

Libya, Mozambique, Syria, Yemen

Global ETC Teleconference

Date: 23/10/19

TIME: 12:00 UTC

Attendance

Chair	Prakash Muniandy	(Global ETC), UAE
Action Contre La Faim	Mariam Iqbal	Yemen
CRS	Dan Carr	USA
UNHCR	Muhanned Al Huniti	Syria
UNICEF	Mazen Shwikany	Syria
UNRWA	Moayed Ayoub	Syria
WFP	Shahan Araquadir	Tunis
	Phyza Jameel	Italy
	Chris Alagna	Libya
	Pastor Lovo	Mozambique
	Solomon Welle	Yemen

Teleconference started at 12:03 UTC

Agenda

- 1. Libya**
- 2. Mozambique update**
- 3. Syria update**
- 4. Yemen update**
- 5. AOB**

Minutes

1. LIBYA

ETS response

- The lack of radio licences continues to be a challenge for the ETS team and other humanitarians in Libya. The ETS is working with the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) who uses Tetra as the primary radio network. UNSMIL continues to discuss extending its licence to agencies within Libya with the government.
- The ETS is cooperating with the Ministry of Telecommunications (MoT) to obtain equipment licences and has collected the serial numbers of all devices including those to be imported.
- The request for partners for the common feedback mechanism (CFM) is complete and a partner will now be selected.

2. MOZAMBIQUE

Security situation

- Elections took place on 15 October with the electoral process still ongoing.

ETC response

- The ETC Services for Communities (S4C) project to rehabilitate six community radio stations in Sofala province is almost complete. The ETC Coordinator conducted assessments to certify the installations. The ETC plans to host an inauguration ceremony in November to celebrate the project completion, and to conduct a Lessons Learnt exercise to identify best practices to implement in future projects.
- As agreed by the UN ICT Working Group, the ETC will deactivate in Mozambique after completion of this project and the exit strategy documents are being finalized. ETC partner equipment will be shipped back to Europe.
- Security communications services will be continued in Cabo Delgado with three more repeaters being procured.

3. SYRIA AND SURROUNDING COUNTRIES

Security situation

- Surge capacity staff have been deployed in Qamishli in response to the deteriorating security situation in North East Syria.

ETC Response

- The ETC finalized the deployment of infrastructure and security communications services at the UN hub in Deir ez-Zor and has started the recruitment of an IT associate to be based in the hub.
- The ETC completed the upgrade of Internet connectivity services at the UN hub in Homs which supports nine agencies.



Surrounding countries

- Any mission going to Damascus must now go through Beirut although the border will be closed until 28 October.

4. YEMEN

Security situation

- The security situation in Yemen continues to be volatile and unpredictable.

ETC Response

- On 16 October, the ETC conducted a technical mission to Al Mokha to assess the progress of establishing a Security Operations Centre (SOC) and where a new ETC hub is being established.
- The design of the four 30-metre self-supported towers has been reviewed and finalized by the engineering unit to ensure compliance with health and safety regulation. The installation of two towers is ready to begin in Aden, in line with the Telecommunications Security Standards (TESS) recommendations. One tower will be deployed in Tourba at the UN compound hosted by UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and one tower in Al Mokha at the compound hosted by WFP.
- Local ETC partner, All Girls Foundation has requested ETC support for setting up a training room and internet café for the use of women in Sana'a. The ETC conducted a visit to the site to assess the proposal and the requirements.

Teleconference / Meeting ended at 12:20 UTC

Next Global ETC Joint Teleconference will be held on Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 12:00 UTC.

Acronyms

COMCEN	Communications Centre
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
IDP	Internally Displaced People
IT	Information Technology
MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
S4C	Services for Communities
UN	United Nations
UNCAF	UN Common Accommodation Facility
UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
UNSMIL	UN Support Mission in Libya



VHF Very High Frequency
WFP World Food Programme

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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Minutes: Suzanne Fenton, WFP