

Meeting with UNHCR, NEMA, SEMA and IOM

Date: 21/03/2020 Time: 09:00am – 12:00noon

Venue: UNHCR Guest House, Maiduguri

Attendees:

1. Mrs. Hajiya Yabawa Kolo, Executive Chairperson, Borno State Management Agency (SEMA)
2. Alex Kishara, Head of Sub Office, Maiduguri, UNHCR
3. Dave Bercasio, Head of IOM, Maiduguri
4. Irene Mugambwa, Shelter/NFI/CCCM OiC Coordinator
5. Peres Abeka, CCCM Officer
6. Mika Mugogo, CCCM Officer
7. Idris Abubakar Garba, Senior CCCM/Protection Assistant UNHCR
8. Charis Galaraga, CCCM Officer
9. Ali Abdullahi Isa, SEMA, Director Planning
10. Said Alkali, NEMA PR & RO
11. Abdullahi Suleiman, Ag Director, NEMA

Agenda

To discuss necessary multi-sectoral needs and considerations expected of CCCM in scaling-up readiness and response for the COVID-19 outbreak in collaboration with State government/agencies.

Meeting begun with a welcome note and agenda setting by the UNHCR Head of Sub Office, Maiduguri who gave the floor to the SEMA Chairperson, and the Head of Office for IOM. The three officials reiterated that the expected outcome of the meeting is draft a **Joint CCCM COVID-19 Guideline** to be shared with other stakeholders.

1. Briefing from the Chairperson SEMA

The SEMA Chairperson took the meeting through steps that the State government has taken, with leadership of His Excellency, the Governor of Borno State Prof. Bagana Umara Zulummani in a High-Powered Executive Committee meeting on the Preparedness and Mitigation of COVID-19 in Borno State that was held on Friday 20th March in Maiduguri. In attendance were key government commissioners heading various departments, and representatives from the humanitarian community (UN, Civil Society and NGOs).

Key points at the High-Powered meeting included, but not limited to;

- Need for preparedness, prevention and mitigation of COVID-19, and a called for concerted efforts, partnership and collaboration from all stakeholders.
- Investment on mass information and awareness creation targeting camp leadership structures, committees, health workers/volunteers at community levels. On this point, the Chairperson SEMA emphasized on the important role of CCCM leadership at the camp, and collaboration with the state agencies, WHO, WASH and other service providers.
- Capacity building – training and orientation by Ministry of Health (MoH) on how to handle the situation professionally. The government is also looking at measures to control large gatherings such as markets and other potential risk factors.
- SEMA already adopted household food distribution method and will continue with the same.

- Management of cross border movement in camps such as Dikwa, Monguna and Banki, logistics and expansion of camp were to be further explored at another High-level committee meeting which was later held at SEMA at 02:00pm.

2. Briefing from Shelter/NFI/CCCM Sector:

The Shelter/NFI/CCCM sector held a consultative meeting on 18th March at OCHA and outlined below key issues related to the topic of discussion;

- The team agreed to draft a CCCM COVID-19 guideline - a draft has been put together that focuses on staff/volunteers, IDPs, Host community, refugee-returnees.
- CCCM to develop Camp specific COVID-19 outbreak readiness and response plan across all the camps.
- Map out the existing community structures to support with message dissemination.
- Capacity building for staff and community Volunteers, community leadership structures from all sectors who are based in camp.
- Strengthen referral mechanism.
- Map the most vulnerable POCs in highly congested camps that are likely to be at immediate risk.
- Integration of protection in response and prevention – isolation rooms to be gender sensitive, and elderly and most vulnerable to be identified.
- Establish mechanism on psycho-social support - carefully deal with stigma and sense of isolation, labelling and discrimination which are likely to be experienced.
- Development of business continuity plan and prioritize on essential and none essential activities and how to operationalize the plan.
- CCCM to establish a COVID-19 Rapid Response technical team to coordinate implementation of Shelter/NFI/CCCM guidelines.
- Need to integrate other activities such as camp decongestion, expansion and planning in the planning – scale up advocacy with the government at different levels.
- Modalities of service and assistance provision on site (food and other distributions, registration/ enrolment for assistance, education, etc.) need to be planned to prevent the large gatherings and movement of people; alternative means to provide for such need to be considered.
- Negotiation with the government for additional space for potential isolation needs to be carried out as part of preparedness, ahead of cases being identified.
- Personnel working in camps/camp-like structures to be trained and oriented.
- Work together with WHO, UNHCR, IOM and the government to ensure individual health screening at the border for new arrivals.
- The implementation of all Infection, prevention and control (IPC) measures will require optimal coordination, planning and supervision with the WASH and Shelter sectors and their partners.

3. Proposed Host Community preparedness plan

- There exists community structures within the host communities – they should be included in the COVID-19 CCCM training and sensitization plans.
- Host communities to be divided into clusters/zones and the leadership structures be identified. Begin with Maiduguri as a pilot and progressively expand to deep field locations progressively.
- Coordination, information receiving, sharing and dissemination centers to be established at every zone – zoning to be based on the IOM DTM community center data on population.

- Joint Host community assessment to be conducted by NEMA, SEMA, UNHCR, IOM, WHO, and INGOs working in the host community. Part of the objective will be map out health facilities in every zone.
- Referral mechanism to be upscaled and it should be linked to the health sector.
- Need to involve markets and Business centers management departments. They should form part of the Rapid Response team.
- Work with WASH, WHO and related government departments to establish public hygiene promotion points.
- Relevant government agencies and service providers to support with mapping of vulnerable and most at risk groups in every zone.
- Psychosocial support to be integrated in the plans – engage with humanitarian community – including Nigeria Red Cross, MoE, MoH, MoWA, National Orientation Agency, State Ministry of Psychiatry to be involved in providing psychosocial support.
- State media, including all the media houses to be engaged in advocacy and message dissemination.
- Government to advocate for resources to implement the Joint CCCM COVID-19 Rapid Response plans.

4. Next steps:

1. The CCCM COVID-19 Rapid Response Coordination Committee to convene regularly. The next meeting to convene on Thursday 26th at SEMA office. All meetings to be Chaired by NEMA, SEMA with support of UNHCR & IOM.
2. Merge the three drafts from UNHCR, IOM and SEMA/NEMA and come up with one **Joint Borno State COVID-19 CCCM Preparedness Plan** which will be replicated in other two States of Yobe and Adamawa.

Draft by UNHCR, CCCM Maiduguri Sub Office