Afghanistan Logistics Working Group
Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Remote meeting

DATE: 9 Sep 2020

CHAIR: WFP and PUI

ACTION POINTS
• Sylvain to continue to work on the facilitation of the importing of goods through the NMHRA.
• Ben to contact Health Cluster and WHO to discuss the use of their supply portal with regards to NGOs and PPE. Also, to check status of bulk orders of PPE that were intended for distribution to NGOs.
• Check the availability of tents for temporary storage should land become available through partners.
• Creation of a LWG WhatsApp group for more immediate dissemination of information.
• Work on a list of local recommended suppliers and price list.
• Ben and Sylvain will reach out to all participants to encourage better attendance on the calls
• New invite will be sent out. Next meeting will be on the 22nd of September at 3pm.

AGENDA
1. Previous Action Points
2. Border update
3. Storage and Transport discussion
4. Access Issues
5. Customs issues
6. PPE update
7. AOB

1. Previous Action Points

• Discussion was had with the Director of the National Medicine and Health Products Regulatory Authority (NMHRA) with regards to expediting the process for documents through the NMHRA. The Director was receptive to year long guarantee letters and draft SOPs, though as yet, nothing has been agreed upon. However, the process to be discussed involves the issuing of a letter from the NMHRA that would be recognized by the Ministry of Economy (MoE), Ministry of Finance (MoF) and Customs to allow sensitive items, i.e. pharmaceutical goods, to be released so they can be safely stored to await clearance.
• Organisations have started to informally request storage space and will be put in contact with those that have space to spare. Please contact Ben and Sylvain if your organisation falls into either of these categories.
• Efforts continuing to do a quality assessment of locally purchased PPE and share a contact list of quality suppliers. Partners are asked to contact Sylvain or Ben in order to centralise a list of suppliers.
• Given the delays at the Karachi Port, partners are encouraged to share details of impediments or solutions. Information for navigating the system in Pakistan can be shared upon request.
2. Border update

- Chaman is open and operating
- Torkham is also open only for trucks. Around 400 trucks are crossing on daily basis. Congestion still in place and approx. 2,000 trailers are at queue waiting at parking areas (80 km from Peshawar). Security situation at Torkham border is back to normal.
- All other border points are operating as normal.

3. Storage and Transport discussion

- Some organisations have expressed a need for extra storage space in Kabul, Kandahar, Faryab, Balkh, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Jawzjan, and Sar-e-pul. If any organization is able to assist, please contact Ben.

4. Access issues

- The LWG can share the Humanitarian Access Group (HAG) access report upon request.
- Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development (ACBAR) will be conducting an access survey in the coming weeks.

5. Customs issues

- Nothing significant to report.

6. PPE update

- Most organisations have found local solutions to their PPE issues, though sensitive items are still being imported.
- Partners are requested to share a list of quality suppliers of PPE in Kabul or contact Ben if you are interested in sharing import loads.
- With the increase in communicable diseases, PPE will not go to waste. Donors can support PPE needs prior to Winter, therefore, it’s highly recommended to invest in PPE now.

Contacts:

Ben Collard  
LWG Coordinator  
ben.collard@wfp.org

Sylvain Sanhueza  
LWG Coordinator  
afg.logco@pu-ami.org