Meeting Minutes of the Zimbabwe Logistics Cluster

Harare
11th March - 11:00
Cholera Outbreak Emergency Response

Participants: UNICEF, Goal Ireland, WHO, IFRC, WFP, AFRICARE, CARE, International Medical Corps, OCHA, CRS, IOM
For contact details of participants, refer to attached participant list (annex4).

Situation Update:

The overall logistics situation in the country has improved considerably. With the dollarization of the economy, the businesses are slowly recovering, but capacities of the transport market exceed the current demand. Trucking fleet is available with commercial transporters and fuel accessibility, in particular Diesel, does not seem to be an issue in most part of the country. Fuel prices have also stabilised and coupon or magnetic card systems are successfully used by the operational organisation in the field. Given the economic situation, storage capacity also exceeds the demand, making dry warehousing space available on the market at competitive rates.

Road conditions are good in most parts of the countries, except in very remote areas, such as around lake Kariba in the North-East of the country. Trucks have difficulties to access this area, and relief items must be distributed 4x4 pickups. Those vehicles remain very expensive due to the high demand by the humanitarian community.

Meeting points:

1. Presentation of ongoing Logistics Cluster Activities

- The Logistics Cluster hubs in Harare, Beitbridge, Bulawayo Mutare and Gweru managed by WFP, is providing storage for UNICEF cholera Prevention and treatment supplies. WHO has transferred its remaining cargo, including all cholera donations, to the 500sqm interagency warehouse in Harare.
- Provision of transport though the Cluster, using WFP rented fleet, has been organised for various organisation such as WHO, MSF, AMI, IFRC, Ministry of Health to Health Centers and Cholera Treatment Centers in Masvingo, Shamva, Mutoko, Bindura, Mt Darwin, Gokwe, Mutare, Karoi, Mutzi and Gweru.
- Specific Information management activities are being carried out by the Cluster, starting by a survey of Cluster participants logistics assets in the country, a logistics indicative price list and a list of transporters.

The cargo movement request and the cargo storage request forms were presented and the new SoPs were shared with the participants. It was agreed to amend the point 3 of the Concept of Operations on provision of transport services, as to remove the mention to tertiary transport. The WFP Zimbabwe Logistics Capacity Assessment was also presented and is available for download at: [http://www.logcluster.org/countries/zwe/logistics-infrastructure/zwe-lca/download](http://www.logcluster.org/countries/zwe/logistics-infrastructure/zwe-lca/download) (775kb)

2. Roundtable on current operations and logistics needs

All participants presented briefly their operations (see annex 1). Through these exercises several issues were raised and comments and best practices were shared among participants. Main topics discussed are summarised below:
Transport

Roads

Logistics Cluster members noted that generally cargo transport is available countrywide, but MFS noted that access remains difficult in some areas, as around the lake Kariba, where on muddy roads, 5-6 hours should be expected for a 40km drive. Africare also reported that sandy roads around Buhera area are in very bad conditions.

Vehicles

The rent of Land Cruiser is expensive and not of highest standard for off road drive. Rates vary from 3’000 to 4’000 USD/Month. Mud tires are not easily available, but few suppliers exists in the country. For more information contact Joaekim/MSF Holland. UNICEF has brought in the country a number of vehicles for implementation partners and arrangements might be available with them. For more information contact Nikolina/UNICEF.

Logistics for household distribution

Following questions from Oxfam, best practices for household distribution were discussed. MSF shared that they are using a flatbed truck to bring 500 NFI kits in the distribution area, kits are then offloaded on 4x4 pickups for house to house delivery.

Fuel

Fuel, in particular diesel, is available although the country, and prices have been going down in Harare, unleaded fuel is at 0.80 usd/litre and diesel at 1usd/litre.

Use of coupons and magnetic cards were discussed. Magnetic cards system was praised as a good system allowing for monthly fleet management reports; each card having its pin code and can be dedicated to one vehicle only if desired. Total is providing this service. It was noted that this systems requires the electricity to be available at the pump station when refuelling).

Warehouse Security

Warehouse security appeared to be an issue for several participants, which reported breakings and security guards strikes.

Several warehouse security issues were mentioned during the meeting. Based on experiences shared by the participants, in particular by IOM, UNICEF and WFP, pros and cons of four different security arrangements were discussed.

a. Outsourced security companies.
   Companies have large overhead and security guards have very low salaries. An option could be to agree with the outsourcing company on the guards’ salary and pay overhead separately.

b. Direct hire of guards:
   Direct control over the security and ensuring fair salaries should foster better service, but it was noted that management of is difficult when having several warehouses.

c. Have the security included in the warehousing contract.
   With this scheme, the warehousing company is also responsible for the security and losses are deducted from the rent invoice.

d. Mix of a. & b. ie having own staff supervising the outsourced guards in the warehouse. WFP noted there might be a liability issue in case of losses, as responsibilities are distributed between two parties.

ACTION POINT MEMBERS:
Cluster participants to fill in the Logistics Assets Survey and the Supplier & Transporter list that will be sent out shortly.

Next logistics Cluster meeting will be held on the 25th March – Venue to be determined
UNICEF is receiving about 40,000 buckets and 20 mt of soap weekly, as well as ORS and Aquatabs, and they do not have any shortage in supplies. Efforts are made to send supplies purchased in South Africa directly to the NGOs partners to minimise handling and warehousing space requirement.

Soren Karlson (0912513938) will be the contact person while Mr. Jean Yon-Loup is on leave.

IFRC has seven Emergency Response Units (ERU) in the field, the largest ERU deployment in Africa ever. As some ERUs are starting phasing down, the exit strategy is to build the capacities of the National Red Cross on cholera prevention and treatment. IFRC commended the Logistics Cluster for the new possibilities it offers to IFRC operations, and noted the good cooperation amongst the different partners. IFRC explained that they have a central warehouse in Harare which is used to all their operations (not only cholera related).

GOAL completed the distribution of NFI in MT Darwin and will start distributing NFI to 20’000 household in Harare next week.

MSF is currently distributing 500 NFI kits per day for 10 days, and have assessment teams in Mashonaland evaluating the needs, but the situation seems under control. Operations will be focusing in Harare district, and 1200 NFI kits have been requested from UNICEF supplies. Through the door to door bucket chlorination project in the sub-urban areas of Harare, 2.3 mio litres have been purified so far, thanks to 60-80 teams in the ground.

WHO has transferred its remaining cargo, including all cholera donations, to the 500sqm interagency warehouse in Harare. Two WHO storekeepers have been recruited and the stock management system has been setup. Twenty IDDKs (Cholera kits) have been airlifted to Harare by WHO and will be dispatched next week to all provinces by the Logistics Cluster as preparedness plan. From now, the push strategy to the district proposed by WHO will be implemented by the Logistics Cluster.

AFRICARE has submitted their distribution plan to UNICEF for Gokwe and Buhera NFIs and will carry out distributions at district level. Currently the organization is distributing NFIs in Gweru Urban and Chitungwiza and will be rehabilitating public toilets and water points in the same areas.

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS informed that they arrived recently and are looking for contact for rental of vehicles.

OXFAM is distributing NFI in several districts such as Muzi, Mt Darwin, Harare, and will shift to household distribution. Oxfam is also in the tendering process for borehole drilling projects.

IOM is working on borehole drilling in Makoni and Harare. In those same districts, IOM is in the process of registering the NFI beneficiaries.

CRS is providing food assistance and trainings in Cholera awareness.

CARE has large food assistance operation and has various warehouses in the country. They recently received a dedicated person for the cholera response operations.
Annex.2 Indicative price list (March 09)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost (USD)</th>
<th>per</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warehouse Space</td>
<td>2.5-3</td>
<td>sqm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forklift rent</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual Handling (in/out)</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>mt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Standard Pallet (1x1.2m)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent of land cruiser</td>
<td>3,000 - 4,000</td>
<td>month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purified water</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>50'000 liters</td>
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Annex.3 Pallet suppliers (special thanks to CRS for the information)

1. Kleko (Pvt) Ltd
   Harare
   Contacts: 0912 941 866
   Land: 04-757544/8
   Contact person: Mr. Marasha
   Unit price=USD25.00

2. JT WoodTech
   Mutare

Annex.4 Participant list

- Zimbabwe - Cholera Outbreak Emergency Response
  11th March 2009 Meeting Participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Agency/NGO/Organisation</th>
<th>e-mail</th>
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