MEETING MINUTES

JUBA, South Sudan

12 October 2011

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator
Participants: Logistics Cluster, MSF Switzerland, GOAL, Catholic Relief Services, Norwegian Refugee Council, WHO, AMURT, UNOPS, COSV, IOM, WFP, OCHA, DFID, Non-Violent Peace Force, Care International

Action Points:

- All organisations to continue report any problems incurred with tax-free importation to the Logistics Cluster via the template circulated.
- IOM to verify that Common Transport Barge 3 is able to stop at Shambe and Adok ports.
- All organisations to provide feedback to the Logistics Cluster on the areas identified below in order to improve the Access Constraints Map.
- Organisations who intend to make use of roads/airstrips/bridges currently tasked for priority repair to communicate their programming timelines/deadlines to the Logistics Cluster for sharing with UNOPS.

Agenda:

1. Review of previous action points
2. Update on tax-free importation
3. Common transport update
4. Review of common barge service
5. Highlights of Logistics Cluster meetings in Bentiu and Malakal
6. Current humanitarian access constraints and GIS/mapping
7. AOB

Review of previous action points

- The Logistics Cluster may continue with the assessment of roads in Jonglei State, once roads become accessible in the dry season. However, formal tasking of any repair work will only be considered if the scope of work remains within the reasonable boundaries of the spot-repair mandate and if funding becomes available.
- The Logistics Cluster/UNOPS assessment on the Renk airstrip is ongoing. However further assessment is required.
- No further information on Uland and Baliet airstrips was submitted to the Logistics Cluster so no assessments were conducted
- The Logistics Cluster is currently unable to proceed with assessment of New Fangak airstrip due to security concerns
- No additional spot-repair requests have been received by the Logistics Cluster

Update on tax-free importations

- The situation regarding tax-free importations remains unclear. The Logistics Cluster has circulated a template for reporting difficulties encountered by partner organisations, and all organisations are requested to continue gathering information to report back to the Cluster for further action through OCHA.

Common transport update

- Common transport – Trucks: Challenges continue, including road and weather conditions. A number of trucks have also become stuck in Western Equatoria and Lakes States.
- Common transport – Barge: Consolidation for Common Transport Barge 3 is underway with loading expected to commence in the coming days, users will be notified once a time has been confirmed. Common Transport Barge 3 is available for loading and/or offloading in Juba, Bor, Adok, and Malakal with Renk available for offloading only. IOM to verify if Shambe port is also accessible.
- IOM reiterated that transport of petrol and JetA1 by barge is restricted but diesel is possible in drums. IOM to check if gas cylinders may be transported. **UPDATE: Gas cylinders can NOT be transported via**
**Logistics Cluster – South Sudan**

**Review of common barge service**

- IOM provided a detailed explanation of barge operations to help users understand operational constraints, summarised as follows:
  - The common transport barges are not exclusively for the use of humanitarian operations but rather space is rented on board a commercial barge. Commercial supplies are also loaded onto the barge once humanitarian cargo has finished loading; assisting with minimising the costs per shipment.
  - Barges operate according to the schedule of the pusher and IOM/Logistics Cluster cannot control this schedule. The pusher pushes multiple barges down the river simultaneously. This means the barge cannot depart until when and if the pusher is ready.
  - IOM and the Logistics Cluster will attempt to provide users with 48 hours notice of loading, and ask that users be prepared to react quickly once notification is given.
  - Documentation: Users are required to bring 3 copies of detailed waybill to the port of loading. If users have multiple CMRs, please provide one waybill (3 copies) per CMR. Waybills should be cross-checked and verified according to actual load, and agreed to by the user, IOM, and barge load master. A load verified copy should then be sent to the consignee for off-loading facilitation.
  - There is a need for improved coordination to facilitate the offloading of cargo. Users are required to ensure clear labelling, complete with sender’s contacts, organisation, logo, CMR number, destination and contact person/s. Labelling of boxes, if possible, should be sequenced and reflect the CMR/waybill.
  - It is requested that, if items are being sent via multi-modal common transport (i.e. barge and boat Juba-Malakal-Bentiu), there is a need to label for the first destination (Juba-Malakal) and then re-label supplies for the second leg of the journey (Malakal-Bentiu) in order to reduce likelihood of loosing supplies in transit. Goods should also have one CMR per destination.

**Highlights of Logistics Cluster meeting in Bentiu and Malakal**

- Logistics Cluster meetings were held in Bentiu on 05 October and Malakal on 10 October. The main concerns expressed in both meetings were in regards to the supply of goods into the regions. The ten entry points into South Sudan as indicated by the government have yet to be identified.

- Participants in both meetings indicated that the main constraint is fuel, especially petrol. UN agencies are able to access limited supplies of diesel through UNMISS via MOUs. Local diesel prices are around 21 SSP per litre (Juba diesel is approximately 6 SSP per litre at present). UNMISS is currently looking into transport options for moving petrol and will report back to the Logistics Cluster.

- Common Transport Users were reminded to communicate the details of their cargo movements between their Juba offices and field locations. Problems have arisen with offloading where field staff have not been properly informed; supplies have not been picked up, the off-loading process has been delayed, and non-labeled/poorly labeled cargo has created confusion.

**Current humanitarian access constraints and GIS/mapping**

- Printouts of the latest Road Access Constraints Map were shared with cluster members. The Logistics Cluster is seeking further information from all organisations on the following: Tambura-Nagero culvert and bridge, Mvolo-Wulu Road, Bor-Mangalla Road, Bentiu-Mayom Road, Yirol-Alualuak Road, Turalei-Agok Road, Mvolo Bridge, Narus-Boma Road, Bor-Avod-Waat Road.

- The Logistics Cluster also reminded participants that maps can be produced on an ad-hoc basis in response to specific requests from partner organizations. GPS units are also available for loan through the Logistics Cluster and training can be arranged.

**AOB**

- UNOPS provided a presentation on current spot repair projects. The presentation is available online at [www.logcluster.org](http://www.logcluster.org).

- Following the UNOPS presentation, the need to tie humanitarian project timelines to spot repair timelines was identified. Organisations who intend to make use of roads/airstrips/bridges currently tasked for priority repair to communicate their programming timelines/deadlines to the Logistics Cluster for sharing with UNOPS.

- GOAL inquired about the possibility of establishing common warehousing in Juba. The Logistics Cluster indicated that a minimum of two agencies was required to provide common warehousing in any
location. No other organisations expressed interest.

- Participants inquired about information held on clearing agents. The Logistics Cluster noted that it is currently in the process of conducting a market assessment, including gathering information on clearing agents, and will share the report with cluster members as soon as it is completed. Also information on Cold-chain storage was requested. If partners have supplier information on hand, they are requested to share this with the Logistics Cluster.

**CONTACTS:**
Website: [http://www.logcluster.org/ops/sudan](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/sudan)

**Juba, South Sudan**

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