
Co-chairs: Ghulam Isaczai (RC) and Auke Lootsma (UNDP), Caroline Henderson (IOM)

Participants: Giorgi Gigauri (IOM), Mohsen Al-Yaqobi (UNDP), Monique Maani (OCHA), Islam Elghazouly (RCO), Fiona Allen and Inge Zondag (UNHCR), Raimondo Bonu and Martina Disanto (AICS), Corinne Linnekar and Malek Akchour (DRC), Myra De Vries (Dutch embassy), Raeda Nimrat (SDC), Charles Denhez (Canadian Embassy), Samuel Rothenberg (PRM), Hannah Chaker (FCDO)

Secretariat: Precillar Moyo (IOM), David Videira (UNDP), Layth Salman (NRC), Mohammed Chalabi (RCO)

Opening remarks (Resident Coordinator)

RC: The DSRSG/RC/HC recently met with Zeidan Khalaf, the Prime Minister's Advisor on Human Rights, to discuss developments related to IDPs, where the appointment of an ad hoc Committee by the Prime Minister was confirmed, consisting of three members: Zeidan Khalaf (responsible for Sinjar), Khalaf Sinjari (Prime Minister's Advisor on Yezidi affairs, and Hazem Al-Khalidi (Prime Minister's Advisor on Evaluation and Government progress). The Committee is tasked with assessing the Government's efforts concerning IDPs, focusing on KRI and the progress of reconstruction and service delivery, particularly in Sinjar. The Committee is scheduled to visit Erbil and camps in KRI, followed by Sinjar, to gather firsthand insights from IDPs. The DSRSG/RC/HC emphasized the importance of the Committee engaging with both in-camp and out-of-camp IDPs to understand their intentions regarding return or local integration.

The DSRSG/RC/HC inquired about the status of the compensation fund for IDPs, to which Zeidan Khalaf reported progress with the prioritization of 3,000 compensation claims for Sinjar, despite a significant backlog. A new mechanism has been introduced for applicants to resubmit their claims (specifically targeting Sinjar and Yezidi applicants).

The discussion included Provision Number 6 of the Cabinet decision, which involved allocating two land plots for housing IDPs, one in Ninewa (handled by REFAATO) and one in Sinjar (developed by the Construction Fund under Zeidan Khalaf's supervision).

The DSRSG/RC/HC shared the Durable Solutions Roadmap with Zeidan Khalaf, seeking the Government's feedback and emphasizing the need for Government ownership of the Roadmap. He urged Zeidan Khalaf to discuss it with Dr Rebar, the KRI Minister of Interior.

The DSRSG/RC/HC announced his plan to visit Salah al Din to launch the Joint Coordination Forum (JCF) and engage with IDPs who have returned from Sulaymaniyah.

Robert Piper's Visit: the UN Secretary General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, is scheduled to visit Iraq for four days in early June. His visit will include meetings with senior officials in Baghdad and Erbil, and visits to IDP camps in KRI and Sinjar, as well as aim to support the implementation of solutions for IDPs and foster agreement on the Roadmap.

Action point from DSTF meeting #22 (Secretariat)

1. RCO team to develop one-page on parameters of contingency planning. Completed.
2. RCO team to work with agencies on sharing input on the MoMD intentions survey. Completed.
3. Drafting team to review Roadmap and work on process for development of operational plan. Completed.

RCO team to follow up with ICRC on East Mosul detainees. Consultations were convened with UN Agencies, resulting in the development and issuance of an inception report.

PRM comment: Samuel Rothenberg shared feedback from Jeffrey Izzo's (Director for Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Affairs at the US Embassy) recent meeting with MoMD Director General Ali Jihangeer, noting inconsistencies in access to camps. Indeed, MoMD reported challenges in accessing Duhok camps for fuel distribution, which is critical for safety as temperatures rise during the summer. The US Embassy therefore urged continued advocacy with KRG officials to ensure MoMD can distribute essential supplies.

ABC and JCF Update (Secretariat & RCO)

Secretariat: The DSTWG continues to hold monthly meetings. A Workplan was developed in March and received endorsement at the last DSTWG meeting, with its implementation having commenced, involving various sub-groups. The different sub-groups within DSTWG are developing guidelines related to specific areas such as livelihoods and data management.

A Durable Solutions partner training session was recently conducted in Mosul, and continuous support for ABC and JCFs is ongoing.

Monthly RWG meetings are ongoing. In March, MoMD presented an update addressing camp closures, and partners presented their ongoing research and activities related to Durable Solutions.

RC: the DSRSG emphasized the importance of anchoring the Workplan in the Roadmap and ensuring that all activities align with the overarching strategic document. He highlighted the need for political considerations and the risk of technical work being rendered ineffective due to shifts in political decisions.

RCO: A meeting of the Sinjar ABC was convened on April 29 where IOM presented findings from a study identifying barriers to return of families to specific areas in Sinjar city and Adnaniyah: demolished shelters, lack of basic services, livelihoods, security concerns, ... The Ninewa Governor Assistant shared a needs assessment report conducted by relevant Directorates in Sinjar, along with a Project's Plan that still needs approval from Baghdad.

The JCFs have been successfully launched in five Governorates. The launch meeting in Salah al Din faced multiple postponements but is scheduled for tomorrow, with the RC and the Governor co-launching the meeting. The KRI JCF meeting planned for last week was postponed.

A Joint Assessment Mission was conducted in Salah al Din on May 8 and 9, focusing on assessing the needs of recently returned families in Yathrib and Dujail, especially those from Ashti and Tazade camps in Sulaymaniyah. The returnees confirmed receiving the 4 million IQD grants, which they stated was insufficient for resettlement. Urgent needs identified included housing, water, electricity, healthcare, livelihoods and education.

➤ **Action point:** The DSTWG Secretariat to share the DSTWG Workplan with the DSTF members.

Roadmap update (RCO)

RCO: The Roadmap, nearly finalized last year, was submitted to both Erbil and Baghdad Governments. However, a new Cabinet Resolution was adopted by the Council of Ministers earlier this year, targeting the population in camps in KRI, necessitating revisions to the Roadmap to ensure it remains relevant and contextual.

Concerns were raised among Agencies and partners regarding the inclusion of the Council of Ministers' decision, and questions arose about whether this would limit the Roadmap's scope, making it an instrument solely for implementing the decision and targeting only in-camp populations. These

concerns were compiled into a guiding document to ensure the Roadmap reflects the current context. The revised Roadmap now includes language and provisions suggesting it as an 18-month framework, focusing on three solution pathways for IDPs and targeting both in-camp and out-of-camp populations.

Contention remains between Baghdad and Erbil regarding the implementation of the Sinjar Agreement, Erbil insisting on its inclusion and commitment to implementation within the Roadmap, while Baghdad sees no relevant in its inclusion. The Agreement involves political alignment and security arrangements beyond the DSTF's scope.

The Prime Minister's approach to Sinjar has shifted towards a developmental focus rather than political, with recent provisions including the allocation of 50 billion IQD for the Reconstruction Fund of Ninewa Plains and Sinjar, the construction of a new hospital in Sinjar, ...

A two-day working session is scheduled for May 29th and 30th, supported by IOM, involving the Government of Iraq counterparts and UN Agencies engaged in the Roadmap's development, to dissect the framework's mechanics, understand the listed commitments, Government mechanisms and key lessons learned.

UNHCR: raised concerns about potential standoffs between Federal Iraq and KRI over the Sinjar Agreement and the implications for the Roadmap's endorsement and implementation.

RCO: emphasized a flexible approach to endorsement, exploring integration into Government processes through administrative orders or an Addendum to the Cabinet Resolution.

- **Action point:** The Secretariat to re-share the finalized Roadmap.

Update on UN Preparedness and Response for Cabinet Resolution 24007 (RCO)

RCO: The Plan previously referred to as a 'contingency plan' is now termed the 'UN Preparedness and Response to the Cabinet Resolution'. The updated document includes contingency actions and measures, assessed by the severity of potential service disruptions that could increase unmet needs among the population, but also encompasses broader preparedness and response strategies.

The main objective is to enhance the Government's ability to deliver the services and commitments listed in the Cabinet Resolution. The document serves to quantify needs, outline limitations and identify areas for advocacy, including contingency measures specifically for East Mosul Camps and potential burdens in informal settlements due to displaced populations unable to return to their areas of origin.

A temporary 2-month inter-Agency country team is being assembled to coordinate and engage on camp closures. Nominations are ongoing, with the first meeting scheduled for next Monday. The DSTWG will be informed of the primary points of contact for each Agency involved in this engagement.

IOM: In response to the question posed by DRC, IOM confirmed being in the process of finalizing post-departure monitoring reports undertaken in Salah al Din.

Canada Embassy: inquired about confidence of the UN in the end of July deadline for camp closures and the UN current state of preparedness.

UNDP: expressed belief that the Government will adhere to the deadline, though work will continue beyond this date.

IOM: stressed the importance of continued advocacy for partners to be able to operate, and Embassy interventions to address uncertainties post-August 1st.

RCO: highlighted progress in certain areas, like education, and the reliance on KRI to deliver services post-deadline.

UNCHR: noted the vital importance of continuing service delivery in camps, as cessation of services could lead to involuntary movements, and the need to advocate for continued service delivery to the camps.

AICS: asked about the potential creation of a multi-Donor/pool-fund mechanism for funding.

RCO: discussed the reinvigoration of discussions around a multi-partner trust fund, highlighting a process to gauge interest and feasibility within the UN architecture and Donor countries.

DS Advocacy (UNDP)

UNDP: emphasized the importance of ongoing advocacy efforts regarding service delivery continuity and Government support for returnees, especially as the July deadline approaches.

A request was also made for Donor partners to share advocacy messages they have conveyed to the Government, to ensure a unified and complementary approach.

AOB

RCO: suggested organizing a dedicated briefing session on the UN Preparedness document, combined with a briefing on the DS Roadmap.

IOM: proposed updating and circulating advocacy messages post-meeting, emphasizing the importance of advocacy efforts with KRI to maintain momentum and effect positive change, especially regarding education services.

UNHCR: highlighted the upcoming visit of Robert Piper and suggested identifying key advocacy messages to convert during his engagements with both Governments.

RCO: mentioned they distributed briefing packages for each of Robert Piper's engagements in Iraq, and urged inputs from all Agencies to finalized the Agenda and key priorities.

Action Points

1. The DSTWG Secretariat to share the DSTWG Workplan with the DSTF members.
2. The Secretariat to re-share the finalized Roadmap.