Message sent on Behalf of Linda Doull, Global Health Cluster Coordinator

Global Protection Cluster and Global Health Cluster Joint Operational Framework

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to inform you about an important piece of work the Global Health Cluster and Global Protection Cluster will be undertaking over the next six months with collaboration from the Child Protection, GBV, Mine Action Areas of Responsibility (AoR) and IASC Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) Reference Group looking at strategies to integrate and coordinate health and protection response in humanitarian crises.

Although improvements have occurred it is recognised that existing inter-sector capacity for leading a coordinated response in humanitarian settings needs to be strengthened. The provision of healthcare (including aspects of MHPSS) should address the specific needs of affected populations including at risk groups such as children, women, older people, people living with disabilities, victims of explosive remnants of war / mines, survivors of gender-based violence and support to achieve their wider rights to life with dignity, protection and security. As such, the Global Health and Protection Clusters, in collaboration with AoRs and IASC MHPSS Reference Group, will undertake a global analysis of the existing good practices, barriers and gaps in inter-sectoral response coordination. This will inform the design of a joint operational framework and guidance materials for national Health and Protection Clusters, sub-clusters and working groups for child protection, reproductive health, GBV, Mine Action and MHPSS to utilise at country level. It will focus on coordination needs throughout the humanitarian programme cycle and activities that should be undertaken jointly.

The work will include a review of available guidelines, learning and evaluation documents, a series of key informant interviews, an online survey and up to 5 country visits. It will be guided by a Steering Group composed of focal points from the Health and Protection Clusters, AoRs and Working Groups. The full ToR and relevant material are attached for your information.

The work is being undertaken by Breanne Kaiser a Public Health and Protection specialist including MHPSS and GBV with 15 years of professional experience in humanitarian settings. She has substantial experience in the development of global guidance and evidence-based program design, implementation and evaluations. She will be working closely with Dr Eba Pasha (cc-d) who will be the GHC focal point for this project. Breanne can be reached at breannekaiser@gmail.com.

The Global Health Cluster and Global Protection Cluster will be reaching out to partners for support and input throughout the project and we look forward to your active involvement in this important work. Please do not hesitate to contact Dr Eba Pasha pashae@who.int and Yasmine El-Behiery elbehier@unhcr.org for inquiries and clarifications.

Kind regards,

Linda Doull, Global Health Cluster Coordinator
William Chemaly, Global Protection Cluster Coordinator