MEETING MINUTES

Juba, South Sudan

27 November 2012

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator
Participants: Oxfam GB, International Aid Services, Samaritan’s Purse, Save the Children, DRC, ACEM, MedAir, NRC, UNMISS, ECHO, CRS, WVI, OCHA, IFRC, USAID/OFDA, Carter Center, ARC, IMC, IOM

Action Points:
1. Logistics Cluster is still to investigate clearance procedures and carrying of cash with officials at Juba Airport.
2. Organizations are encouraged to continue to submit any tax exemption or customs clearing challenges to the Logistics Cluster with the impact on operations.
3. The Logistics Cluster will investigate Fire Brigade regulations in Juba.
4. Organizations were requested to send information to the Logistics Cluster should they require additional storage and to identify their needs for 2013 in each location.
5. The Logistics Cluster will send the CAP 2013 document and the minutes from the User Group Meeting to the mailing list.
6. The Logistics Cluster will investigate the reported alternate route from Pariang into northern Unity State for inclusion in the Access Constraints Map.

AGENDA:
1. OPERATIONAL UPDATE/HUMANITARIAN OVERVIEW
2. COMMON TRANSPORT SERVICES
3. ACCESS CONSTRAINTS
4. UNOPS UPDATE
5. A.O.B.

OPERATIONAL/GENERAL HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

• Action Points from the last meeting:
  • Organizations are encouraged to continue to submit any tax exemption or customs clearing challenges to the Logistics Cluster with the impact on operations. The Logistics Cluster has not received many reports since the last meeting.
  • The Logistics Cluster will investigate Fire Brigade regulations in Juba to see if reports of compound investigations and charges are legitimate.
  • Organizations were requested to send information to the Logistics Cluster should they require additional storage and to identify their needs for 2013 in each location.
  • The Logistics Cluster will investigate clearance procedures at Juba Airport for carrying of cash
  • The CAP 2013 document has been released and the Logistics Cluster will send it out via the mailing list.
• Over 2,000 refugees arrived into Unity State from Sudan’s South Kordofan over the past week, indicating a possible surge in arrivals as the dry season approaches. More than 85% of the new arrivals were women and children and in poor physical health.
• UNHCR anticipates that by the end of 2013 approximately 350,000 refugees will be hosted in South Sudan, largely from Sudan.
• Returns continue to South Sudan from Sudan with an estimated 135,700 already in South Sudan since January. Returns continue by air and barge, however were disturbed last week as one flight carrying 57 returnees crash landed in Aweil. No passengers died as an immediate result of the crash.
• There was also a crash of an Antinov 26 in Yida carrying cargo. Organizations are encouraged to contact the Logistics Cluster prior to sending aircraft to smaller airstrips so that we may advise on airstrip length/conditions to mitigate against future accidents. The aircraft is still on the runway in Yida and needs to be moved. Discussions are ongoing with the flight operator to arrange movement of the wreckage.
• Humanitarian assistance continued to flood affected areas in Upper Nile, Jonglei and Western Equatoria States despite flooding receding across the country. The Logistics Cluster helicopter was deployed to
Pagak to support those recently affected by the flooding through the delivery of lifesaving NFI.

- Movement of UN humanitarian workers continues to be limited in the Abyei area following tensions rising from the death of a national staff member of the UN peacekeeping mission, UNISFA.
- First key overland routes of the dry season have started to open serving to reduce the reliance on Logistic Cluster air assets. More to be discussed during Access Constraints discussion.
- There is reportedly a group of soldiers who have defected from the SPLA in Unity State and movement restrictions have been placed on humanitarian staff around Bentiu due to their movements.

### COMMON TRANSPORT SERVICES

- Common services are operating as normal.
- The Logistics Cluster CTS Officer is currently in Bor to discuss Helicopter operational review, common transport strategy for the upcoming dry season, force protection overview and update, and logistical gaps and needs.
- One Air Transport Officer is still in Yida, coordinating flights and WFP air drops.
- The Logistics Cluster Deputy Coordinator has been deployed to Maban to discuss and prioritise the erection of several interagency MSUs and associated storekeeper training needs.
- UNHCR is currently looking into transport of cargo from the Gambella, Ethiopia corridor into Maban County by both barge and road. The Logistics Cluster will advise members on mode of transport available from that corridor once information is available.

#### Common Storage

- The Logistics Cluster bi-monthly interagency stock report was compiled and released to users. The Logistics Cluster is evaluating the situation in the Maban area to identify with partners if additional storage is needed. Additionally, the Logistics Cluster is working with UNHCR to identify whether common storage facilities can be shared and maximize usage to partners.

#### Common Transport Services:

- **Barge:** The onward transport of over 130mt on barge 632 to continues.
- **Barge 666,** loaded on 31 October loaded with 230mt of interagency cargo destined for Maban, is stuck just outside of Juba due to a breakdown with the pusher. IOM is working to secure spare parts to ensure onward movement.
- **Barge 106** is currently in Melut and is being restricted for offloading, reportedly by government officials. However, barge 102 has been offloaded with vehicles and large cargo shipped on the flat deck and IOM is following up both with the government and the barge company. Trucks are in Melut on standby for onward transport of the cargo once offloaded.
- **The Logistics Cluster continues to work closely with IOM to secure an additional barge however, the current situation is such that demand cannot keep up with supply with several actors bidding for limited capacity.**
- **Boat:** One CTS fuel boat has been dispatched from Juba on the 26 November for MSF Holland, DRC, Goa, UNHCR, and SP for Maban is estimated to arrive on 03 December. Organizations were advised to please allow four days for onward transport to drop-off locations within Maban County.
- **One CTS fuel boat with fuel for MSF H, ICRC, MSF B, IMC, GOAL departed Juba on 02 November has arrived in Melut and cargo has been delivered to onward locations in Maban.**
- **Trucks:** Two Logistics Cluster trucks have been planned to depart Juba for Bentiu today where they will be stationed throughout the dry season to support agencies access Yida refugee camp. The stationing of the trucks in Bentiu is based on the reluctance of transporters to service the location due to poor road infrastructure and insecurity. However, UNDSS has temporarily suspended clearance has insecurity persists along key stretches of the route. Logistics Cluster is working with IOM to establish alternative routes to expedite the movement of trucks.
- **One truck dispatched to Yambio and Nzara on behalf of WFP P4P, and IOM NFI Cluster.**
- **Five Melut based trucks continue to shunt between Melut and the several refugee camps.**
- **Air:** As roads begin to open in Yida, agencies should by now be making the necessary arrangements for road transport. The air assets will only be available for Yida partners if there is a critical gap for the movement of lifesaving cargo. This will be allocated under the same procedure i.e. raised at the local level Yida meetings for discussion.
- **In November 73mt has been delivered by air by the Logistics Cluster**
- **The contract for both the UNHAS and Logistics Cluster Mi8 MTV helicopters is coming to an end and UNHAS and the Logistics Cluster will be sharing the two assets in December. The helicopters are also available for organizations wishing to utilize them on a cost recovery basis for items/locations outside**
of the ISWG prioritization. Partners are encouraged to feed anticipated requirements for air transport in 2013 to the Logistics Cluster for planning.

- The Buffalo fixed wing aircraft is still in country and is available for cost recovery.
- Concerns were raised regarding Paloich airport. Since it is a private airport operated by an oil company, organizations are concerned that if South Sudan resumes oil production the airport will become unusable for large aircraft. However, the Logistics Cluster mentioned that as the roads are reportedly opening from Malakal to Maban County, organizations can use the Malakal airport for landing large aircraft. Smaller aircraft can land on the Doro/Maban airstrip, which is being extended to 1,400m by UNOPS.

### ACCESS CONSTRAINTS UPDATE

- Updates to the road access constraints:
  - Juba-Bentiu: at present traffic is passing through Juba-Yirol-Rumbek-Wau-Turalie-Abiemnhom-Mayom-Bentiu. Capacity is limited to 30MT for Mayom - Abiemnhom road section. The trip takes approximately one week for trucks as the road is rough and some sections have potholes;
  - Bentiu-Yida: is passable only for light vehicles (limited to 12/15mt);
  - Rumbek -Bentiu road is via Maper and Leer is closed for all traffic;
  - Most of the roads in Jonglie state are still remained closed;
  - Wau-Tambura is road is closed because Busser bridge approach roads were washed away;
  - Yie - Lasu road is passable only for light vehicles;
  - Pagak - Mathiang-Guel guk (Gambella corridor) is closed for all traffic;
  - Malakal - Paloich is only passable for light vehicles (limited to 20mt);
  - Boma Airstrip is opened for UNHAS flights now;
  - Juba - Mundri road is only passable for light vehicles (limited to 20mt).
- IFRC reported issues regarding the sale of vehicles. The Logistics Cluster will follow up again regarding the process of selling vehicles to private entities.
- Organizations again expressed difficulty and delays in processing of tax exemptions due to the absence of the Director General of Customs. The Logistics Cluster reiterated that for any actions to be taken on behalf of the humanitarian community, we need to document clearly the delays and discrepancies in processing of tax exemption in order to liaise with the government.

### UNOPS UPDATE

- UNOPS was not available for the meeting but briefed the Logistics Cluster Coordinator who gave a brief update on current works.
- Next week UNOPS anticipates that the runway in Maban will be completed at a total length of 1,400m. Discussions are also on-going with the Logistics Cluster on diverting the road which crosses the airstrip after the conclusion of the airstrip works.
- The works on Yida airstrip are scheduled to be completed on 20 December. They have been delayed due to the lack of heavy equipment and materials to complete the works, as well as interruptions due to airdrops and significant air traffic during the rainy season. UNOPS is looking into bringing heavier equipment to Yida as the roads dry.
- A UNOPS team in Wunrok is fully mobilized and is conducting works.
- UNOPS is conducting an Abyei assessment this week and will share the results with the Logistics Cluster.
- The Pariang airstrip continues to be of concern for partners operating in the area. The Logistics Cluster noted that Pariang has been identified as a potential priority work for the 2013 dry season.

### A.O.B.

- A Logistics Cluster User Group meeting was conducted and minutes will be sent out to the mailing list so organizations can review the priorities. The key messages from the meeting included:
  - due to the competition for limited assets, the Logistics Cluster will focus interventions on key areas and difficult to reach portions of road, river, and air transport of cargo;
  - the IOM fleet of 13 CTS trucks will be prepositioned in hubs in Wau, Bor, Malakal, Maban, and Bentiu instead of servicing long journeys from Juba which occupy the assets for weeks at a time. Warehousing was also discussed but tabled until the next meeting. In the interim, organizations are
encouraged to send their anticipated storage needs to the Logistics Cluster so that they can be included in the User Group discussion.

- One organization mentioned that there are two access roads from Pariang into Northern Unity State; the Logistics Cluster will determine if an assessment of this road is possible, and if so will include it on the next access constraints map.
- Organizations mentioned the need for an additional fuel boat to service Maban County camps. IOM and the Logistics Cluster noted that currently no boat is scheduled but asked that organisations who require this service complete and submit Service Request Forms (SRFs); this will assist the Logistics Cluster in accurately assessing needs, and facilitate the consolidation of fuel transport requests to allow for the arrangement of common transport.

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Website: [http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ssp11a](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ssp11a)

**Juba, South Sudan**

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