Haiti IAET Telecommunication Working Group

Haiti Telecom working group (TWG) meeting

Date: 23-10-2008

Time: 16:00

Location: UNICEF

<u>Agenda for today</u>

1. Welcome members
2. Completing contact detail sheeting participants
3. Update of the Gonaives project status
4. Open discussion on the current radio network and usage / questions and answers session.
5. Set meeting date next TWG
6. Closure of the Meeting

<u>Attendees</u>

<u>Country – UN Agency:</u>

UNICEF - ICT	Francis Asamoah	fasamoah@unicef.org
UNICEF – security officer	Raul Castillio	rcastillo@unicef.org
UNDP – security officer	Arnaldo Becher	arnaldo.becher@undp.org
WFP - ICT officer	Nasir Khan	nasir.khan@wfp.org

<u>WFP - FITTEST:</u>

Emergency Coordinator	Mark Phillips	mark.phillips@wfp.org

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Minutes of Meeting

1. **Welcome members**

   At 1600hrs Mark Phillips welcomed and thanked the members for participating in the local TWG meetings.

   Thanks to UNICEF for hosting the meeting.

2. **Completing contact detail sheeting participants**

   All participants were requested to complete the contact detail sheets, from this a TWG mailing list will be comprised, where correspondence, questions and answers can be distributed between the members.

3. **Update of the Gonaives project status.**

   Mark Phillips gave an update on the current status:
   - As per decision of the UNCT and the RC common Security and Data communications will be provided in Gonaives only.
   - Gonaives:
     o The "Cyber Cafe" BGAN has now been replaced with a BitSAT. This will reduce running costs from an estimate of $10k per month to $650 USD per month.

     - The Inter agency radio room has now been established in the WFP port office location (the temp will stay in MINUSTAH, until the WFP office move has been completed).

     - In Gonaives VHF channel 1 and 6 are operational.

     - WFP are currently recruiting 5x Radio operators for Gonaives.

     - The WFP/FITTEST team will now start the handover to the WFP Haiti ICT team. Which in turn will also main stream the working environment to ensure long term sustainability.
   - The effort of harmonisation of the HF network throughout the country continues.
   - Standard code plugs have now been issued to all agencies via the TWG.

4. **Open discussion on the current radio network and usage / questions and answers session.**

   In a similar line to the previous meetings, a very good open discussion was had by all attendees. With the main aim of understanding the current network and any additional requirements caused through the current emergency.

   Main points:
   - An open discussion was held on the next steps t be taken by the attendees. Main points to be followed up:

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- o UNICEF, UNDP and WFP ICT / security officers should follow up / develop a cost share to:
  - Run the agency radio rooms / radio network in Port au Prince and Gonaives.
  - Expand the VHF repeater network to cover the South (i.e. Les Cayes and Jacmel).
  - o Continue the TWG meetings and involve more participants from other agencies / NGOs
- It was agreed by all attendees this meeting will now be held once monthly (the chair to be rotated between WFP and UNICEF ICT officers).

5. **Set the next meeting date**

Location:	UNICEF
Occurrence:	Weekly
Date of next meeting:	28/11/2008
Time:	1400hrs
Length:	1hour

6. **Closure of meeting**

Mark Phillips extended his thanks and appreciation of the TWG member's attendance and advised he was available for further discussion or assistance at any time.