MEETING MINUTES

Juba, South Sudan

06 March 2012

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator
Participants: Logistics Cluster, MERLIN, MCSS, GOAL SS, IFRC, UNMISS, USAID/OFDA, UNHCR, MEDAIR, MSF-Holland

Action Points:
- Logistics Cluster to update members on the status of the barge transporting vehicles
- Logistics Cluster to follow up through OCHA on issues regarding tax exemption on vehicles
- Service Request Form (SRF) will be sent out on the mailing list

Agenda:

1. Helicopter Operations
2. Common Barge Transport
3. Common Road Transport
4. Common Warehousing
5. A.O.B

1. Helicopter Operations

- The 2 Mi8 helicopters are currently operational. Any organisations requiring cargo to be moved to remote locations are required to complete the new Service Request Form (SRF) and forward it to: southsudan.cargobooking@logcluster.org
- UNICEF, UNOPS & Medair have already begun utilising these helicopters.
- Currently, the Logistics Cluster is experiencing slow movement of goods - this may be due to delays in the procurement process.
- Quotations for moving Jet A1 by boat to Malakal is in place, currently UNHAS has no reliable supplies of Jet A1 fuel in Malakal.
- The helicopters will be operational out of Malakal/ Bentiu before rainy season.
- The Logistics Cluster is looking into securing a fixed-wing aircraft to operate between Malakal and Maban. A DHC-5 ‘Buffalo’ may be available in Kenya (7 mt capacity) and could operate 3 rotations per day.
- The rehabilitation of Maban airstrip began on Monday 05 March 2012 and is planned to be completed before the rainy season.

2. Common Barge Transport

- Barge activities are on-going, with 80 mt already committed for the next journey.
- A barge operating company is currently in discussion with the Logistics Cluster about providing the barge service for the Common Transport Services. This extra capacity could improve the barge operations during busy periods.
- The last barge despatched from Juba, transporting vehicles to Malakal, was held up in Bor for about 6 days but is now currently on its’ way to Malakal.

3. Common Road Transport

- Road operations have been supplemented with 5 smaller trucks (Scania 4x4) carrying 6 mt.
- Djibouti-Gambela-Malakal corridor is open. It was discussed that procuring commodities through Ethiopia is much cheaper than in Juba and is also much faster.
- MSF Holland reported that in Nasser traders buy goods from Ethiopia and sell them at reasonable prices. This includes construction materials and fuel.
- Cluster members who have used this route before, or who are planning to in the future, are requested to give updates to the Logistics Cluster.
- During the rainy season the barge operation will continue on this route via the Sobat River corridor.
- The Logistics Cluster conducted an airstrip and road assessment on 05 March in Jonglei State:
  - Bor-Gadiang-Akobo - road is open but there are security problems
4. Common Warehousing

- The Logistics Cluster has Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) around the Country, including one in Akobo.
- The Logistics Cluster ordered more MSUs from Kampala. Four MSU’s have been borrowed by MSF and a few will remain in stock for any arising needs.

5. UNMISS Security Update

- The disarmament process on-going in Jonglei State and is conducted by SPLA.
- Returnee situation from Sudan is unconfirmed while April is fast approaching. More than 500,000 refugees are expected to arrive in South Sudan through Renk.
- UNMISS are planning to have a mission to Malakal-Bentiu-Renk to evaluate the situation.
- UNMISS are preparing a form to be used by the Logistics Cluster members in requesting support e.g. escorts.
- UNMISS will be able to update the Logistics Cluster in case of any changes on the ground.

6. AOB

- WFP are positioning a Logistics Officer at Gambella (in Ethiopia) to provide support on the Djibouti-Ethiopia-Malakal corridor and is willing to assist the Logistics Cluster. If any member has a question about this corridor please direct inquiries to: daryl.ainsworth@wfp.org
- The new Service Request Form (SRF) is being used to streamline the operations. It covers air, barge, and road transport which offers easy tracking of movement of goods and better accountability.
- Logistics Cluster is currently seeking funds through the donors and we will be presenting the proposal for South Sudan for the Common Humanitarian Fund (CHF) on Friday 09 March.
- The Procedure from annual tax exemption on vehicles will be communicated to Logistics Cluster members.

Contacts:
Website: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ssd11a

Juba, South Sudan

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