clearly and urged the DSTF to work with the government and influence their decision-making rather than being an observer. It was noted that the government plan provides a generous package like housing, livelihood opportunity, SSN, cash assistance, working with communities and tribes to resolve tensions, but this should be provided for other IDPs (out of camp) in equally vulnerable positions. The RC reiterated that IASC principles will not be compromised whether the government will comply or not and encouraged the development of an implementation plan for the Roadmap to be shared with the government to then how to proceed.

UNHCR: Agreed with the RC, noting the need to support the authorities to create livelihood opportunities and grants for those who return and locally integrate, but noted that this may need both GOI and KRG agreement to let people integrate locally.

MOMD minister announced that they are taking measures to ensure activities will continue after July, we need:

- 1- To assess the percentage of services under the federal budget as opposed to municipalities and departments in KRG.
- 2- To develop a contingency plan in case people will not be able to return due to many challenges like suspicion of being affiliated with ISIS or no freedom of movement.
- 3- To understand to which extent the international/donor community is ready to proactively reach out to different parties, especially KRG.

Canadian Embassy: Noted this year marked the 10th anniversary of the Yezidi genocide and asked if the closure of the camp was linked to this and if there might be a risk to the premature closing of the camps. The embassy also asked if the 4M IQD grant was sufficient for IDP needs and how long this grant would last families.

The **RC** Responded that he was unaware of any link between the anniversary and the camp closure.

On the grant, the RC responded that for many IDPs this amount might not be enough, and more work would be required to ensure that families are connected to social services and different ministries for sustainable employment and other needs. The RC noted the concern that the grant could take families out of camp, and they might end up in secondary displacement elsewhere.

RCO: Highlighted the main decisions of the Council of minister's directive, including cash grants. Additionally, more access to shelters will be provided by offering compensation exclusively for in-camp IDPs once they return to their area of origin. The Sinjar and Ninawa Plain reconstruction fund will be established to construct at least 2,000 low-cost shelters, with land granted by the Ninawa local government to MoMD. Furthermore, the government will provide livelihood opportunities by recruiting returnees in different ministries. The MoMD will also offer livelihood grants for returnees and resettled people, while those meeting MoLSA requirements/criteria will have access to the social safety net.

IRC: Raised the issue of low level of intentions to return, particularly in KRI, which was according to a recent REACH CCNA. Considering this, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) was supportive of the development of a contingency plan considering multiple factors. The IRC also cautioned that the grant could be a pull factor for IDPs.

RC: Enquired if IDP intentions could be influenced since the CCNA was conducted prior to the COM's decision?

UNHCR: Responded that the financial support alone is insufficient and access to essential services (water, Education, Health, etc.) is crucial for the overall well-being of the affected communities. In addition, the revival of livelihoods and the recovery from trauma are also vital aspects that need to be addressed.

The **RC:** Noted that it was likely that not all IDPs will return to their homes and emphasised on the importance of informing IDPs about the various options such as compensation grants, housing, job opportunities, etc. that would be available to them once they choose one of the three DS pathways (return, re-integrate or relocate).

Action Points

1. The Roadmap drafting team to re-adjust the roadmap and develop an operational plan to ensure that the UN is consistently included in the discussion and able to influence some complexities during the implementation of the plan.
2. DSTF secretariat will circulate the RC letter and extract key messages to be shared for input by DSTF member and key messages to be shared back with RCO.
3. The **RC** will meet the MoMD Minister with the DSTF co-chairs to discuss the letter and get clarity on the roadmap.