

Date: 10 March 2016, 1400hrs-1605hrs

Attendees:

- Global Chair: Amb. Manuel Bessler with Ms. Adrienne Schnyder and Mr. David Sochor
- Regional Chairs:
 - China (A-P): Mr. Zhao Ming with Mr. Zhao Ruihua
 - Netherlands (AEME): Mr. Carlo H.W.M. Post
 - Colombia (Americas): Mr. Carlos Ivan Marquez Perez, Ms. Margarita Arias
- INSARAG Secretariat: Winston Chang, Christophe Schmachtel, Yosuke Okita, Majid Rafihi

Absent with regrets : Dewey Perks (Chair TWG) for agenda item “Brief on the UCC update and roll-out that had to be skipped on a short notice during the course of the telephone call (*there might be an interest to reschedule this item next time...?*).

Meeting Summary:

1. Action points from the ISG (Global Chair)

- The Global Chair summarised the 5 action points (listed below) from the ISG and requested feedback from the regional chairs and the secretariat. Responsibilities for follow up on the action points are highlighted below but it was stressed that each regional group should discuss on these points in order to have an opinion/position on them for the ISG 2017.
 - Revision of IER: The Secretariat will adopt flexibility in managing future IERs and suggestions are welcome. It was agreed at the ISG that the Secretariat should still take the lead on IER management. However, the INSARAG network should discuss how to do lighter IERs, with less classifiers and empowerment of the regional groups to support this, without diluting the INSARAG Minimal Standards and the loss in capability to prepare and respond.
 - Light teams: a Light Team Working Group (LTWG) will be established and the Secretariat will send out invitations soon for nominations, and with a draft terms of reference. The members should come from all the 3 regions. The Secretariat proposed that Arjan Stam from Netherlands, to be the chair of this working group.
 - Beyond the Rubble: AEME region with support from the DACHL group is taking the lead.
 - National Accreditation system: The Americas region is taking the lead and has planned workshop on this topic on 7-9 May in Colombia.
 - Capacity Building: Asia Pacific region is taking the lead.

2. Update on the final ISG Summary outcomes (Secretariat)

- (HNPW Format) The ISG welcomed the format of the HNPW and ISG 2016, but there was an opinion that the ISG should have half-day “closed” meeting, inviting the ISG members (Global Chair, Regional Troika, and National Focal Point of IEC-classified teams) only. The morning meeting with OCHA’s senior management was also welcomed. The ISG 2017 will consider the above points for planning.
 - (Translation of the Guidelines) The member states translated the Guidelines and some of them are already available on the INSARAG website (e.g. Arabic, Korean, Turkish, and Spanish).
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Translation into other languages is also ongoing (e.g. Chinese, Japanese). The INSARAG welcomes this, and regional chairs should encourage it.

- (EQ Response Training Package) The INSARAG Exercise is now open to the wider audience (e.g. Medical teams, RC/HCs). The revised package is now available on the INSARAG website.
- (World Humanitarian Summit) The Secretariat sent a letter to the WHS Secretariat regarding our intention to contribute to the side-event. The Secretariat will keep the member states posted on this.

3. Brief report from regional chairs (Regional Chairs)

- (A-P: China) INSARAG A-P group will further discuss on (1) IER revision and (2) Capacity Building. Regarding the IER revision, New Zealand will take the lead, and submit the Concept Note at the A-P regional meeting in August. This will be introduced at the Team Leaders Meeting (Japan, September) and ISG 2017. For Capacity Building, New Zealand drafted a long-term capacity building framework. The A-P group will further work on it, and introduce it at the ISG 2017.
- (AEME: Netherlands) Netherlands show the concern on the refugee crisis, and expressed an idea that the INSARAG, using its expertise, can contribute for other humanitarian actors. Regarding the Light Team Working Group, and the offer for Arjan Stam to be the Chair, Netherlands will revert shortly. The Secretariat will be in contact with Morocco (Chair for 2017) and link them up with Netherlands. The regional chair also informed us that the next regional AEME meeting will be taking place during the 1st week of November, 2016.
- (Americas: Colombia) INSARAG Americas group will organise a workshop on the proposal for elaborating a review/certification process for national accreditation processes from 7-9 May. The regional exercise will take place from 26-30 September, while the Regional Meeting will be held from 16-18 November in conjunction with a regional UNDAC consultation. On WHS, Colombia confirms its support to the side event, if it is accepted by the WHS secretariat and the Regional Chair informed that he is planning his participation in the WHS. In addition, the region will update the regional capacity assessment of national USAR teams, it has created a good practices section on the INSARAG website, finalised the format on entry requirements for international USAR teams and established a system of direct communication between the members of the regional chairmanship group and the countries of the Regional Group.

Regarding the refugee crisis, the Global Chair expressed his understanding towards the interest of using the INSARAG network to make a meaningful contribution towards the refugee crisis in Europe. At the same time and as a first reaction - he expressed his preference to make bilateral offers rather than multilateral offers. Further discussion on this matter might follow.

4. Upcoming events and their support (Secretariat)

- The Secretariat introduced the upcoming events such as the AEME Exercise in Turkey, IER for UK and Spain as part of the EU MODEX. In 2016, 2 IECs and 9 IERs are planned to take place.
- The UCC Pilot course was held in the UK in February. Based on the developed UCC training package, each region will have 1 UCC course respectively (US, France and Singapore).
- The Secretariat updated the additional events in AEME (USAR Capacity assessment mission in Palestine planned from April 3rd to 10th, update on the objectives, and potential support needed from Netherlands as well as an update on the proposed Sub-regional simulation exercise in Pakistan that is currently being discussed with OCHA Pakistan)

More details of the events planned for 2016 are in the attachment: FCSS 2016 calendar.
