**Note of the meeting in Lashio on 6 May 2015**

**between the OCHA Head of Office and the Deputy Minister of Social Welfare (Secretary of**

**the Rehabilitation and Administrative Support Committee for the Kokang SAZ)**

The Deputy Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (who is Secretary of the Rehabilitation & Administrative Support Committee for the Kokang Self-Administered Zone) shared with me the details of a proposal for Kokang that he will be submitting to the Chair of this Committee which was established by the President. The proposal has the following elements:

* The aim of the proposal is to support socio-economic rehabilitation and social protection in Kokang and to mobilize support from the UN and INGOs.
* The proposal envisages an emergency phase followed by a rehabilitation phase.
* Priority during these two phases will be given to (1) socio-economic rehabilitation; (2) education; (3) health; and (4) human resource development.
* There will be three geographical areas: (1) the southern part of Kokang SAZ excluding Laukkaing; (2) Laukkaing town; (3) the rest of the villages in the Konkyan area to the north
* The proposal will target the following four groups:
  + Civil servants
  + Poor people who lost their livelihoods (short term assistance to be provided
  + Middle income people who abandoned their homes because of fighting: 6 months assistance
  + High income people returning: they will not receive assistance but may contribute to the overall response
* Priority groups for assistance include any family who lost someone in the fighting; orphans; elderly; disabled people; those chronically ill; pregnant women; female-headed households; victims of trafficking; drug addicts.
* Types of assistance to be provided:
  + Cash: for up to 6 months;
  + Food: 1 month food, or 3-6 months of food depending on needs;
  + Non-Food Items: one-time only, or more if needed;
  + Shelter construction: either a cash grant of approx. US$ 2,000 per house or a combination of 100 zinc sheets plus cash;
  + Water/sanitation/hygiene
  + Health care
  + Education
* The Committee will coordinate closely with UNOCHA in carrying out needs assessments and providing travel authorizations. It will also work closely with national NGOs like MRCS and volunteer groups
* The Kokang Relief Committee will establish an office in Lashio, from where it will do monitoring and supervision
* When the rehabilitation phase starts, some staff will move to Laukkaing and will be attached to the GAD there
* Warehouses in Lashio and Laukkaing will be used
* MRCS and GAD will help to collect household lists on which to base distributions
* During the emergency phase the focus will be on Food, NFIs etc.
* GAD data is currently based on a population of 127,000 in the Kokang SAZ

The Deputy Minister also provided the following information:

* Subject to the approval of the Chair of the Kokang relief committee, a joint assessment mission to Kokang (will be organized with the Government, UN, INGOs/NNGOs) to geographical areas 1 and 2. The joint mission may take place in May
* On 21 April 240 IDPs returned from Lashio to Laukkaing or villages in the Laukkaing area
* The 90 day State of Emergency ends on 18 May and is likely to be extended
* National staff can go to Laukkaing. International staff will need to first get TAs.
* There are three hotels currently operating in Laukkaing.
* Local staff of INGOs can go to open their offices, but will need to first send their requests to the Deputy Minister
* Border Post 125 (which previously accommodated 3,000 IDPs) is now empty and all these people have returned to their villages
* People in villages in the southern part of Kokang SAZ face major challenges with insufficient access to clean water. Development assistance is needed to address this.
* The Nippon Foundation has already agreed to provide 10,000 bags of rice, 2,000 solar lamps, 2,000 mosquito nets