# SAG Meeting Notes

**Date and time:** Thursday, 26 March, 2015. 13h00-14h00 Geneva time

**Participants**: ACTED, IFRC, IOM, UNHCR, NRC, UNHABITAT, Habitat for Humanity, Interaction, and CARE.

**Excused:** Australian Red Cross, World Vision International.

## Welcome - Introductions - Revision of the agenda

* No comments on the agenda. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
* The deadline to provide inputs on the ECHO Shelter Policy was extended. A roundtable is planned for April 20, 2015 in Brussels[[1]](#footnote-1) – partners interested in providing inputs should do so before that date.

## Working Group work plans:

* The following workplans were received before the SAG meeting:

 

* A summary of the WG’s workplans was presented. Given the number of outputs (too many), the SAG should revise only a few of them. The Support Team should prepare a list of outputs that need to be reviewed and then present it to the SAG.
* Regarding the *Technical and Innovation Working Group* *(TIWG):*
  + It is necessary to establish clearly which agencies are working on issues where Shelter and Health overlap.
  + On research, theTIWG will discuss the role that the SC can play in terms of support to agencies.
  + The TIWG will discuss in next meetings the issue of specification of NFIs and distribution of NFIS. There should be an agreed-upon system regarding distribution of NFIs. Since NFIs represent a gap that needs to be addressed, this is a topic that could be addressed in upcoming meetings by the SAG (not necessarily the WG). It is necessary to build on existing good practice – e.g. Democratic Republic of Congo. IFRC has been working on guidance of specification of procurement – this can be shared with partners and then provide information to the WG.
* Regarding the Accountability WG: on accountability to affected populations, more needs to be done in terms of defining what Shelter actors could do as a Cluster – e.g. raising awareness of Shelter partners on how to improve in this regard.
* The Regulatory Barriers WG will undertake more practice runs of the training that has been developed and act as a community of practice for this year. Depending on the results of the training and issues identified at the Annual GSC Meeting, the WG will revisit at the end of the year the need to continue as a WG or not.

**Action:**

* Support Team to remind the Outreach and Capacity WG and Shelter in Recovery WG to submit their wok plans. Support Team to present a list of items from the WGs workplans that the SAG should approve before they are considered final.

## Request from the Environment Community of Practice (CoP):

* An email has been received from the Environment CoP proposing a number of actions for the cluster to take in regards to Environment. The email is available here:



* The Shelter Cluster needs to have a more structured way to address requests such as this one. The SAG agreed to develop a way to continue the discussion in a more organized fashion, using a tool such as *Google Docs.*

**Action:**

Support Team will prepare an initial draft of what the position of the GSC should be in a Google doc. The document will then be shared with partners to receive their input/comments.

1. *GSC Website*

* Given the need to have additional voices participating on the decisions made regarding the GSC website, the SAG agreed to create a wider self-appointed inter-agency group to decide on key aspects of the website (e.g. creation of new tabs and pages, contents, etc.). This new approach (similar to that of the *Shelter Projects*) will differ from current practice (managed by the Coordination team), and will allow for new actors/roles to provide their input and decide on key elements of the website, improving its quality and utility to its intended users (mainly field-based partners).

**Action:**

Support Team to send a global update inviting all Shelter Cluster partners to participate in this group. All partners interested will have the opportunity to participate.

1. *Donor “roadshow”:*

* Given that some of the information needed is already available, SAG members agreed that a document with initial inputs could be drafted (using a tool such as *Google Docs*) and then shared with partners to comment on and add their inputs in a structured manner.

**Action:**

The small group of SAG agencies that developed the position paper on cluster resourcing will produce an initial draft of key talking points for the donor roadshow, which will then be shared with partners for further development.

1. *Innovation:*

* In the frame of the Global Cluster Coordinators Group and as part of the World Humanitarian Summit Innovation track, it was agreed that the GSC would contribute ideas on possible areas where innovation would be useful for Shelter. SAG members should provide three to five initial thoughts (“wish list”) on what they consider should be included as part of the Cluster’s priorities on innovation. This would not entail a particular commitment by Cluster partners. It is, rather, a non-binding exercise and an opportunity to express ideas worth considering.
* The GSC needs to have a better approach to innovation, and this is an opportunity to discuss what areas of shelter and settlements could benefit from innovation.

**Action:**

Partners are requested to send their inputs to Graham and Shaun by COB on Monday, 30 March. The Coordinators will compile and send the GSC contribution.

1. Auditorium (0/MED3) Rue Joseph II 79, 1049 Brussels. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)