MEETING MINUTES

Juba, South Sudan
18 December 2012

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

Participants: Solidarités, VSO, Handicap International, ACTED, UNOPS, UNHCR, MedAir, UNMISS, IMC, Samaritan’s Purse, MSF-H, Malaria Consortium

Action Points:
- Organizations are encouraged to continue to inform the Logistics Cluster of any tax exemption or customs clearing challenges.
- The Logistics Cluster will follow up with the Bank of South Sudan regarding documentation for carrying cash within South Sudan.
- The Logistics Cluster will hold a User Group meeting to discuss storage prepositioning and road/airstrip priorities.
- Organizations interested in procurement issues may form a sub-group; the Logistics Cluster is prepared to facilitate such a meeting.
- A separate meeting dedicated to discussing the refugee response and logistics priorities (including road works, storage, fuel, roads, workshops, etc.) will take place later this week.

Agenda:
1. Operational Update/Humanitarian Overview
2. Common Transport Services
3. Access Constraints
4. UNOPS Update
5. UNHCR Update
6. A.O.B.

Action Points from the Last Meeting:
- The Logistics Cluster has investigated customs clearance procedures and carrying of cash with officials at Juba Airport, however we were referred to the Bank of South Sudan and no official was available for comment.
- The Logistics Cluster will follow up again and report back; Organizations are encouraged to continue to inform the Logistics Cluster of any tax exemption or customs clearing challenges, with the impact on operations clearly identified.
- The Logistics Cluster has contacted the Information Office officials at the Fire Brigade in Juba. They will be changing into a broader service in early 2013, however inspections can be conducted at the local level in the meantime. They are not to request payment for their assessment. Organizations are encouraged to contact the local South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) and the Information Office of the Fire Brigade in Juba if they are being requested to pay.
- 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 however nothing has been received. The Logistics Cluster will meet with the User Group this week to discuss prepositioning the storage units; UNHAS holiday schedule and booking deadlines have been sent out.

General Humanitarian Update:
- The SPLA exchanged fire with a rebel group in Likongole, near the river. Reports are still being collected as to the number of people affected.
- Media sources have reported that 200 fighters from the DYY group have surrendered themselves to the SPLA in Pibor.
- On 15 December the driver of a commercial truck contracted by a humanitarian agency carrying supplies to Rumbek was shot and killed by armed men in Rupbuolriak about 12km from Rumbek after being robbed.
- An outbreak of violence sparked by protests in Western Bahr el Ghazal State led to the death of nine people in Wau, several buildings were also destroyed by burning.
- There has been a general increase in crime and violence reported across the country, including Juba.
Organizations are advised to stay vigilant during the holiday period.

**Common Transport Services**

**Barge:**
- One NFI barge (672) was loaded last week with over 200mt of cargo on behalf of UNICEF, GOAL, Mentor Initiative, Solidarités, SP, IOM, WFP, World Vision, Serving in Mission, ICRC and Samaritans Purse.
- Barge 666, which was loaded in late October and has suffered mechanical issues with the pusher is scheduled to depart with barge 672 on Friday of this week.

**Boat:**
- On Friday of last week one fuel boat was loaded with 140 barrels of fuel on behalf of Solidarités, ICRC, SP and MAF; it has departed Juba and should arrive in Malakal on Monday for onward transport to Maban via Common Transport Service (CTS) trucks prepositioned in Upper Nile.
- The Logistics Cluster, in an attempt to clear a backlog prior to the new year, will be scheduling additional NFI and fuel boats this week for loading and departure to Upper Nile. Organizations will be contacted directly for loading as usual.

**Trucks:**
- The three trucks for Unity State response have arrived in Bentiu and are ready for field deployment. Over the past week the trucks in Wau moved nutritional supplements on behalf of ACF from Wau to Alek but are back in Wau and ready for deployment.
- All other trucks are prepositioned and ready for deployment.

**Air:**
- One helicopter has been moved to Bor to respond to the humanitarian situation created by conflict in Gumruk. The helicopter cannot fly directly into Gumruk due to security constraints, it will be landing in Pibor.
- Both the Buffalo fixed wing and the helicopter contracts will end on 20 December and will not be available until the rainy season, or until the need has been confirmed from humanitarian partners (based on funding available).

**Access Constraints Update**

- Access Constraints Map Updates:
  - Road between Wau and Tambura is now open and traffic is moving again.
  - Road between Lafon and Torit is now open and traffic is moving again.
  - Road between Narus and Boma (up to Pochala or Raat) is currently under assessment and the results will be available later this week and reflected on the next Access Constraints Map.
  - Small trucks (10mt) can now travel from Juba to Yida via Rumbek-Wau-Bentiu-Yida.
  - Road between Ayod and Malakal is still not passable
  - Road section between Jambo and Lui is being worked on by UNOPS and should be passable in the coming week.
  - Pariang-Malakal road is passable for light vehicles (reported by UNOPS during meeting).
- During the next Logistics Cluster meeting, the GIS Officer will provide information regarding an online version of the Access Constraints Map which could enable more frequent updates by both users and the Logistics Cluster.

**UNOPS Update**

- UNOPS is conducting repair work on the Juba-Mundri road section at Jambo and Lui. Major work has been completed on small sections that had failed and additional work to repair other road sections is scheduled. More work is needed on this section of road to ensure that it will remain open during the 2013 rainy season.
- In Maban, 1,400m on the airstrip has been completed and small drainage works are ongoing. However, operations have halted due to access constraints relating to the imposition of ad hoc taxes on murram. UNOPS and UNHCR have met with OCHA and the issue is being raised with relevant government counterparts.
- In Yida, the airstrip has been completed up to 800m long and 12m wide. No additional work is anticipated on the airstrip.
- Following the recent assessment, UNOPS has recommended that a prioritization exercise including the Logistics Cluster and key stakeholders take place early in 2013 to address additional tasks such as the Panyang-Yida or Pariang-Panyang roads to ensure access during the rainy season. Needs will also be
UNHCR Update

- Approximately 2,000 refugees have entered South Sudan from neighboring DRC and are now located in Central Equatoria’s Morobo County.
- The anticipated surge in the arrival of additional refugees into Upper Nile State has not happened and only small numbers of refugees are entering. However, UNHCR are continuing to look for new locations for camps and are conducting joint assessments with the government.
- In Maban County, there have been issues related to taxation being levied on contractors who are working to improve the road/airstrip conditions. Currently work has halted and will begin as soon as the issue has been resolved. OCHA and the HCT have been briefed and will take up the issue at a higher government level. UNMISS were requested to confirm if they have experienced the same or if they are paying for marrum.
- In Unity State, several thousand refugees are entering each week and UNHCR is completing a biometrics exercise to confirm the population size. The initial results have resulted in a reduction in the figures by approximately 9% (around 50,000 confirmed). In cooperation with the Logistics Cluster and UNOPS a road survey has been completed on the road leading to Jamjeng (A potential new refugee settlement site) from Yida and Pariang and results will be available next week. Initial results indicate that the area would be inaccessible during the rains.
- UNHCR is working with partners on the ground in Unity State to ensure prepositioning is adequate to support the population during the rainy season and decrease reliability on air assets.
- A separate meeting dedicated to discussing the refugee response and logistics priorities (including road works, storage, fuel, roads, workshops, etc.) will occur later this week.

A.O.B.

- ICRC has contacted the Logistics Cluster regarding a procurement supplier list for South Sudan. The Logistics Cluster will send out information to the mailing list and facilitate a sub-group to discuss vendors and procurement.
- The first meeting of 2013 will be held on Tuesday 08 January at 10am.

Contacts:
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