

INTRODUCTION/OBJECTIVE

- Yesterday (10 January 2023), OCHA organised an HCT/Donor/government mission to Pibor to get firsthand understanding of the humanitarian situation, main needs and review response progress. The mission was jointly led by the OIC Humanitarian Coordinator (Peter van Der Auweraert, Head of IOM) and RRC Chair (Honorable Dr. Manase Lomole). The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (Honorable Dr. Kot B Nyuar) also participated alongside other directors.

PARTICIPANTS

HCT Members/Representatives

1. Peter van Der Auweraert, Head of IOM / HC a.i.
2. Joseph Inganji, Head of Office, OCHA
3. Takesure Mugari, Head of Strategic Coordination, OCHA
4. Harald Mannhardt, Acting Deputy Country Director (Operations), WFP
5. Jesper Moller, Deputy Representative, UNICEF
6. Emma Tuck, Emergency Specialist/Acting Chief of Field Operations, UNICEF
7. Alexis Garnett, Cluster Advisor/Protection Cluster, UNHCR
8. Dr. Bategereza Aggrey Kaijuka, Emergency Response and Preparedness, WHO
9. Dr Mukeshkumar Prajapati, Health Cluster Coordinator, WHO
10. Moi Santino Adari, NNGO SC Chair/NGO Forum
11. Elizabeth Awate Elia, UN Women

Donors

12. Jonas Huus Ervik, Second Secretary for Political Affairs/ Acting Humanitarian Adviser, Norwegian Embassy
13. Rosemarie Hille, First Secretary, Germany Embassy

RRC Headquarters

14. Honorable Dr. Manase Lomole, RRC National Chair
15. Dambek Kuol, RRC National Official

Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management

16. Honorable Dr. Kot B Nyuar, Undersecretary of Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs
17. Betty Kitta Scopas, Director of Early Warning System

HIGHLIGHTS/OBSERVATIONS

- The mission participants visited the newly arrived 17,000 IDPs who are mainly sheltered in three locations including Ngarwale, Pibor primary school and Langachot primary school in Pibor town.
- The IDPs mentioned that their main humanitarian needs include food, emergency shelter, non-food items, WASH, health services, nutrition support, and protection.
- The visiting mission toured ongoing response activities notably distributions of food, NFI and emergency shelter.
- A visit to Pibor PHHC was also undertaken including a tour of nutrition, health, and protection services to vulnerable IDPs in Pibor town.
- The visiting mission commended the ongoing response highlighting the well organised distributions (NFIs, emergency shelter and food).
- Humanitarians were appreciated for great coordination and rapid response that has been implemented so far. The response observed was well synchronized and well-coordinated.
- Humanitarian partners in Pibor were urged to separate humanitarian from development issues notably upgrading PHHC and longer-term WASH interventions.

ACTION POINTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

- Pibor humanitarian partners to explore and prepare for assistance required as IDPs return to their homes. This will be integrated in the GPAA displacement response operational response plan.
- Humanitarians to organise scoping missions to Verteth and Gumuruk to get a sense of what assistance would be required to support IDPs. The reason for proposed mission is to see if there are IDPs so that assistance can be provided. The goal is to decongest Pibor and support dignified return of IDPs. The first assessment mission will be limited in terms of participation to ensure avoiding the creation of expectations that cannot be met.
- Bor – Pibor road access is a top priority, there is need for the security of the road to be guaranteed. The opening of the Bor – Pibor road will not only facilitate the delivery of the dire humanitarian assistance but help lower food prices in Pibor and contribute to peace/stability in the region. If access does not improve during the dry season, the situation can worsen and could have far reaching implications. Acting HC to follow-up with UNMISS and Government to see how this can be achieved.
- As the humanitarian needs identified are wide and huge, partners will need to prioritise their response given the resourcing constraints.
- Conflict sensitivity to be mainstreamed during the humanitarian response. The issue of inclusion also need to be prioritised in the ongoing responses especially people living with disability. At the request of the acting HC, the Access Team is working on a short document that sets out the parameters in this regard. There is also need to take into consideration gender, disaggregation of data. It was also recommended that people with special needs will also need assistance especially women hygiene (sanitary pads).
- Government response required especially to ensure unhindered humanitarian access. Government to prioritise peace and stabilization efforts.
- Follow up on the management of dead bodies in Gumuruk.
- Response plan to be urgently prepared. The plan should consider response in the immediate, medium- and long-term duration. OCHA to lead partners to develop this.

CONCLUSION

- A full report will be written will need to be put in place.

PREPARED BY OCHA