



Separated, Unaccompanied and Missing Children KRI Working Group Terms of Reference

PURPOSE

The Separated, Unaccompanied and Missing Children IRAQ (KRI) Working Group is a coordination mechanism within the national CP sub-cluster. While prevention and response to 'Separated and unaccompanied children' is one of the CP issues that is addressed by the CPSC, this Working Group responds to the imperative need to address and respond in a coordinated manner to the time-consuming and critical concerns of unaccompanied minors and separated children (UAM/SC). It will strengthen internal and cross-border IDTR coordination for children affected in IRAQ and ensure that efforts are in line with the developed and endorsed SOPs on Separated and UAC in IRAQ and the principles and guidelines of the *Global Inter-agency Working Group on Unaccompanied and Separated Children and position paper on care and protection of children in emergencies*.

The working group addresses the humanitarian needs of both IDP and refugee children as the mandated lead agency for protection of refugees, UNHCR shall designate a focal point for the refugee component to ensure that refugee issues are adequately addressed.

OBJECTIVES

1. Ensure that all sectors and humanitarian response actors are aware of and address the specific needs of UAC and SC by providing recommendations to the CPSWG, other working groups and specific agencies that play a role in the safety, security and wellbeing of UASC.
2. Ensure practical coordination and collaboration of agencies carrying out FTR activities to build on each other's' capacities, avoid gaps and overlaps, and enhance synergy to achieve greater results.
3. Facilitate information sharing on cases of UAC and SC identified and registered
4. Develop common protocols on information sharing and management of Separated children and Unaccompanied children to ensure data security and confidentiality;
5. Strengthen the capacities of CP agencies to implement quality programmes to address the needs of UASC and to support alternative care arrangements according to established guidelines and good practice.

Means to achieve the proposed objectives:

- Meetings for information sharing, addressing emerging issues, addressing challenges and coordinating work.
- Sharing of documents including tools and operating procedures used, in order to learn and develop contextually-appropriate and standardized processes.
- Review of existing tools and mechanisms to ensure that UASC response is integrated.
- Sharing of technical resources for training and other capacity-building initiatives, encouraging joint activities, including assessments applied to FTR.
- Regular capacity building of FTR actors
- Review of IDTR practice in KRG (Quarterly)
- Establishing mechanisms for improved communication and collaboration at the inter-agency level.

MEMBERSHIP/OBSERVER

Technical staff from all organizations and agencies involved in one or more aspects of UAM/SC programming in IRAQ is invited to participate in the Working Group. Agencies are requested to designate a focal contact person to represent them at the WG meetings. Essential members/observers of the Working Group are coordinators/focal points of the country/field-level working groups/coordination structures together as well as technical experts and programme managers working with UAM/SC, as the national structures are the key bodies for implementation of programming.

LIAISON WITH FIELD SUB-CLUSTERS IN KRG

- The Working Group will also act as the liaison between the field-level, and regional Working Groups/coordination mechanisms and the Global Working Group on UAM/SC to facilitate information sharing, lessons learned and technical assistance as needed.

ORGANIZATION, DECISION-MAKING AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Save the Children is the chair and UNICEF is the co-chair of the Working Group at the national level. The Secretariat of the WG may move to different agencies as agreed by the taskforce. Decision-making will be by consensus during the WG meetings. The frequency of meeting will be held weekly but this may change with time depending on needs. When the WG is dissolved, the issue will be addressed through the National CP sub-cluster.