

# Summary of Key Action Points from the Mid-Year Teleconference of the INSARAG Global and Regional Chairs 5 July 1430h-1540h(CEST)



## 1. Participants

Amb Manuel Bessler – INSARAG Chairman and SDC Colleagues

Regional Chairs:

- a) Americas: Colombia - Dr. Carlos Iván Márquez Pérez
- b) Asia-Pacific: China- Zhao Ming
- c) AEME Regional Chair (2015): Netherlands-Carlo Post

FCSS- INSARAG Secretariat: Jesper Lund and Colleagues

## 2. Agenda:

1. Welcome - Manuel and Secretariat
2. Update from last telecon - key events: WHS side event, LTWG, other developments
3. Regional Chairs brief and reflection on work done, and work ahead, upcoming regional meeting planning
4. AOB.

## 3. Opening and Key Points from Global Chair:

INSARAG Chairman Ambassador Manuel Bessler chaired the meeting and welcomed the participants and briefed on key achievements and highlights from the INSARAG and humanitarian agenda in the past 6 months. He particularly noted his satisfaction on the successful INSARAG –WHS side event.

a. 5 ongoing projects directed by the ISG 2016, were discussed and summarised in the table below:

	Topic	Lead Region	Latest Developments	Next Steps
1	Beyond the Rubble	AEME	DACHL group met on this issue – finalising recommendations and initiating the discussions and proposals	Present findings in the TL and Regional meetings for feedback – to add recommendations into the next guidelines revision
2	International Light Teams	AEME	LTWG formed, had 2 meetings(1 virtual webex, the other in Geneva.) Concept and framework drafted.	LTWG led by Arjan Stam(NL) will present in the TL and all Regional meetings for feedback
3	Capacity Building	AP	AP Strategy for this drafted, will share in ISG	All regions can consider useful practices and recommendations, and customise based on their respective regional needs
4	IER – Lighter System, Greater Ownership	AP / Secretariat	Secretariat taking on earlier study and recommendations from the AP group, and directed by ISG to lead the process, will share a concept note (attached) on a lighter system, and handing over greater ownership to IER teams	Secretariat will share concept in the TL and regional meetings and present to the ISG 2016 for approval.
5	National Accreditation/ Classification Process	Americas	Several rounds of consultations and a successful workshop conducted – concept plan will be shared in the TL and regional meetings	To seek ISGs endorsement on moving forward the process.

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The mission of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is to mobilize and coordinate effective and principled humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors.

**Coordination Saves Lives**

b. The Chair also identified the importance of lessons from the Ecuador earthquake be shared widely and will look forward to review the finalised report once it is available.

**Action :** FCSS to share report once this is completed.

c. On the INSARAG Strategy, all agreed that it will take into account outputs from the global meetings and WHS and start from **2017-2020**. A revised version (attached) be shared at the upcoming regional meeting for feedback and presented to the ISG 2017 for endorsement.

**Action :** FCSS to share in all regional and TL meetings..

#### 4. Summary from Regional Chairs - Update on their respective regional workplans

Americas - The region was fully committed and engaged in supporting the Ecuador earthquake response and a review on lessons learnt will be prepared and shared with all. The National accreditation process were discussed in a well-attended workshop and the recommendations will be shared globally in the other regional events.

b. Africa, Europe Middle East Chair – Netherlands's Carlo briefed on the regional contributions to light teams, beyond the rubble and several ongoing regional events including with the European Union(EU) MODEX training and exercises, and the upcoming UCC course in France.

c. Asia-Pacific- China's Zhao briefed on the regional work on capacity building, and upcoming events particularly the INSARAG earthquake exercise with EMT and ASEAN regional organisations participating.

Note: All events are captured in the FCSS calendar 2016(attached)

#### **Action Points:**

- *Regional Chairs are strongly encouraged to plan and participate in other regional meetings or be suitably represented.*
- *Regional Chairs are requested to share with all their regional meeting agendas as soon as this is available.*

#### 5. Summary from FCSS- INSARAG Secretariat

Jesper reiterated and supported the work of the regional chairs and added the following:

a. Columbia to consult with the region on hosting the Team Leaders(TL) Meeting in June or September 2017.

**Action:** *Americals Region to revert by the TL meeting in Japan in September.*

b. The EU Modex has proven successful for INSARAG teams from the EU to leverage upon and conduct their IERs in a cost effective approach while strengthening regional cooperation.

**Action :** *FCSS and EU, to share this with AEME teams*

c. OCHA-FCSS are introducing and testing the KoBo Toolbox and HDX(Humanitarian Data Exchange) for INSARAG teams with the aim of leveraging on technology and harmonising assessment results for effective analysis in effective disaster response.

**Action :** *FCSS and OCHA, will test this out with relevant partners in upcoming INSARAG EQ exercises.*

d. Lessons from the Regional INSARAG Earthquake Response Exercises(ERE) have been well captured, and continue to be fine-tuned as with the guidelines, a living document. The ERE, while maintaining flexibility, provides a predictable and relevant platform for key stakeholders to "train as we respond/operate" and in accordance with the INSARAG guidelines.

**Action :** *FCSS to monitor and fine tune the ERE accordingly*

6. **Concluding Remarks** –Amb. Manuel offered his deepest appreciation to all regional chairs for their strong commitment and cooperation and the next teleconference will take place after all regional meetings and before the ISG 2017. He thanked the FCSS for the arrangements and managing the ongoing events of INSARAG.