

Annex 1: Terms of Reference: Conflict and Emergencies Cross Cutting Group

1. Background

NTDs are a group of treatable and preventable diseases that continue to affect over one billion of the world's most impoverished, marginalized people living in remote communities. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) play a key role in the fight against these diseases. The NTD NGO Network (NNN) is a global forum for NGOs to contribute to the global control, elimination, and management of consequences of NTDs outlined within the internationally agreed World Health Organisation (WHO) NTD Roadmap.¹

Our vision is a world free of NTDs.

Our purpose is to enhance the contribution of NGOs towards that vision.

Our objectives to achieve our vision and purpose are:

1. To be the unified NGO voice on common issues to achieve our NTD goals.
2. To enhance our community of practice through membership engagement, learning and sharing knowledge.

Our values of participation, legitimacy, creativity and independence guide our NNN community in achieving these objectives.

Our Membership is open to any NGO or academic institution² that is engaged in the fight against NTDs. Other organisations are welcome to join our work as active observers.

NNN is governed by an Executive Committee, comprised of representation of various NGO disease-specific groups and cross cutting groups, the External Representation Committee and the Conference Committee that will enable the network to successfully meet the objectives of NNN.

The Cross Cutting Group focus on issues of common concern across disease groups or for the NTD community at large. A Cross Cutting Group can be established if there are five or more members willing to collaborate. Each Cross Cutting Group has representation on the Executive Committee.

1. Purpose of the **Conflict and Emergencies** Cross Cutting Group

This Cross Cutting Group comprises of NNN members with an interest in learning and advocating on **the challenges presented for NTD control and elimination activities presented by conflict and emergency situations** as a guide to fighting NTDs.

The key functions are:

¹ http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/NTD_RoadMap_2012_Fullversion.pdf

² Based on the principle that most academic and research institutions are registered NGOs – they are welcome to become members based on the understanding of this principle

- To drive the development and implementation of the Network's strategy on this cross cutting topic.
- To align with and contribute to the NNN Framework for Engagement and its objectives
- To ensure the Network's support to the WHO NTD Roadmap is aligned with NNN objectives.
- To ensure that NNN is represented in relevant forums related to **conflict and emergency settings**
- To identify, and plan for, an annual programme of activities that deliver, or enable the Network to deliver on, on the NNN strategy for **conflict and emergency settings**
- To report back to the Members on the Annual Conference on progress
- **Develop and share best practice reference guidelines and operational research to inform delivery of NTD programming in conflict and emergency situations contributing to handbooks and field guides for humanitarian emergencies (SPHERE etc)**
- **Gather evidence to influence change around key issues that exist and may emerge such as access to donated drugs for conflict and emergency situations and completion of WHO requirements in dealing with failed/failing states**

2. Membership of the Cross Cutting Group

- Membership is open to any NNN member who can contribute to the learning and advocacy of **conflict and emergencies for** the fight against NTDs.
- Members need to submit their names to **the MENTOR Initiative (?)** to join the group. The Cross Cutting Group will maintain an up to date mailing list, which will be reviewed annually.

3. Elections / Appointments

- The Chair is elected by the Cross Cutting Group and will serve a two year term
- **Election or appointment of other appropriate posts to be determined by the group**

4. Meetings

Details of meetings to be determined by group

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Applicable to all

- All members of the Cross Cutting Group should adhere to the values of the NNN in all their efforts and decision making
- All members should actively contribute to the Cross Cutting Group and attend the regular meetings
- All positions are voluntary and non-remunerated

The Chair

- The Chair sits on the NNN ExCo and will act as the liaison between the wider NNN community and this Cross Cutting Group
- The Chair chairs the Cross cutting group meetings and oversees its annual plans

- The Chair reports back to the members at the Annual Conference

Additional Roles and responsibilities to be added by the group

Potential Scope -Provide an active forum (through the year and at the NNN meeting) for gathering evidence, sharing experience and developing best practice around:

NTD operations (MDA treatment, prevention and control and elimination activities, plus DMDI) and WASH experience in Conflict settings-

- **Maintaining continuity in insecure settings,**
- **Maintining continuity with displaced populations – developing new networks,**
- **Reaching the unreached**
- **Interagency communication channels internal and cross border collaboration**
- **Monitoring conflicts and emergency response**
- **Donor recommendations and lobbying to achieve and meet needs of these populations**

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