

LOCATION: WFP Office, Cox's Bazar

DATE: 15 January 2019

CHAIR: Logistics Sector, UNFPA, WHO

PARTICIPANTS: BDRCS, HOPE, Malaysian Field Hospital, MedAir, MSF, PUI, Save the Children, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO.

- ACTION POINTS:**
- Logistics Sector to expand the warehouse capacity assessment to temperature-controlled storage.
 - WHO to follow up with UN agencies on Quamed assessments carried in the country.
 - Partners with quality assessment for Pharmaceutical products completed to share results with the Logistics Sector.
 - Partners to complete their current stock and pipeline list in essential medicines.
 - UNFPA to prepare a kit presentation for next month meeting.
 - Save the Children to share contacts of a local agency dealing with waste disposal.
 - Logistics Sector/WHO to share IEHK 2015 and 2017 for inputs on adjustments for Cox's Bazar context.

- AGENDA:**
1. Temperature controlled storage overview
 2. Quality Testing (Mini Lab pilot project) and recommendations (WHO)
 3. Review of WHO Standard Emergency Health Kit (WHO)
 4. Medical stock forecast and availability
 5. AOB

1. Temperature-Controlled Storage

- A Site by site assessment is being carried out by WHO for specific agencies to assess storage infrastructure capacity to control temperature as necessary.
- Partners reported issues with temperature control storage due to the interrupted supply of electricity, and limited storage options which are inadequate in the event of high temperatures and humidity.
- A survey will be sent out to all organizations to assess the aggregate capacity if temperature-controlled storage in Cox's Bazar.
- A WHO project on Healthcare Waste Management will have a situational analysis done to update the long-term plan for management. Short term solutions will currently provide assistance from WHO with safe disposal procedures and methods. Logistics Sector has requested monthly updates on this analysis.

2. Drugs disposal

Disposal of Drugs

- Save the Children reported using a local NGO (Prism) for the safe disposal of drugs. This information will be shared among the partner organizations.
- WHO presented the procedures and actions to follow before starting any disposal of pharmaceutical supplies.

3. Quality assessments & Kit validation

Drug Inspections and Quality Assessments

- PUI reported that there is an independent non-profit association, Quamed, conducting inspections for several organizations based on organizational requests.
- Several pharmaceutical suppliers are still not providing the necessary quality/origin certification for locally procured supplies. Partners indicated this as a challenge in their procurement process.

Mini-Lab

- The Mini-Lab test kit will soon be piloted for 6 months in Cox’s Bazar in response to the proliferation of fake medicines and to conduct simple drug quality verification on essential medication. A rollout timeline is to be defined.

Health Kits

- The current stock available of Interagency Emergency Health Kit (IEHK) is with 2015 version. The IEHK 2017 will be introduced by WHO and it already carries adjustments on its bill of material. Detailed changes can be found on the link: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/kits/iehk/en/>.
- UNFPA reminded meeting participants regarding the availability of their health kits which primarily focus on reproductive health. A presentation will be given at the next meeting to present the contents of the kits available.
- Partners indicated particular needs of adjustments on the Health Kit content. The kits content will be shared for feedback.
- A major concern shared by all partners was the lack of medicines to treat noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in the current kits. IOM is currently looking to sources these locally.
- There is a lack of data on the consumption rate of medicines. Quantification of the drugs consumed, and the morbidity rates are required. This will help to estimate the real needs and gaps in the field. The next meeting will focus on how to calculate the consumption rate, with suggestions for organizing a training or workshop.
- Several issues reported by the organizations included but were not limited to; scarcity of iodine supplements, storage challenges for temperature/environmentally sensitive medication and the lack of water creates storage issues as water is used as a cooling agent to store medicines. It was suggested that the IEHK packing list is shared with the WHO Health Sector and the meeting forum to help feed the findings.

4. AOB

- Partners indicated the availability of surplus medicines and medical supplies in their inventories and were strongly encouraged to share medicines amongst each other with the appropriate quality control. Partners were suggested to circulate their surplus with Logistics Sector who will circulate it to the broad audience. WHO indicated that surplus supplies donated by WHO should be returned back to WHO.
- An issue was raised regarding the limited number of days that prescription drugs can be issued for (3 days) as it is causing challenges for patients. A request was made to the Health Sector to investigate the matter with the government guidelines.

The next meeting will be held in February 2019 in the WFP Meeting Room in Cox’s Bazar. Date and time to be defined.

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