Côte d’Ivoire Crisis

**Concept of Operations**

**Côte d’Ivoire**

**Background**
The disputed election towards the end of 2010 in Côte d’Ivoire sparked a serious of violent incidences and has developed until April 2011, into an armed conflict, with heavy fighting in several of the regions in the country. Since the beginning of the crisis hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to flee the violence and leave their homes. As of 25 July 2011, over 153,000 Ivorian refugees have been reported in neighbouring countries, most notably in Liberia, while over 520,000 people are still internally displaced and are in need of humanitarian assistance.

**Gaps and Needs**
In coordination with national and international partners, the humanitarian community is delivering life-saving relief supplies into the country with the aim of supporting those affected by the current crisis. The following are the needs identified to facilitate the smooth delivery of food and relief items to the affected populations:

- Logistics coordination and information sharing between the various actors in order to mitigate any duplication of efforts and maximize the use of available logistics assets.
- Expansion of the existing storage capacity in Côte d’Ivoire.
- Augmentation of in country road transport capacity for humanitarian supplies.
- Air transport services for passengers.

**Points of entry**
Following locations are the main entry points for humanitarian supplies in Côte d’Ivoire:

- **Surface transport:**
  - From Burkina Faso via Leraba and Ouangolodougou (Regional Food Purchase).
  - From Mali via Zegoua (Regional Food Purchase).
- **Sea transport:** Abidjan.

**Activities of the Côte d’Ivoire Logistics Cluster in the current crisis response**
The Logistics Cluster aims to provide the humanitarian community with adequate logistics capacity and coordination mechanisms to deliver life-saving relief aid to the affected population in Côte d’Ivoire. Based on the current needs and gaps identified, the activities of the Logistics Cluster include:

1. **Logistics Coordination**
   - A Logistics Cluster coordination cell including a dedicated Logistics Cluster Coordinator has been established in Abidjan to coordinate the logistics response. Additionally a Logistics Cluster Sub-Office has been established in Man since April 2011.
The coordination cell is working closely with the humanitarian community to identify possible gaps and bottlenecks in the logistics response and to ensure the uninterrupted supply of life saving relief items to the affected population in Côte d’Ivoire.

The Logistics Cluster Coordinator facilitates regular Logistics Cluster meetings and publishes records of decisions taken.

Optimization of the logistics resources available locally and regionally, awareness raising and consolidated fundraising efforts.

2. Information Management
The Logistics Cluster is providing information management services with the aim of supporting operational decision making to improve the efficiency of the logistics response. These services include the following:

- Provide updated information on operational data, such as road networks, entry points and customs procedures through the publication of sitreps, bulletins, snapshots, flash news and briefings.
- Provision of logistics infrastructure including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), mapping tools and products.
- A platform for the sharing and dissemination of logistics information at http://www.logcluster.org/ops/civ11a as well as through a moderated email circulation list.
- Consolidating information on the overall logistics situation from the humanitarian community and local authorities, identifying possible logistics gaps and bottlenecks.

3. Logistics Common Services
As provider of last resort, the services made available by the Logistics Cluster are not intended to replace the logistics capacities of the agencies or organizations but rather supplement them through the provision of common services.

The logistic services mentioned hereafter will be provided free of charge until the end of August 2011:

- Provision of temporary storage in Abidjan, Man, Toulepleu and Bouaké Logistics Cluster hubs including handling of humanitarian cargo.
- Provision of truck transport in/from Abidjan, Man and Bouaké.
- Air services transport for passengers from/to Abidjan, Bouaké, Guiglo and Man.
- Cargo consolidation, storage and transportation will be handled as per the priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team.

This Concept of Operations is a live document and the activities will be adapted and revised as the situation unfolds and further assessment results become available, including the possible provision of additional logistics common services as required by the humanitarian community.