LOCATION: St John’s, Antigua and Barbuda
DATE: 22 September 2017
CHAIR: WFP, Logistics Sector lead
PARTICIPANTS: Caritas Antilles, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Cisco, DFID, International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), J/P Haitian Relief Organization (HRO), NetHope. Shelter Box, UNICEF, WAITT Institute Barbuda
ACTION POINTS:
• The Logistics sector to follow up on the needs for cargo consolidation ex Antigua for further transport.
• Humanitarian organisations to share plans for cargo movement ex/to Antigua.
AGENDA:
1. Situation update and humanitarian response
2. Logistics gaps
3. UNHAS air service

1. Situation Update and Humanitarian Response

• The Chair welcomed participants to the second Logistics sector coordination meeting and introduced the agenda.

• Participants were reminded of the importance of populating the cargo tracking tool that will serve to strengthen planning and coordination efforts with CDEMA representatives as it includes relief planned by locations/agencies and actual humanitarian commodities in the different affected areas. The tool is available at the following link: https://tinyurl.com/yaso24ml.

• On connectivity issues in Barbuda, ETC focal point confirmed that WFP received a request for support from NODS and is working to install connectivity/VSAT at the Fishery complex. WiFi connection will be available for actors on ground. If other areas are in need to be covered, then capacity could be expanded.

• WFP/ETC team is working in Dominica and connectivity is being installed at the Government building. Other locations are being assessed and together with other technical actors on the ground, the team could expand the capacity to other locations.

• J/P HRO reported on the survey and assessment planned for Barbuda, mainly focused on damage to infrastructures, main services, buildings. Close coordination with NODS is recommended.

• A passenger ferry has reportedly resumed between Guadeloupe, Martinique and Dominica and will focus on evacuation of affected people.

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It was reported that a boat with capacity for 15 passengers will travel to Barbuda on 12 September to conduct an assessment. Any interested organisations should contact Waitt Institute focal point.

ShelterBox reported that a team is being deployed joint in Porto Rico to conduct assessments.

2. Logistics Gaps

Following an action point from the previous meeting, the chair explained that the storage capacity actually being used at Hangar 10 in St John’s airport could be quickly get congested; organisations planning to move or receive cargo in stock in Antigua are encouraged to liaise with the Logistics Sector colleagues in order to plan ahead in case of need for storage space augmentation as well as to facilitate cargo consolidation and transport to the various locations, including Dominica, British Virgin Islands and Anguilla.

In regards to cargo dedicated to Barbuda, the Logistics Sector will liaise with the NODS and relevant authorities to avoid any delays and facilitate consolidation of the efforts.

IMC reported the need raised by Dominican authorities to support medical evacuations.

3. UNHAS Air Service

UNHAS air service: a tentative schedule was circulated on the mailing list and includes flights to Dominica, Anguilla, BVI and Sint Maarten. This can be adjusted based on requests and other locations could be covered by the service.

For urgent cargo to be dispatched, UNHAS focal point informed of the possibility of mobilizing a cargo plane; interested organizations would need to raise needs with details on volume and final destinations as soon as possible. For light cargo, support can be provided by the current flight and WFP/UNHAS can advise about plane capacity for each route/flight. Barbados will not be included in the list as commercial capacity is available.

The next Logistics Sector coordination meeting is planned for Monday 25 September, 11:00 in St John’s.

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