

WEST DARFUR
UNHAS USER GOUP COMMITTEE (UNHASUGC) MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, 02 NOVEMBER 2011 – OCHA CONFERENCE ROOM
1600 HOURS

Agenda Item # 1

► **Review of action items and previous minutes**

Action Item	Feedback	Responding Agency
Concern to check with their Field and Programme staff if three flights to Seleia a week is sufficient and Agency to provide feedback to UNHAS	Three flights are enough per week	Concern
OCHA to raise the issue of poor attendance by UN Agencies at the AHCT meeting	The issue was raised at the A/HCT but OCHA noted that UN attendance has not improved	OCHA
GoS Military claimed and took possession of the UNHAS landing site in Sirba. Humanitarians requested OCHA's support to table this issue at the next State Safety and Security Committee meeting to ensure that an alternative site is identified or UNHAS can use the old landing site	Safety and Security Committee meeting has not yet been convened and OCHA to take this up at the next meeting once dates are confirmed	OCHA
OCHA to confirm if INTERSOS is still working in Um Kher and if they need UNHAS services to the location and also if INTERSOS can be the focal point in the area.	INTEROS confirmed they still require UNHAS services and are willing to take up the focal point responsibilities	OCHA / INTERSOS
FAR to talk to the community not to remove the stones from the landing zone in Kongo Haraza	Done	FAR
Issue of use of alternative landing zone during the rainy season to be discussed bilaterally between UNHAS and Triangle	Done	UNHAS / Triangle
UNHAS to check with National security on procedures for transportation of valuables and provide feedback to the forum. Some Agencies highlighted that NS is still insisting on an approval letter with a HAC and NS stamp for transportation of valuables.	UNHAS stated that National security had not brought in any new rules regarding the transportation of. OCHA highlighted that they will lobby with HAC and NS for the to be set aside	UNHAS / OCHA
Issue of Forobaranga focal point duties, provision of force protection and communication with UNHAS to be taken up bilaterally with INTERSOS	Done	UNHAS / OCHA INTEROS

Agenda Item # 2

▶ **EFMA (electronic flight management application) - Introduction as a new tool**

UNHAS briefed the forum that EFMA was rolled out on 1 October 2011. UNHAS stated that the system is user friendly and users could now book themselves electronically using this system but would have to go through their respective office heads (or budget controller) before approval by the system. UNHAS stated that a new booking form has been put in. UNHAS also highlighted that users can get their tickets online immediately the system approves the booking. The system was explained in a memo addressed to all users in late September. However, most of the meeting participants stated that they did not receive the email being referred to. OCHA requested UNHAS to resend the mail.

Action point: UNHAS to resend mail on EFMA to all users in WD.

Action point: To ensure that all users receive UNHAS related mail; WFP LCU was requested to update the WD UNHAS user group mailing list.

There was a discussion on the system and users noted that it would be useful to have an extraordinary meeting where UNHAS would explain the system to a wider audience. UNHAS agreed and said it would work with WFP LCU to set a date of this meeting.

Action point: UNHAS and LCU to meet and fix a date for the extraordinary meeting.

Agenda Item # 3

▶ **Landing zone maintenance follow up**

UNHAS highlighted that focal points had not done the necessary maintenance of the landing zones (LZs) in their AOR. UNHAS requested users to give an update on the maintenance of the Landing Zones. World Relief stated that the landing zone they are responsible for is in good condition but INTERSOS said they could not give an update because the focal point was currently unavailable.

OCHA suggested that the pilots also assist and provide a list of the LZs that need maintenance as they fly to these locations regularly.

Agenda Item # 4

▶ **Shelter construction progress at Landing Zones**

UNHAS reported that there are at present only two landing zones with shelters in WD (Habla and Bindizi). UNHAS requested the focal points to construct these shelters to ensure that security personnel could have the necessary shade when performing their duties. INTERSOS and SCS stated that they are still committed to providing these shelters and would do so in due course.

Agenda Item # 5

▶ **Field Focal Points vs. UNHAS lines of communication as per Annex 14 amendments**

- UNHAS informed users that the information flow between the focal point in Beida and UNHAS has deteriorated significantly and as such, UNHAS could not get information on the situation in Beida prior to flying. As a result of this lack of information from the focal point, UNHAS has decided to suspend all flights to Beida with effect from Thursday 03 November 2011 until further notice.
- INTERSOS requested UNHAS to rearrange the flight days for Um Kher so that staff from INTERSOS would be able to spend more time in the field. INTERSOS proposed two flights per week but on days which are two or so days apart for example on a Tuesday and Thursday or Monday and Wednesday.

Action point: UNHAS promised to review the schedule and get back to the User group.

AOB

- World Relief (WR) requested reinstatement of the UNHAS flights to UM Tagook. WR informed the forum that the roads to this and other locations in their Area of operation have become insecure and recently, one of their trucks was carjacked in this area. UNHAS responded that the suspension of flights to Um Tagook was due to the location being classed as insecure and unsafe by the WD Security committee. UNHAS however requested OCHA to refer this to the State Safety and Security Committee to clear all aspects of security before a final decision can be made.

Action point: OCHA to table the issue of Um Tagook in the next State Safety and Security Committee meeting.

Next meeting is on the 07th of December at 1600 hours – OCHA conference room

Contact information of attendees:

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