



## **Somalia Protection Cluster**

### **Strategic Advisory Group SAG Revised TOR, 19 November 2014**

**INFORMATION:** These TOR are a revised version of the TOR of the Technical Committee that were endorsed on 28 May 2012. A revision was required due to the move of the Cluster to Somalia and the reconstitution of the SAG in Mogadishu in 2014. **ENDORSED, 19 November 2014.**

### **1. Purpose of the Strategic Advisory Group**

The Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) of the Protection Cluster provides policy and strategic direction to the work of the Protection Cluster. The SAG, which is comprised of key protection organizations<sup>1</sup>, will guide the Protection Cluster and its membership in a consultative manner.

### **2. Guiding principles for the Strategic Advisory Group**

- 2.1 As with the Protection Cluster, the SAG will be guided by the humanitarian and protection principles in its work.
- 2.2 Sensitive information is subject to confidentiality.

### **3. Tasks of the Strategic Advisory Group**

As a Strategic Advisory Group, the following are the areas of responsibility:

#### **3.1 Strategic role:**

- a. Development of protection policy and strategic documents for the Protection Cluster, including a thematic Protection Cluster strategy, as well as for the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) as required under the Centrality of Protection Initiative;
- b. Development of position papers and statements on protection issues;
- c. Development of contingency and response plans as well as recommendations of priority interventions;
- d. Development and advising on resource mobilization and fund raising strategies.

**3.2 Technical support role:** Providing policy, strategy, advocacy and other technical guidance on protection issues to bodies constituted by the Protection Cluster, to its members as well as relevant inter-agency fora, such as the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) and the HCT;

#### **3.3 Advocacy and Advisory role:**

- a. Development and implementation of protection advocacy strategies on agreed upon priorities;
- b. Advising on and bringing protection priorities to the attention of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and HCT as well as other stakeholders;

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<sup>1</sup> These are organizations from the UN/INGO/LNGO that are substantially involved in a range of protection interventions and have demonstrated capacity to engage on the technical aspects of protection, majority of them, with a national perspective.

- c. Advocacy for fund raising at various forums and levels, specifically humanitarian pooled funds.

3.4 **Coordination role:** Improvement and strengthening of the overall structure, capacity and effectiveness of the Protection Cluster at the national and sub-national levels.

3.5 All documents will be circulated among the SAG Members who are expected to consult their respective constituents. Any document generated and endorsed by the SAG will be posted on the Protection Cluster's website and circulated to the membership.

#### **4. Composition of the Strategic Advisory Group**

4.1 In order to be efficient, the SAG membership is limited to 15 organizations, including the Coordinator and the Deputy Coordinator.

4.2 Requirements for membership:

- a. Organizations either have global thematic leads, significant thematic technical expertise or significant operational protection experience in Somalia;
- b. Organizations will have the ability to be represented at meetings of the SAG in Mogadishu, preferably in person;
- c. Organizations will have the capacity to contribute to the main area of responsibilities outlined in section 3 above and to contribute consistently to the work of the SAG;
- d. Organizations are represented by senior members of their respective organizations. Each member organization will have one focal point to attend the meetings and one alternate to attend in the absence of the primary SAG focal point of the respective organizations;
- e. All SAG members are expected to commit to constructive cooperation for the wider purpose of the Protection Cluster.

4.3 Working Groups shall be represented by either the national Chair or Co-Chair only. Any sub-structure established by any working group will be represented by the national Chair of the working group only. Field Cluster Coordinators and Field WG Chairs are not included for practicality reasons, except when appointed as alternate. It is the responsibility of the PC and WG Chairs to consult their Field Chairs prior to a SAG meeting and represent their views and inputs.

4.4 Observers of the SAG shall include the ICRC, the Return Consortium, two donor representative, UNOCHA, the Shelter Cluster Coordinator and UNSOM Human Rights/OHCHR. They will be invited to attend the meetings of the SAG.

#### **5. Methods of work of the Strategic Advisory Group**

5.1 The SAG will ordinarily meet once a month and will be convened by the Coordinator and/or the Deputy Coordinator. Ad-hoc meetings may be called by the Coordinator and/or the Deputy Coordinator or at the request of a SAG member as appropriate;

5.2 The meetings of the SAG will be held in Mogadishu and prepared and chaired by the Coordinator and/or the Deputy Coordinator. Outside of meetings, necessary decision-making and endorsement will be undertaken electronically among SAG members;

5.3 An agenda will be circulated in advance of meetings. Any SAG member can request agenda items in advance;

5.4 Field cluster coordinators may raise action points with the SAG members, which will be addressed by the SAG within 5 days;

5.5 Cluster members may raise protection issues to the attention of the SAG and may for that reason attend specific SAG meetings. This requires informing the Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator stipulating the issue. Should agreement be reached that the SAG should address the issue raised, and upon consultation with the member, the SAG will determine the appropriate

course of action. As appropriate the requesting member will be tasked to take responsibility to address the issue and report back to the SAG.

- 5.6 Minutes will be taken and shared within five days after the meetings with all SAG members, field cluster coordinators and the wider Protection Cluster membership; but not the affiliates. Comments and suggestions on the points under discussion will be channeled through the Protection Cluster Secretariat to the SAG for further deliberation as appropriate.

## **6. Miscellaneous**

- 6.1 Membership will be selected bi-annually or when a vacancy occurs. The selection process will happen through consensus and/or a call for interest for non-governmental organization meeting the criteria in para. 4.2.
- 6.2 The Terms of Reference will be reviewed on an annual basis, or earlier at the request of a SAG or cluster member.