****

Protection from

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

by UNIDOR and related personnel

Information Sheet

Sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) represents a catastrophic failure of protection. It brings harm to those whom we are mandated to protect and jeopardizes the reputation of our organizations. It also violates universally recognized international legal norms and standards.

Six Core Principles

1. Sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian workers constitute acts of gross misconduct and are therefore grounds for termination of employment.

2. Sexual activity with children (persons under the age of 18) is prohibited regardless of the age of majority or age of consent locally. Mistaken belief regarding the age of a child is not a defence.

3. Exchange of money, employment, goods, or services for sex, including sexual favours or other forms of humiliating, degrading or exploitative behaviour is prohibited. This includes exchange of assistance that is due to beneficiaries.

4. Any sexual relationship between those providing humanitarian assistance and protection and a person benefitting from such humanitarian assistance and protection that involves improper use of rank or position is prohibited. Such relationships undermine the credibility and integrity of humanitarian aid work.

5. Where a humanitarian worker develops concerns or suspicions regarding sexual abuse or exploitation by a fellow worker, whether in the same agency or not, he or she must report

such concerns via established agency reporting mechanisms.

6. Humanitarian workers are obliged to create and maintain an environment which prevents sexual exploitation and abuse and promotes the implementation of their code of conduct. Managers at all levels have particular responsibilities to support and develop

What is SEA

**Sexual Exploitation** means Actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

Sexual Abuse Actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

Where do I report SEA? Any person involve in SEA should be reported to the appointed SEA taskforce or focal person.

For more Information

Policy is accessible in all UNIDOR head Oﬃce and ﬁeld locations and website: www.unidorss.org