

## Iraq

### Local ETC Working Group meeting #1

Date: 28/04/16 TIME: 11:00 UTC

## Attendance

Chair	Rami Shakra	Iraq
Save the Children	Tareq Younis	Jordan
UNAMI	Jabar Esmael	Iraq
WFP	Fawaz Nari	Jordan
	Habib Shashati	Iraq
	Michael Ngisiro	Iraq
World Vision	Mohammed Qoja	Erbil

Teleconference / Meeting started at 12:15 UTC

## Agenda

1. ETC services update
2. Anbar and Mosul planning
3. UNAMI infrastructure upgrade
4. Update from partners
5. AOB

## Minutes

### 1. ETC services update

- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) continues to provide data and security telecommunications services in Sulaymaniyah, Erbil and Dohuk.
  - The cluster provides security telecommunications services in Erbil as well as Dohuk and Sulaymaniyah in collaboration with UNAMI.
  - There are ETC data solutions deployed in both Arbat camp, Sulaymaniyah and Domiz camp, Dohuk.

## 2. Anbar and Mosul planning

- There are new humanitarian response activities revolving around Ramadi. As a number of organisations are working there, there might be a need to establish a common operating area meaning ETC will need to provide services. The ETC is working with OCHA to see if this will take place.
  - The Logistics Cluster is interested in opening a Forward Logistics Base (FLB) in Ramadi. If it does, the ETC will definitely need to be involved to provide Internet connectivity and security telecommunications services
- 2) Mosul offensive we are planning for:
  - The ETC has also completed a contingency plan for a Mosul offensive and a second contingency plan in the event of a breach of Mosul Dam. The ETC will pre-stock equipment for data connectivity and security telecoms services in two new locations. Potential locations include Anbar, Mosul or any new locations where there is a need by the humanitarian community.

## 3. UNAMI infrastructure upgrade

- A number of additional repeaters have been added to the network.
- The main issue is the necessary upgrade of code plugs in line with UNAMI's upgraded infrastructure so that the whole system is standardised. Habib Shashati, an ETC security telecoms specialist, will work closely with UNAMI to determine the best way forward.
  - A technical discussion took place on how to update information on call signs and IDs. Currently they can only be updated on the tracking system in Baghdad. Again, UNAMI and Habib will discuss the best way forward with UN and NGO agencies to make sure everyone is upgraded. This solution will then be shared with the ETC group and ad hoc meeting will be arranged to determine how to upgrade the new code plugs.
  - Fawaz shared a document that details the unified standard for UN in Iraq, including IDs and call signs.
- One approximately 100-kilometre link from Barata is not very stable. The ETC will see if it can provide support, either equipment or staff, to help resolve the issue.
  - A specialist from WFP's Fast IT & Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team (FITTEST) is due to arrive in two or three weeks who may be able to realign the link.
- The ETC is looking to provide coverage to Mosul in the event there is a breach of Mosul Dam. It is aiming to deploy a repeater on Zawa mountain in case there is a breach of Mosul Dam.

## 4. Update from partners

- No updates were shared.

## 5. AOB



- The ETC will advertise that if training is required, participants should contact the ETC who can try to arrange it.
  - Before any training is arranged, the issue with the code plugs must be resolved.

Teleconference / Meeting ended at 12:57 UTC

**The next Local ETC Working Group meeting will be held on: TBC.**

## Acronyms

ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
DMR	Digital Mobile Radio
FITTEST	Fast IT & Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team
FLB	Forward Logistics Base
HF	High Frequency
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IT	Information Technology
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UHF	Ultra High Frequency
UN	United Nations
UNAMI	UN Assistance Mission for Iraq
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNFPA	UN Population Fund
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
VHF	Very High Frequency
WFP	World Food Programme

All information related to ETC Iraq operations can be found on the website: [www.ETCluster.org](http://www.ETCluster.org)

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: [Iraq.ETC@wfp.org](mailto:Iraq.ETC@wfp.org)

**Minutes:** Suzanne Fenton, WFP