

**Displacement Management Cluster Meeting Minutes**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting Date: 16 February 2021**  
**Meeting Venue: Intercontinental Hotel, Dhaka.**

Chairperson: Mr. Ranjit Kumar Sen, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR)

**Participants:**

- Representatives of various Ministries and Divisions
- Representatives of various UN agencies, NGOs/INGOs, and Development Partners
- Participants List is attached as Annexure -A

**Agenda**

- Welcome and Introduction
- Finalization and endorsement of the Displacement Management Cluster (DMC) Terms of Reference (ToR)
- Discussion on National Strategy on the Management of Disaster and Climate Induced Internal Displacement
- Report on the findings of data collection on displacement in Khulna and Satkhira Districts
- Priority Activities before Cyclone season
- AOB

**1. Welcome Address and Introduction Remarks**

Mr. Abdullah Al Arif, Deputy Secretary of MoDMR provided the opening remarks and welcomed the participants on behalf of the Chair. He highlighted the role of the DMC in supporting displaced communities, noting that around 20 million people were displaced in Bangladesh by 2020 due to various natural disasters.

Mr. Anthony Sequeira of IOM facilitated the introduction session and shared the meeting agenda of 2<sup>nd</sup> DMC meeting.

**2. Update on progress of cluster Terms of Reference (ToR)**

- Mr. Arif opened the floor for any feedback on the ToR from the participants, before final submission to the Hon. Secretary for endorsement and finalization.
- Ms. Snigdha Chakraborty from CRS enquired about the timeframe for the validity of the ToR, and whether it is a permanent document, or it will be reviewed and updated regularly.  
*Mr. Arif, Deputy Secretary MoDMR replied that the ToR is a living document and that the cluster will review it periodically and make necessary amendments according to the displacement context in Bangladesh in consultation with all the members*

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- Mr. Rezaul Islam Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Division requested more clarity on the specific field administration stakeholders that the cluster will be working with at the local level.

*Ms. Momena Khatun Joint Security, MoDMR responded that it could be any relevant field administration stakeholders depending on the type of work being conducted, this includes Deputy Commissioners, Upazila Nirbahi Officers, UP Chairman Ward Members, Civil society organizations will also be included where appropriate.*

*Mr. Arif also noted that any activities to be conducted shall be timely informed by the concerned Deputy Commissioners, UNOs, Disaster Management Committees and other relevant stakeholders as outlined under the Standing Orders on Disaster, 2019.*

- Mr. Shakeb Nabi from ICCO Cooperation asked if the cluster will only focus on displacement from natural hazards, or displacement from other drivers such as conflict, development projects or industrial disasters.

*Mr. Anthony responded that the primary focus of the cluster is on displacement driven by natural hazards, such as cyclones, flooding, riverbank erosion and earthquakes. Where displacement is driven by other non-conflict drivers such as COVID, industrial accidents and development projects, the cluster will consult with the HCTT and partners to consider what support can be offered, depending on the specific context. The cluster shall not in any way be involved in conflict-induced displacement or cross-border displacement.*

### **3. Update on the release of the National Strategy on the Management of Disaster and Climate Induced Internal Displacement**

- Ms. Momena Khatun noted that the government has now finalized the National Strategy on the Management of Disaster and Climate Induced Internal Displacement. The strategy is available on the MoDMR website in Bangla, whilst the English version is underway.
- Ms. Momena Khatun elaborated on the strategy and noted that internal displacement is a cross-cutting issue which cannot be addressed by one single ministry but must include the support of all ministries, development partners, U.N agencies, NGOs and INGOs.
- The new strategy focuses on addressing displacement and supporting rehabilitation and durable solutions. Strong data and information on displacement are fundamental to implementing the strategy Stakeholders priority locations to support vulnerable communities are assential. So, she requested to keep the matter in mind during the action plan.

### **4. Presentation of findings on Khulna and Satkhira Event Tracking**

- Mr. Anthony and Mr. Bari from IOM presented the methodology and key findings from the event tracking exercises conducted in Khulna and Satkhira.



- Ms. Snigdha Chakraborty from CRS asked about the software used for data collection, whether multiple displacements were recorded and what coordination was done with local data centres and information centres.

*Mr. Bari responded that the data collection team used hard copies to collect the data and then input the information on our Software Kobo. Data on multiple displacement was not collected in Khulna and Satkhira, however, this can be collected in future exercises. There was collaboration with local authorities during the exercise, but not specifically with data/information centres, however, we are exploring how to collaborate with them for future exercises.*

- Mr. Shakeb Nabi from ICCO Coordination noted that there is a lack of information with regard to displaced communities and so was supported the exercises. He also noted that data collection could also include socio-economic issues, protection issues and information about livelihoods and physical safety.

*Mr. Anthony responded that data collection on socio-economic and protection issues can be done in future when we collect data to identify durable solutions for displaced communities. The completed exercises were designed to be rapidly deployed to give an overall snapshot of displacement in Khulna and Satkhira. In future, when we conduct data collection on durable solutions, we will consult with partners on the broader, multi-sectoral information to be collected.*

- Mr. Khokan Kanti Saha, Deputy Secretary Ministry of Information, asked for more information on the methodology and asked which people were targeted for interviews.

*Mr. Bari replied that there was a team of 45 enumerators that covered the unions and that interviewees were selected in coordination with the local authorities and local communities. Information from key informant interviews, focus group discussions and site visits was triangulated to give as accurate a report on displacement as possible.*

Mr. Dharitri Kumar Sarkar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change noted that the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) and the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) should be incorporated in the work of the DMC.

*Mr. Arif acknowledged the point and that these strategic documents can be reviewed and relevant points incorporated into the work of the DMC.*

## 5. Next Steps

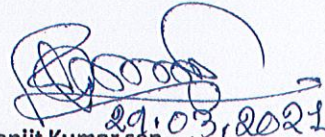
- Mr. Anthony noted that IOM will share a partner mapping document for all partners to highlight the work they are doing in different parts of the country with regard to preparedness activities, response activities and planning durable solutions. This will then be used to develop the cluster preparedness and response plan.
- Mr. Arif noted that all partners should prepare their activities in line with the Standing Orders on Disaster 2019 which gives clear roles to all to play stakeholders and should guide activities for the 2021 cyclone season.



## 6. Action Points

- IOM and MoDMR to finalise and endorse the DMC ToR following feedback from cluster members and circulate.
- IOM to circulate a 4Ws document for cluster partners to fill out identifying their core activities across the country.
- IOM to continue consultation with partners to support the assessment of data collection and information management capacity.
- Next cluster meeting to be scheduled for mid-April ahead of the cyclone season.

Finally the honorable chair Mr. Ranjit Kumar Sen *ndc* thanked the participants for their active contribution and valuable inputs to finalize the TOR of the internal displacement. The chair request DMC to take help from MoDMR in choosing places for selection of their action on the basis of priority. He also mentioned that for the successful completion of the task taken by IOM concerned Deputy Commissioners, UNOs , UP chairmen and Ward Members shall have to be informed before starting the work so that they can help to get things well done. Finally he thanked all the participants again.



29.03.2021

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