

Iraq, Libya, Syria, Yemen

Global ETC Teleconference

Date: 18/12/18 TIME: 14:00 UTC

Attendance

Chair	Caroline Teyssier	(Global ETC), UAE
CRS	Dan Carr	USA
DFS	Hadi Ahankoob	USA
Ericsson Response	Lars Ruediger	Germany
International Medical Corps	Daniel Wu	Bangladesh
UNHCR	Alexander Thomas	Denmark
UNICEF	Antonio Gomes	USA
	Jalal Tamimi	Jordan
WFP	Habib Shashati	UAE
	Ozdzan Hadziemin	UAE
	Pastor Lovo	Tunisia
	Shahan Ara Quadir	Egypt
	Phyza Jameel	Italy
World Vision	Antoine Karam	Lebanon

Teleconference started at 14:04 UTC

Agenda

- 1. Iraq update**
- 2. Libya update**
- 3. Syria and surrounding countries update**
- 4. Yemen update**
- 5. AOB**

Minutes

1. IRAQ

Security situation

- Nothing significant to report.



ETC Response

- The Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2019 for Iraq has been finalized and distributed to relevant parties.
- The ETC is planning to demobilize Internet connectivity services in all camps by 31 December 2018 as local ISPs are now up and running and therefore ETC services are no longer required.

2. Libya

Security situation

NSTR

ETS Response

- The ETS was activated in Libya in October to provide emergency telecommunications services to humanitarians in hubs in Tripoli which is operational and in Benghazi and Sebha which are not yet operational.
- The ETS received US\$550,000 from CERF funds establish services in the new hub in Benghazi.
- In the HRP Libya 2019, ETS activities include the provision of Internet connectivity services, ICT helpdesk, facilitate emergency communications systems that are MOSS-compliant. The ETS budget for 2019 is US\$2.4 million.
- The ETS team are exploring options to implement Services for Communities (S4C) projects. The ETC S4C Adviser conducted a mission to Tunis to explore ways to implement a complaint feedback mechanism, such as a call centre. The concept note has been shared with OCHA.
- Access constraints are a challenge in some places as is the visa process for international staff and importing telecommunications equipment into the country. Therefore, the ETS is procuring equipment through local providers.

3. SYRIA AND SURROUNDING COUNTRIES

Security situation

- The security situation in Idlib, Aleppo and Deir Ez-Zour is still volatile. Permission to conduct ETC assessments in those areas was denied.

ETC Response

- Following the ban on the use of Motorola radios in Syria, the ETC will use Ikon radios using the UNHCR Long-term Agreement (LTA).
- In 2019, the UN plans to establish a presence in four additional locations in Syria: Deir Ezzour, Deraa, Hama and Raqqa. The ETC will conduct assessments ahead of providing Internet connectivity in 2019.
- Existing ETC services in 5x locations will continue next year.



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- One capacity building exercise is planned in 2019 and will be delivered to government partners.

*Whole of Syria
Business as usual*

Turkey

- Following the assessment to the UN hub in Gazientep, ETC services are not required as UN agencies at the hub are using their own capacity. In 2019, the ETC might scale down services in this hub but will continue to provide support to cross-border operations to Syria from Qamishli and Reyhanli.

4. YEMEN

Security situation

- In a significant step, a ceasefire was agreed for Al Hudaydah on 13 December which will come into effect on 18 December.
- Under the terms of the ceasefire, management of Al Hudaydah port will be handed over to the UN.

ETC Response

- The ETC is preparing to support the planned scale up and has prepared a budget covering the procurement of additional equipment, deployment of staff and provision of all services to up to 100x humanitarians that are expected to enter Al Hudaydah initially.

AOB

Teleconference / Meeting ended at 14:21 UTC

Next Global ETC Joint Teleconference will be held on Wednesday 16 January 2019 at 13:00 UTC.

Acronyms

ACF	Action Contre la Faim / Action Against Hunger
ACLAB	Alliance for Cooperation and Legal Aid Bangladesh
BTRC	Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission
CiC	Camp in Charge
COMCEN	Communications Centre
CRC	Community Resource Centre
DC	Deputy Commissioner
DMR	Digital Mobile Radio
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
FITTEST	WFP's Fast IT, Telecommunications and Coordination Support Services Team
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
HF	High Frequency



ICCG	Inter-Cluster Coordination Group
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced People
IHP	International Humanitarian Partnership
IM	Information Management
IMO	Information Management Officer
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISCG	Inter-Sector Coordination Group
ISP	Internet Service Provider
IT	Information Technology
JRP	Joint Response Plan
LoA	Letter of Agreement
MoDMR	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
NGO	Non-Government Organisations
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
RETS	Refugee Emergency Telecommunications Sector
SMT	Security Management Team
S4C	Services for Communities
TESS	Telecommunications Security Standards
UN	United Nations
UNCAF	UN Common Accommodation Facility
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNFPA	UN Population Fund
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
VHF	Very High Frequency
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WVI	World Vision International

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the website: www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact:
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