

# PAKISTAN LOGISTICS CLUSTER - MEETING MINUTES

Islamabad

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2011

**Chair:** Simon Hacker (Logistics Cluster Coordinator)

**Participants:** Logistics Cluster, WFP, German Red Cross, International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), OXFAM GB, Solidarities, Cordaid, UNICEF

**Action Points:**

- **Logistics Cluster to share draft of Contingency Planning with partners when it is approved.**

## 1. Introduction

- The chair welcomed participants and updated the group on the Logistics Cluster's current status.
- The Logistics Cluster had contracted after the initial flood response as per the agreed exit strategy. Air operations and storage services had been completed by end-February 2011. Currently the Logistics Cluster is continuing coordination services and reduced GIS services. Contingency planning for a potential response in 2011 and the building of Strategic Warehouses are currently the two main activities for the Logistics Cluster.

## 2. Contingency Planning

- The Chair began by explaining that the Logistics Cluster is well prepared for any future emergency in Pakistan; with WFP as the Logistics Cluster lead Agency.
- The Chair informed participants that the Logistics Cluster has prepared a draft on contingency planning which is on its final stages of approval by Management. As soon as it is approved it will be shared with the Humanitarian community.
- It was briefed that for Emergency preparedness and contingency planning the Logistics Cluster is working closely with Government of Pakistan, and agencies such as the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), and the Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs).
- In response to a query it was added that the Logistics Cluster, while preparing for Contingency Planning, will try not to focus on a specific disaster type; rather, it will plan for effective and multi-disaster response. The Logistics Cluster will be able to respond anywhere in the country irrespective of the nature and extent of the disaster.
- Partners were informed that the planned Emergency Humanitarian Response Depots/Strategic Warehouses are well distributed geographically and strategically. In case of an emergency response it is foreseen that coordination will be timely and effective.
- It was discussed that if in any area experiences large-scale physical accessibility issues due to a disaster, air services can also be facilitated by the Logistics Cluster.

- It was also observed that an IDP situation may arise in North Waziristan due to military operations in the area, and the Logistics Cluster is ready to set up humanitarian hubs in coordination with partners as the FATA is a mostly restricted area for INGO movement.
- IFRC added that it has a long-term objective to build permanent warehouses in the country. It will coordinate in case of emergency by providing warehouse rentals. IFRC's warehouse in Islamabad has a storage capacity of approximately 3000 m<sup>2</sup> and some space can be opened for rent in emergency situation. IFRC also has a warehouse at Karachi that will be ready by first week of July. A nationally administrated warehouse at Nowshera is also available for rent. Furthermore IFRC has offered its assistance and coordination in case of a future emergency.

### 3. Strategic Warehouses

- The Logistics Cluster is currently in the planning and design phase of the proposed strategic warehouse construction project. Up to nine warehouses are planned. Currently funding exists for three warehouses, additional funds for the remaining six warehouses are in the pipeline.
- Presently, land has been identified in Muzaffargarh, Lahore, Quetta, Sukkur, Karachi, Hyderabad, and Gilgit for potential construction of warehouses. The Chair shared a map for Proposed Humanitarian response Depots in Pakistan. The construction is divided into two phases where Gilgit, Lahore, Quetta and Sukkur are planned to be completed in the first phase of the project and the remaining locations in the second phase.
- It was added that stock will be pre-positioned in the warehouses to ensure effectual response in emergency.
- The main idea behind the construction project is to strengthen the response of the Government of Pakistan in line with the national strategy to equip provinces for disaster response. The warehouse construction project is planned in close collaboration with the Government of Pakistan and the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). Partners were informed that the land will be provided by NDMA, and construction costs by the Logistics Cluster.
- The Logistics Cluster aims to employ low maintenance and cost-effective technology for the current project. The Logistics Cluster has some left-over items, such as Mobile Storage Units and Generators from the last emergency that can be used for the current project.
- IFRC advised against the holding of large amounts of stocks in the warehouses. It recommended storing a buffer stock, with the transport of additional stock upon requirement.
- Warehouses will be constructed keeping in view the Survival strategy (i.e. Each warehouse will have Food Items, Non-Food Items (NFIs), first aid equipment, fire protection equipment, prefabricated living rooms, etc) in order to enable a response in worst-case scenarios effectively. Solar power lightening is also seen as a potential means for ensuring cost effective warehouse construction. Moreover, the focus will be to make the facilities as environmentally efficient and 'green' as possible.
- The chair added that in order to make the project transparent and to ensure quality the process of construction can take time. The tendering phase of construction takes more time than other processes involved as construction companies must be carefully and transparently selected.
- Once the warehouses are constructed, they will be handed over to the Government. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed with the Government stating the terms and conditions for the use of the facilities by the humanitarian community.

- In response to a query by Solidarities about the import of High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) from India, it was explained that there are some restrictions on the import of items from India. NDMA has a list of items allowed to be imported from India, which can be consulted for this query.

#### 4. AOB

- The general consensus was that the next meeting will be held at the end of July, 2011.

**The time and location of the next meeting will be communicated via email.**

#### CONTACTS

Logistics Cluster Webpage: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/pak09a>

Logistics Cluster Email: [pakistan.logs@logcluster.org](mailto:pakistan.logs@logcluster.org)

Logistics Cluster Cargo Requests: [Pakistan.cargo@logcluster.org](mailto:Pakistan.cargo@logcluster.org)

#### ISLAMABAD

**Simon Hacker** (Logistics Cluster Coordinator): +92 300 852 3041

[Simon.hacker@wfp.org](mailto:Simon.hacker@wfp.org)

**Mehwish Ali** (Logistics Cluster GIS): +92 336 502 8942

[Mehwish.Ali@wfp.org](mailto:Mehwish.Ali@wfp.org)

**Dragan Lazetic** (Construction Engineer) +92 346 856 3472

[Dragan.Lazetic@wfp.org](mailto:Dragan.Lazetic@wfp.org)