HO 2: Definitions

**Capacities:** The ability (knowledge, expertise, resources) of organizations or communities to deliver aid, reduce disaster risks, and strengthen resilience.

**Coercion and exploitation:** Making someone do something against their will by using force or threats.

**Deliberate deprivation:** When a person with more power denies materials or other resources (such as information) to a more vulnerable person.

**Dignity:** The importance and value of a person, which gives them self-respect and makes others respect them.

**Discrimination:** Treating different categories of people unfairly or with prejudice, especially because of race, age or sex.

**Meaningful access:** Giving people access to help and services based on their needs and without barriers (that is, without discrimination).

**Protection risks:** The possibility of someone experiencing danger or harm—including through violence, coercion, discrimination or deliberate deprivation.

**Safety:** Being protected from danger, risk or injury, including physical, environmental, social, spiritual, political, emotional or psychological harm.

**Safe and dignified programming:** Making sure programs respect the safety, meaningful access and dignity of people and communities.

**Violence**: Behavior that aims to harm someone. It can be physical, sexual, psychological or structural.

**Vulnerability:** A characteristic or circumstance that puts a person at higher risk of being harmed or hurt. Vulnerability is different for each person and situation.