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UNAMIR HQ
Kigali, RWANDA

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MINUTES OF MONTHLY HUMANITARIAN MEETING HELD AT
UNAMIR HQ CONFERENCE ROOM ON FRI 15 SEP 95

PRESENT :	Lt Col T J Fox	CHAO	Chairman
	Maj L Adekagun	Ops Offr HAC	Member
	Maj R R Akella	Hum Offr Sector 3A	Member
	Maj X Chileshe	Hum Offr Sector 2A	Member
	Maj G S Dhillon	Hum Offr Sector 1A	Member
	Maj Kapturovich	Hum Offr Sector 4	Member
	Maj C Loitey	Hum Offr Sector 5A	Member
	Maj S K Prasad	D'Base/Info Offr HAC	Member
	Maj W Saunders	Hum Offr Sector 5B	Member
	Maj V Sinitsin	Hum Offr Sector 1B	Member
	Maj K S Sirohi	Hum Offr Sector 3B	Member
	Maj M K Yadav	Hum Offr Sector 2B	Member
	Maj R Little	Hum Offr Sector 5C	Member
	Capt S Agbanusi	Hum Offr HAC	Sec

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ITEM 1. WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN

1. The Chairman welcomed all in attendance praising everyone for endeavouring to attend. He reminded all that though we cannot accomplish much materially, the spirit with which it is done is what matters. He advocated for love to the Rwandaise community in general. Everyone was also reminded that we in HAC are not here to help other agencies but the Rwandaise government and people. We shall all look forward to what we can achieve between now and the end of the year.

ITEM 2. HUMANITARIAN REQUESTS AND PRIORITIES

2. The CHAO intimated all that though requests are received from all Sectors, they are prioritized according to their nature and urgency. He however promised that he would as always try to impress on the UNAMIR HQ to do their best within their limited resources in alleviating the people's suffering. In any case, we shall always restrict ourselves to what we can afford as UNAMIR and not always believing we can get things done easily through Brown and Root.

ITEM 3. PRISON RELATED MATTERS

3. With regards to prisons, the Chairman stated that though HAC has nothing to do with prisons, Hum Offrs should always endeavour to monitor them. The reason is that prisons are where we have the most vulnerable people in this country. He told all that the MA to the DFC is solely responsible for prisons and all requests in this regard are channelled to his office.

4. However, all should be on the watch-out for under-aged prisoners and probably forward their names to the HAC HQ so that the appropriate UNICEF person can be intimated. Any child less than 15 years old falls within this category.

ITEM 4. HUMANITARIAN REPORTS

5. The issue of weekly humanitarian reports from Sectors was discussed extensively. The Chairman directed that all Sector Hum Offrs should try as much as possible to get their weekly reports across to the HAC before the week runs out. He will prefer getting the reports on fridays or at the latest on saturdays.

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6. The reports need to arrive the HAC HQ on time since they are what are used to write the HAC weekly reports that must get to the FC on Mondays or latest Tuesdays.

ITEM 5. USE OF TERMINOLOGIES

7. The use of terminologies was discussed. The basic differences between phrases like IDPs, Refugees, Returnees and Escapees were highlighted. Hum Offrs were then advised to use the appropriate terminologies while writing their reports as use of wrong terminologies can convey a different meaning from what one has in mind.

ITEM 6. HUMANITARIAN REQUESTS AND PRIORITIES

8. The Chairman told all to handle humanitarian requests with utmost care as most of the items offered usually go to the wrong people. The issue of photocopier and generator to the Prefect of Gitarama Prefecture is a case in point.

9. He asked all Sector Hum Offrs not to be discouraged from sending in their requests even though most of them are not immediately met due to UNAMIR limited resources. He however discouraged the aspect of Hum Offrs trying to make requests on behalf of agencies who can fend for themselves.

10. On the issue of requests to NGOs, everybody was advised to fax requests to the HAC HQ who will in turn pass it on to the "MINIREISO" through HAC Liaison Offr.

ITEM 7. BRIEFS FROM THE SECTORS

11. The basic problem that most Hum Offrs from Sectors complained of was inadequate supply of food to returnees. However, it was agreed that the reason for such shortages is that some returnees come into the country on their own without formal registration by the UNHCR. If UNHCR repatriate people, they provide them with transport and some quantity of food items that would last them for some time. This type of assistance is not available to those that come back on their own.

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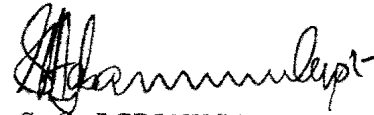
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ITEM 8. CLOSING REMARKS

12. In his closing remarks, the Chairman asked all to try as much as possible to get as much info as possible so as to provide the SRSG with all or most of his requests.

13. He thanked everybody for attending and wished all a safe journey back to their various bases.

20 Sep 95
Kigali - Rwanda


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