Guidance Note for Animal Sacrifice During Eid-ul-Adha in Camps

1. There is no evidence that livestock or poultry can catch or transmit the Coronavirus (COVID-19). However, everyone should follow safe slaughter, processing, storage, and food preparation practices to ensure food safety and quality, animal welfare, and the community’s safety. Following basic principles of food hygiene will allow for a safe and healthy holiday celebration.

2. If you visit “Hat”/places where animals are sold, you must wear a mask that covers both your nose, mouth and chin, wash your hands with soap and water/sanitizer at the entry and exit points, and always maintain physical distance from other people (3 feet/1 Meter). Do not visit mass gatherings if you have fever, cough, cold or breathing difficulties. Children, older persons, and sick people should not visit such places.

3. The animal to be consumed should be healthy. The person handling animals should provide the animal with adequate drinking water. Before purchasing or accepting an animal, ensure that it has been eating and defecating normally. Ensure that the animal is alert and can walk with normal gait. Do not slaughter pregnant and lactating animals.

4. Use the animal sacrifice area allocated by the CiC and ensure the sacrifice will be performed in a safe distance from the community. It is important to comply with the preventive measures Coronavirus (COVID-19) by maintaining physical distance, wearing a mask, avoid touching your face, eyes/mouth, hand washing with soap and water, and avoid contact with the animal and its waste products. If you have fever, cough, cold or breathing difficulties do not visit the animal sacrifice area.

5. Dig a hole or gutter (4-5 feet/1.5 meter/4.5 hand deep) before animal sacrifice. The hole should be at least 10 meter/33 feet/30 hands away from any water sources. Avoid low lying, flood prone areas. Make sure the sacrifice area has adequate water for cleaning. Do not use water from rivers or ponds to clean animals, surfaces, and sharp tools used for slaughtering. Dispose the animal remains in the hole, cover with soil and add an unbroken layer of hydrated lime before filling is completed. Lime should not be placed directly on animal parts, because in wet conditions it can delay or prevent decomposition.

6. Lay down clean plastic sheet (washed with soap/detergent and water) in a clean area. If the animal’s legs are tied it may be difficult to know where it will fall. However, all blood should be collected (in a bucket or plastic sheet). If blood spreads to other areas, make sure it is collected (with soil for burial and other waste).

7. Place all blood, skin, excreta, offal, intestines and other organs from animals into the gutter/hole as explained above. Place all dirty water and remaining waste into the gutter/hole after cleaning the animal’s stomach.

8. Ensure the cleaning team has access to handwashing stations (water and soap) and wears protective gear (i.e. boots, and apron) along with the preventive measures to Coronavirus (COVID-19) such as the use of masks and physical distancing with other people engaged in the process. The gear should be disposed in solid waste bins or, in absence of bins, buried with the animal waste. If the gear is stained with animal fluids, it should be buried.

9. Clean the sacrificial area thoroughly with soap/detergent and water after the sacrifice. All waste products should be disposed in the hole as explained above.
10. Inform Site Management and the CIC where the animal remains have been buried.

11. Use designated distribution points for sharing meat and follow Corona Virus prevention measures during distributions (physical distancing (3 feet/1 Meter/2 hands), wearing mask & handwashing, and do not go to distribution point if you have fever, cough, cold or breathing problems).

**Special Notes for Agencies – Note this section is not meant to be communicated to communities.**

Every agency that has planned to provide a meal to the community should:

- Ensure the minimum hygiene standards outlined above, including providing cleaning materials, like house detergent or a bleach solution for cleaning before and after the sacrifice, butchering, and distribution.
- Provide lime (requests can be made to WASH partners) and protective clothing, including at minimum overalls or apron and boots.
- Ensure that children do not have access to the sacrifice area and that children are not allowed near the live animals prior to slaughter.
- Provide adequate water, soap, and cleaning materials - especially to vulnerable groups and women – to facilitate cleaning before and after the sacrifice.
- Ensure all those involved in the sacrifice process are well-trained and have the necessary supplies including sharp knives and rope to tie the animal.