

The Minutes of National Gender and Family Cluster Meeting.

Venue : Serena Hotel-Kigali.
Date and Time : 28 March 2018, 9:00 am -12:15 pm
Chaired by : Hon. NYIRASAFARI Espérance, Minister of Gender & Family Promotion
Co-Chaired by : Ms. Fatou-Lo, UN WOMEN- Country Representative

Agenda of the meeting

- Welcome & Opening Remarks.
- Presentation on Sector Priorities through Lens of Vision 2050, NST1 and SDGs Domestication.
- Overview of New NGFC Guidelines.
- Open Discussion/Working Group Discussion.
- Closing Remarks and Ways Forwards.

Welcome remarks by UN Women Country Representative

In her welcome remarks, Ms. Fatou lo, UN Women country representative appreciated the gender and family cluster meeting and said that it enclosed many expectations because UN Women and Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion interventions calls for a strong and effective coordination of different actors to deliver on sustainable results. As for the gender and family cluster, first of all, she pointed out that it was meant to address the issues of coordinating actors involved in gender equality and women empowerment, family promotion, child rights protection, GBV eradication related issues.

The second argument showing the relevancy of having gender and family cluster was that there was no sector working group on gender and no gender thematic group at UN women side, and UN Women commissioned evaluation of the program that recommended for having a strong coordination of different actors. She closed her welcome remarks mentioning that the meeting marked important steps to joining efforts for strengthening coordination and sharing the information.

Opening Remarks by Hon. Minister of Gender and Family Promotion.

Hon. NYIRASAFARI Espérance, Minister of Gender and Family Promotion, in her opening remarks recalled on the mandate of the ministry of coordination of implementation policies related to gender equality, family promotion, women's empowerment and children's issues. Hon. Minister stressed that national gender and family cluster will serves as an important coordination mechanism of sharing information and facilitated effective planning and implementation of priorities enshrined in the national development agenda namely vision 2050, NST1 and SDGs domestication.

Hon. Minister of Gender and Family Promotion continued by appreciating the achievement already recorded in terms of gender equality & women's empowerment and child protection. But, she mentioned that there were some outstanding issues of gender stereotype, GBV and Child Abuse for strong coordination needed to sustainably address them. She mentioned that gender and family cluster meeting helps strategizing and strengthening partnership and collaboration.

Closing her remarks, Hon. Minister of gender and family proportion declared Gender and Family Cluster meeting opened and wished the participants to have fruitful deliberations.

Meeting Discussions and Recommendations

Under moderation of Mr. Murangira Bosco, Director of Women Economic Empowerment, the meeting proceeded with two presentations. The first one was delivered by the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion on MIGEPROF Mission and vision, NST1 priorities regarding Gender Equality, Family promotion and Child protection, and key challenges and resolutions from GM retreat. The second presentation on draft guidelines of National Gender and Family Cluster was delivered by Nadja Piironen, Bilateral Associate Expert in MIGEPROF.

The participants appreciated the content of guidelines of national Gender and Family cluster, and validated them for use. They also divided into three working groups to discuss the priorities to be focused on by the sub- clusters of gender and family cluster. The following table summarizes the discussions and recommendations administered in the in the group discussion organized under sub- cluster consideration.

Theme	Sub Cluster Discussion & Plenary Discussion.	Action Points/Resolution(s)	Responsible
<p>Presentation on Sector Priorities through Lens of Vision 2050, NST1 and SDGs Domestication.</p>	<p>Gender equality & Women empowerment Sub-Cluster.</p> <p>The participants discussed on gender related issues that need critical attention. They agreed that Girls and Women with disabilities are at more risk of exclusion and harassment. Moreover boys especially in school also face gender related issues like boys drop out of schools more than girls at upper primary level.</p>	<p>1. Integrate women and girls with disabilities and boys' gender related issues in upcoming joint UN Women and MIGEPROF equality program.</p> <p>2. Ensure operationalization of new NGFC guidelines for sub cluster to meet four times a year to improve coordination and communication.</p>	<p>Lead: MIGEPROF, NGFC</p>
	<p>Regarding youth and women access to finance, they raised an issue of duplications of activities targeting youth & women and it doesn't bear expected results. The issue of lack of information and duplication was however seen to be a problem for all cluster issue areas, and should thus be addressed jointly for entire cluster.</p> <p>They raised a concern on lacking gender equality and women empowerment cluster data base for effective follow up and planning. This was also seen as general problem for entire cluster.</p>		<p>As of operationalization of Gender equality & women empowerment sub-groups, members noted that It existed but was not delivering as expected, whereby operationalization of new guidelines need to be ensured.</p>

	<p>Child protection and ECD sub-groups</p> <p>Due to small group sizes, the sub-clusters of Child Protection and Early Childhood Development were joined for section of group discussion for the duration of the meeting. Under coordination of Executive Secretary of National Commission of Children, members of child protection and ECD sub cluster opened the discussion on child right promotion and protection. They mentioned that there was a remarkable step achieved in putting in place structures that deals with child right related issues. The next steps must be to ensure the sustainability of these interventions at grassroots level.</p> <p>The group further discussed the cross cutting nature between ECD and child protection. It was discussed whether the separation was truly necessary. However the groups agreed that the separation is beneficial to push both groups agenda. However due to the cross cutting nature of both groups, it was agreed that the sub-cluster need to coordinate their efforts to prevent duplication and strengthen each other's mandates.</p>	<p>3. Build capacity of professional (social workers and psychologists) and para-professional (ZU) to ensure sustainability of child protection interventions at decentralized levels (follow up of reintegrated children, prevention and response to child abuse e.g. teenage pregnancy, child labour, dropout, street children, etc...)</p> <p>4. Empower and operationalize children forum committees to contribute to child protection system</p> <p>5. Enhance coordination through effective data collection, analysis, storage and use (MVC database, IMS)</p>	<p>Lead: NCC MIGEPROF</p> <p>Lead: NCC MIGEPROF</p> <p>Lead: NCC MIGEPROF</p>
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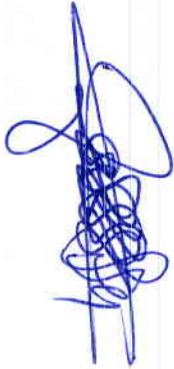
	<p>Family and GBV Sub-Cluster</p> <p>The discussion of Family and GBV sub-cluster focused on the Reflexion on household model that can be linked with transformational governance leadership. They argued that JADF, Churches and Gender staff in all activities of the sector can play a vital role in the implementation of promoting new strategies of family cohesion</p> <p>Furthermore, they argued that churches can play this role family stability, through for instance what is known as Umuryango Remezo.</p>	<p>6. Advocate for review the functionality of JDAF and involve Gender and Family Promotion Officers in all activities of the sector</p> <p>7. Elaborate a joint action plan and establish a communication system which will facilitate to share information between partners.</p>	<p>Lead: MIGEPROF Family and GBV Sub Cluster members</p>
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<p>Overview of New NGFC Guidelines and cluster work going forward</p>	<p>All participants in sub clusters group discussions appreciated the work done by the steps made to revamp the existed gender cluster.</p> <p>They also agreed with the content and suggest that child protection and ECD sub-clusters remain separate but work hand in hand.</p> <p>They validated the guidelines.</p>	<p>8. Elaborate Strategic plan for the gender cluster and establish gender and family cluster at decentralized level</p> <p>9. Proceed for checking and addressing duplications in the intervention targeting youth and women for synergy.</p>	<p>Lead: MIGEPROF and NGFC</p>
	<p>They supported a need for gender and family cluster strategic plan since Gender cluster strategic plan expired in 2012.</p>	<p>10. Establish and operationalize sub-cluster data storage for monitoring and evaluation of the achievements, best practices and subsequent programming.</p> <p>11. Urgently put a NGFC Secretariat in place to coordinate establishment NGFC work</p>	<p>Lead: MIGEPROF and NGFC</p>

Closing Remarks

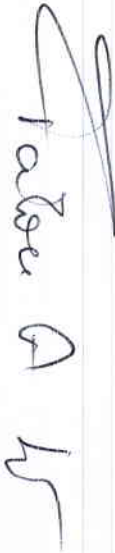
On behalf of Honorable Minister of Gender and Family Promotion, Ms. Fatou lo, co-chaired the Gender and Family Cluster acknowledged for participation of the members in the meeting and urged them to turn meeting resolutions into concrete actions.

Minutes taken by:



Emmanuel NTAGOZERA
Acting Director of Gender Promotion
MIGEPROF

Approved by Co-Chair:



Ms. Fatou-Lo
UN WOMEN- Country Representative

Approved by Chair:



Hon. NYIRASAFARI Esperance
Minister of Gender and Family Promotion

