

Terms of Reference Access Working Group (AWG)

1. Objective

Access is defined as ‘humanitarian actors’ ability to reach populations affected by crisis, as well as an affected population’s ability to access humanitarian assistance and services.¹

The Access Working Group (AWG), coordinated by the ISCG Secretariat, will support the broader humanitarian community working on the Rohingya Response including the Sectors.

2. Roles and responsibilities

The AWG will advise and support the development of relevant strategies, guidance, tools and other initiatives to improve, sustain and ensure effective humanitarian access. It will assist in identifying, compiling, and analyzing access constraints, and priorities to support the development of advocacy, operational and policy recommendations.

In particular, the AWG will:

- Promote a principled and coordinated approach to improving humanitarian access and maintaining humanitarian space;
- Monitor and analyze issues and trends related to access constraints;
- Identify barriers relating to access and recommend actions to be taken by partners, Sectors, ROCT, ISCG and the SEG;
- Inform and advise UN agencies, NGOs, Sectors, and senior humanitarian leadership using evidence-based analysis;
- Facilitate the sharing of experiences, best practices, lessons-learned and knowledge among humanitarian stakeholders including UN agencies, NGOs, Sectors and other partners;
- Develop guidance tools and build a common understanding on access negotiations, as well as developing common messages and positions;
- With the support of other stakeholders, identify and prevent possible challenges to ensure humanitarian actors can operate safely;

3. Deliverables

- The AWG meeting will be held periodically (and at least on a monthly basis);
- Access snapshot with dashboard, infographics and heat maps on access issues and trends ensuring ‘do no harm’ principle and share with access group members, ROCT, ISCG and SEG;
- Access Working Group ToR, Reporting Format, Policy Paper/Guidance and Advocacy Strategy on access issues developed and endorsed by ROCT and SEG;

¹ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), available at: <https://www.unocha.org/fr/themes/humanitarian-access>

4. Membership

The AWG will be chaired by the ISCG Secretariat. It will comprise of not more than 10 members including:

1. Three operational UN agencies that are implementing projects inside and outside the camps through partners. UNHCR and IOM will represent the two AoRs in the camps.
2. Two operational international NGOs that are implementing projects inside and outside the camps
3. Two operational national NGOs that are implementing projects inside and outside the camps
4. A member of the NGO Platform.
5. The Protection and Shelter/CCCM Sectors

MSF, IFRC and ICRC may attend as observers.

The ISCG shall provide secretariat and IM support.

Non-members of the AWG may be invited to join the group on an *ad hoc* basis including colleagues from outside Cox's Bazar.

Membership is contingent on attendance, participation in Working Group meetings and actively contributing towards the development of strategies, guidelines, and tools.