



## National Protection Cluster - Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) Terms of Reference Updated June 2021

### Composition

The composition of the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) reflects its main thematic components as well as the main types of member organizations. It comprises at least:

- The coordinator and the co-coordinator of the protection cluster
- The coordinators of Areas of Responsibility (AoRs)
- One representative of the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development
- One representative of the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs
- Representatives of UN agencies with lead responsibilities for the cluster and AoRs
- One representative of OCHA
- Representatives of 2 international NGOs
- Representatives of 2 national NGOs

Representatives of NGOs will be elected by member NGOs **every second year (after 2 years at the end of the previous SAG term)**. Representatives of NGOs will be elected by members of their respective groups on an annual basis. NGOs are encouraged to designate members of organizations which are committed to humanitarian principles, demonstrate an understanding of duties and responsibilities under the Transformative Agenda, actively participate in the cluster's collective work, and commitment from a relevant protection staff to engage consistently in the Strategic Advisory Group. NGO representatives will provide support to the protection cluster coordinator in communicating and disseminating information (including advocacy messages) among NGO partners and other stakeholders. Gender balance should be ensured. NGOs will be encouraged to elect representatives of NGOs reflecting the scope of the protection cluster and its AoRs.

The Strategic Advisory Group can decide to enlarge its membership, upon consultation with protection cluster members, or invite other institutions to particular meetings on an ad-hoc basis. Information management officers of the cluster and AoRs can also participate.

### Responsibilities

The Strategic Advisory Group is responsible for providing advice to the protection cluster coordination team on issues relating to the strategy, functioning and performance of the protection sector. The Strategic Advisory Group is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the cluster's relevant strategic frameworks, provide advice to the coordination team on gaps, needs and priorities and recommend measures for addressing them. The Strategic Advisory Group will promote a one-cluster approach to the work of the protection cluster, with due respect given to the specificities of the AoRs.



In particular, the Strategic Advisory Group will:

- Review SAG composition and way of working, including Terms of Reference; define strategic directions for the protection cluster, to be reflected in HRP and a cluster strategic framework; ensure complementarity with government policies and plans; and hold partners to account against this framework;
- Promote best practices for protection services and protection in the humanitarian response, and monitor capacity building plans for partners
- Advise on centrality of protection in the humanitarian response, including in the response of the Protection Cluster.
- Advise and agree on a workplan for the coordination of the cluster and monitor implementation;
- Monitor data collection and analysis conducted following agreed standard indicators, develop a methodology to identify potential gaps and liaise with cluster IM capacity to develop thematic maps, dashboard, infographics, etc.
- Establish 'Technical Working Groups' (TWGs) as required and hold such groups accountable to Terms of Reference agreed by the SAG; ensure proper representation within such groups; ensure timely output; ensure transparent reporting;
- Provide strategic oversight on integration of cross-cluster/sector planning and inclusion of cross-cutting issues, in particular protection mainstreaming;
- Advise on interaction and cooperation with other clusters, in particular with regard to protection mainstreaming (including referral), and protection monitoring
- Advise on membership for the protection cluster (admission criteria, observer status)
- Advise on processes, in particular with regard to funding allocations, elections, HRP submission review
- Support protection context analysis
- Advise on advocacy of the protection cluster, including the formulation of advocacy positions on behalf of the partners;
- Advise and support resource mobilization and communication with donors.
- Advise and support on assessment of technical and functional capacities of cluster partners, and recommend necessary capacity building initiatives;
- Ensure contextualization and effective dissemination of outputs from the Cluster, SAG, TWGs.
- Advise on the nexus with development institutions and other relevant stakeholders, with reference to key national development frameworks, including the national development plan and durable solutions.
- Contribute to the development of the Protection Cluster Strategy 2021/2022.
- Guiding Principles: SAG members will be guided by the principles of neutrality, impartiality, and independence. All documents will be circulated among the SAG members who are expected to consult their respective Cluster/AORs or Institutions. The documents generated and endorsed by the SAG will be circulated to the members and posted on the Somalia Protection Cluster website <https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/field-support/field-protection-clusters/somalia/>



- Change of membership: The decision of change the member (s) will be made when majority of the SAG members and the Coordinators agree. This decision should be solely based on the failure of the member to attend at least 3 consecutive meetings without valid reason and non-contribution to the roles of the SAG. In this case, in order to replace the member, the SAG can recommend a member from a list of partners who have expressed interest in the membership of SAG and then Protection Cluster members shall approve the new nomination before it is effective.

#### Meetings:

- The Strategic Advisory Group will meet every second month. The meeting will be chaired by the Protection Cluster Coordinator and Co-coordinator. Minutes of meetings will be circulate within one week following meetings.