SITUATION REPORT
HAITI OPERATION
MARCH 2012

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1 GENERAL OVERVIEW

• A 4.6 magnitude earthquake hit southern Haiti on 07 March 2012. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) stated that the earthquake was centred at 24 miles southeast of the capital and had a depth of 3 miles. The Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) did not report any casualties or serious damages.
• The rainy season, usually in April-May, started with daily rains mid-March, causing localised flooding and minor access difficulties in some of the départements. The rainy season will be followed by the hurricane season from June to November.
• OCHA reported that the coordinated Cholera response led to a drop in the cumulative case fatality rate, from 2.4% in November 2010 to 1.3% in February 2012. However, severe outbreaks are expected during the rainy and hurricane season. Medium and long-term investments in water and sanitation, the integration of cholera treatment into national health care structures and hygiene promotion campaigns are necessary (source: OCHA snapshot, March 2012).
• The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction visited Port-au-Prince from 14 to 17 March 2012. She met with relevant Haitian authorities, Red Cross, UN and NGO representatives and civil society organizations, in order to discuss global and national disaster risk reduction.
• Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General and UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Haiti has warned in a statement on 27 March that hundreds of thousands of victims are at risk due to an aid shortfall, and that the lack of money has led to reduced services. The UN and the Haitian Government made an urgent appeal for around USD 60 million to help almost 500,000 people still living in camps, exposed to cholera outbreaks and risks of flooding that will be exacerbated by the rainy season and upcoming hurricane season (source: http://www.un.org/news).
• UN officials are urging Haitian authorities to revive the panel that coordinates reconstruction efforts. A UNDP representative stated that “the absence of the commission is blocking debris removal, housing projects and other attempts to rebuild Haiti”. The panel was dissolved in October 2011 when lawmakers failed to renew its mandate. Efforts are also hindered due to the absence of a Prime Minister, after Garry Conille resigned last month (source: AP, 24 March 2012).

2 SECURITY

• The overall situation throughout Haiti remains stable but has the potential to deteriorate at any given time.
3 COORDINATION

- Logistics Cluster coordination meetings in Port-au-Prince took place on 13 and 27 March 2012. Main topics presented were feedback from various inter-agency meetings, and latest cartographic products. Participants were reminded about the forthcoming relocation of the inter-agency storage site in Port-au-Prince. During the second meeting the Logistics Capacity Inventory Matrix for Haiti was updated.

- Another Logistics Cluster coordination meeting took place in Jacmel / Sud-Est Département on 23 March 2012. The main aim of the meeting was to re-assess logistics capacities of Cluster participants operating in the region. In addition, participants were reminded about the new procedures on the use of WFP fleet and warehouses under the cost recovery system.

- The Ministry of Health called for a meeting on 29 March 2012 to discuss the current Cholera situation. In addition the Cholera contingency plan was presented and shared for comments.

- The Logistics Cluster is finalising the donation of equipment previously used for humanitarian ‘Camp Charlie’. The Allocation Committee, composed of representatives from the DPC, OCHA, IFRC, WFP and the Logistics Cluster, met on 27 February 2012 to review over 100 applications received from 96 organisations. All items have been allocated, mainly favouring local NGOs whose projects are related to hospitals and other health centres, schools and orphanages. This month WFP Management approved the recommendations made by the committee, and all benefitting organisations will now be contacted individually.

4 SERVICE PROVISION

- The Logistics Cluster team continues facilitating signatures for Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with WFP for organisations and NGOs who will use common logistics services on a cost recovery basis.

- More information is available at http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/snapshot-service-provision-1112/view, or email: haiti.serviceprovision@wfp.org

- Three UNHRD staff from Panama and Brindisi arrived in country to facilitate the relocation of the inter-agency storage site in Port-au-Prince: the dismantling of the Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) at Tabarre and the re-establishing of the MSUs at the new smaller site near the airport. The site is expected to be fully functioning by mid April 2012.

- Preparations continue for the joint Ministry of Health/WHO nationwide vaccination campaign for nearly three million children (age: nine month to nine years) against measles, rubella and polio in April 2012. The Logistics Cluster is facilitating WFP’s support to this operation: transport will be organised and storage space and light vehicles will be made available.

- The Logistics Cluster Capacity Inventory Matrix for Haiti was updated together with Logistics Cluster participants in the frame of the inter-agency preparedness activities. This information is also required in order to update the map about warehouse and transport capacities in country.

5 GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM - GIS

- The Logistics Cluster GIS team continues to update its key cartographic products. This month, the map ‘Dépôts en moyens logistiques des participants du Cluster Logistique’ is again under revision.

- The team also followed up with map requests received from Logistics Cluster participants, namely Alliance for Int'l Medical Action (ALIMA), Croix Rouge-Suisse, MSF-Holland, UNICEF, as well as for DPC. The product displaying Dispositif d'Intervention de Premier Secours (DIPS) for the International Management Group (IMG / European Commission) was updated after new data was received.

- In addition, the GIS team supported the Programme Nationale de Cantines Scolaires (PNCS) on behalf of WFP. GPS coordinates of schools in the Ouest Department have been processed and translated onto a map.

- The Logistics Cluster organised a GPS training session in Port-au-Prince on 28 March 2012. 12 Logistics Cluster participants from ten organisations attended the one-day-course, which included a practical assessment exercise. The next GPS training will take place on 04 April 2012.
• Logistics Cluster map products are available at:
  http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/docs?doctype=Maps%20%26%20Geograph

### 6  CIVIL/MILITARY LIAISON

• The current **SOPs for MINUSTAH’s Mission Project Cell (MPC)** is undergoing a **revision**. A Working Group composed of representatives from MINUSTAH, OCHA, IFRC and WFP/Logistics Cluster was established with the aim of further clarifying strategic and operational aspects of the cell. The MPC is the body that coordinates all requests for engineering support, not only for humanitarian needs but also for regular development activities.

### 7  EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

• Due to changes in coordination of some Clusters and the context of transition, the following **ToRs** are currently **under revision**: for the Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group; the Centre d’Opération Urgence National at the emergency headquarters of the Direction de la Protection Civile, which is composed of Cluster representatives, Red Cross Movement and Government staff; and the Emergency Joint Operations Centre, the humanitarian cell comprised of Cluster members activated and lead by OCHA.

• The DPC, International Management Group/European Commission, SOUTHCOM, WFP and the Logistics Cluster are developing a **training programme tailored for DPC personnel**, in order to get prepared for any emergency that might occur. The next exercise will be the use of aluminium boats donated by SOUTHCOM.

• A joint mission of DPC, OCHA, UNDP, WFP and MINUSTAH representatives started its **departmental visits**. The North (Cap-Haitien, Fort Liberté) and Centre Département (Hinche) was targeted this month. Regional seminars and simulation exercises were conducted, in order to ensure readiness of National Authorities, UN and NGO staff in the regions for any possible emergency. More missions will take place in April.

End.