

Meeting Minutes of Somalia Logistics Cluster

Nairobi, Kenya
15 March 2007 – 14:30 hours



Somalia
Logistics Cluster

Venue: SSS Office, Kalson Tower

Participants: ACF, Oxfam, MDM, World Vision, USAID, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, US Embassy, WFP (*see attached attendance record*)

I. ISSUES DISCUSSED:

1. Security Briefing by NGO-SPAS

- The majority of the Ugandan AU troops have arrived in Mogadishu. The supply with material via sea is still on going. It is expected that the Ugandan AU troops will soon start to patrol in Mogadishu.
- The hijacked WFP-contracted ship is still off the Somali coast north of Mogadishu in Somali waters and until now the issue has not been resolved.
- The situation in Lower and Middle Shabelle continues to be highly volatile with numerous, spontaneous roadblocks and checkpoints making overland journeys unpredictable.
- The TFG police forces are only in low numbers present in Lower and Middle Shabelle.
- The situation in Mogadishu is deteriorating with continued daily attacks on Ethiopian troops and TFG forces as well as the newly arrived Ugandan troops.
- During the reporting period the presidential palace in Villa Somalia had been attacked with mortars; killing 5.
- Ethiopian troops have left Kismayo, leaving it now in the hands of the TFG police.

2. Update on Border

The Chair informed that no further delays or incidents at the Kenya-Somali border had been reported. CARE had earlier informed that as of the March 13th they had with 75 truckloads at Mandera border and is continuing to load further trucks to be crossed into Somalia. CARE had not experienced any further problems.

UNICEF informed that trucks with supplies on the way to Baidoa experienced delays and problems in Somalia on the road from Mandera to Baidoa. Nevertheless the crossing at the border itself had been unproblematic.

WFP informed that in the reporting period 15mt had been trucked via Liboi to Buale and as well as 50mt via El Wak to Wajid.

3. Cluster Work Plan

The Cluster work groups 1 (review of pooling needs) and 3 (review of logistics information and gaps) had unfortunately been unable to meet. The cluster work group 2 (information on local suppliers) held a presentation reporting on the first findings and way forward. The main findings were:

- It had been agreed that a simple list with names and contact details of possible suppliers in Somalia would be a good first step and this should have priority over collecting specific prices and lead-times and etc.
- It had been noted that focussing on the main markets, like Mogadishu, Bossaso, Kismayo and Baidoa, would be beneficial, as it can be assumed that most of the Somali suppliers are located in either one of these locations.

<u>Action Point:</u>	Participating organizations are requested to make information on local supplies, which have been used in the past in Somalia, available to the chair of the Cluster Work Group 2 (Daniel Gudere, World Vision). Cluster working groups 1 and 3 are requested to report on their first findings at the next meeting.
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4. Belet Weyne Airstrip

The Chair reported that the Save the Children and CARE have informed the chair that the rehabilitation work of the Belet Wyne airstrip had been completed. Furthermore ECHO conducted its first flight to Belet Wyne and had been satisfied with the status of the airfield's surface. UNHAS scheduled its first flight for Saturday and it is expected that after an official acknowledgment of the improved airfield surface normal UNHAS air operations in and out of Belet Wyne will resume.

5. UNHAS Inter-Agency Cargo Flights

The Chair informed that UNHAS will as of now conduct further Inter-agency cargo flights open to UN agencies and NGOs. The operations will continue until March 31st and interested organizations are requested to submit Cargo Movement Request (CMR) as soon as possible to UNHAS. The CMR template is available on the Logistics Cluster Website (www.logisticscluster.org).

<u>Action Point:</u>	Interested organizations to submit CMRs to UNHAS.
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6. WFP KVM storage tent for inter-agency use in Wajid

WFP repeated its offer to make a donated KVM storage tent in Wajid available to interested organizations. These organizations are requested to contact WFP Somalia for further details and information on the necessary technicalities.

<u>Action Point:</u>	Interested organizations to contact WFP Somalia.
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II. HANDOUTS

- Meeting Minutes, 01 March 2007

The next Somalia Logistics Cluster will take place on Thursday, 29 March 2007, at 14:30hrs, at Kalson Towers, Somalia Support Secretariat.