LOGISTICS CLUSTER – MEETING MINUTES

HAITI - CHOLERA RESPONSE

Date/Time: Tuesday, 07 December 2010 / 09:30-10:45
Location: UNFPA meeting room, LogBase, Port-au-Prince

Present:

Chair: Logistics Cluster Deputy Coordinator


1. REVIEW OF LAST WEEK’S ACTION POINTS

ACTION POINTS for the LOGISTICS CLUSTER:

- To circulate an e-mail requesting info in regards to warehouse locations and capacity in order for the GIS unit to update the “Participants warehouse assets” map.
  ➔ Done; feedback received from UNICEF, UNFPA, GOAL, American Refugee Committee.

A few days later the Logistics Cluster also circulated an e-mail on behalf of the Centre d’Operation d’Urgence Nationale (COUN), requesting an inventory of logistics capacity (transport, storage) that could be made available in the frame of the Cholera response.

  ➔ Feedback received from ACF, American Refugee Committee, CBM, Direct Relief International and IFRC.

- To meet with port operators regarding the congestion.
  ➔ Update later during the meeting.

ACTION POINTS for Logistics Cluster PARTICIPANTS:

- To inform about expected cargo movements / pipeline information.
  ➔ Pipeline information has been received by UNICEF, IFRC, WHO/PAHO and USAID.

- To provide feedback in regards to emergency preparedness and response activities for the lessons learnt document.
  ➔ No feedback received; the Logistics Cluster will prepare a set of questions and circulate these.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

- Ms Edita Nichols, who worked with IMC in Haiti earlier this year, joined the Logistics Cluster team this week and will be in charge of Commodity Tracking (replacement of Cristina Graziani). She will be working with Alphonse Bedouet. The e-mail address remains the same; please write to haiti.cargo@logcluster.org for all cargo movement and temporary storage requests.

- Mr Gilles Cimetiere, Logistics Officer from the Global Logistics Cluster Support Cell in WFP HQ, returned to Haiti and resumed his coordination function with WHO/PAHO.
3. SITUATION UPDATE

- Updated figures from the Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) are available at http://www.mspp.gouv.ht
- The latest figures (04 Dec) indicate 399 more deaths occurred this week. The death toll now stands at 2,120; the number of hospitalized (severe) cases increased to 44,157 since the outbreak (10,672 increase from last week), and altogether 93,222 people (17,334 increase from last week) have sought medical attention.
- WHO/PAHO reported on 06 Dec, that their management and other public health experts believe however that these figures significantly underestimate the true toll of the epidemic because of accessibility gaps in case reporting.
- WHO/PAHO and the CDC estimate 400,000 cases will occur over the first 12 months, with as many as half those cases occurring in the first three months of the epidemic (end Oct-end Jan).
- Ministry of Health is developing plans, with support from UN agencies, to increase the number of Cholera Treatment Centers (CTC), Cholera Treatment Units (CTU) and Oral Rehydration Posts (ORP).
- Haitian authorities are also expanding efforts to treatment at the family level by providing chlorination tablets and Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS).

4. OPERATIONS UPDATE

4.1 Transport

- Transport (road and air) provided in response to the Cholera epidemic (22 Oct – 06 Dec):
  - WHO/PAHO: 168.7mt; UNICEF: 77.8mt; UNFPA: 75.1mt; MdM France: 23.1mt; Croix Rouge Française: 22.5mt; WFP: 12.1mt; ACF: 3.3mt; J/P HRO: 2.3mt; Atlas Logistique: 2mt; Government of Haiti: 1.5mt; Other 21.8mt; TOTAL: 438.9mt
  - The WFP/Logistics Cluster barge travelled on its last journey from Port-au-Prince to Anse-a-Galets, a port town on Ile de la Gonave. The barge carried 800mt of mainly food commodities on behalf of World Vision International. The contract of the barge will end on 16 December and might be renewed next year for the next hurricane season.
  - In addition to surface transport, 2x Mi-171 helicopter, with a capacity of 3mt each, can airlift cargo (and passengers) from Port-au-Prince and the regional hubs to the most inaccessible areas.
  - The Transport Dashboard – Overview of Deliveries is available at: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/deliveries-overview

4.2 Storage

- The Logistics Cluster open storage site in Croix des Bouquets, where organisations can setup and manage their own Mobile Storage Units, will be closed on 31 December. This site was established on the road to Malpasse/Imani border crossing at the beginning of the year, when the majority of earthquake relief items entered the country from the Dominican Republic. The location is not suitable for the Cholera response, where relief items are being imported through the air- and seaport in Port-au-Prince, hence, a new storage site will be established closer to the city, in Tabarre1, where there is already a WFP warehouse.
- Two of the Mobile Storage Units (MSUs), which arrived from Panama earlier this month, will be transported to Petit Goave; two more will be erected in the IOM compound in Port-au-Prince to store the NFI incoming pipeline for the Cholera response.

⇒ ACTION POINT: Logistics Cluster participants to provide information on expected air and sea cargo requirements / pipeline, in order for the Logistics Cluster to mobilise resources accordingly.

⇒ ACTION POINT: Logistics Cluster participants are requested to start collecting their commodities from the storage site in Croix des Bouquets.
4.3 Geographic Information System (GIS)

- Two new road condition maps have been published on the Logistics Cluster website: one for the Nord-Est department and one for the Sud-Est.
- Upcoming map projects: Operational warehouses, UNHAS cargo deliveries and General Logistics Planning maps for various departments.
- The GIS unit is on standby for mapping requests from Logistics Cluster participants.
- Logistics Cluster map products are available from the Map Centre on the website: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/hti10a/docs?doctype=Maps%20%26%20Geograph.

**ACTION POINT:** Logistics Cluster participants are requested to continue submitting information in regards to warehouse locations and capacity in order for the GIS unit to update the “Participants warehouse assets” map.

4.4 Emergency Preparedness and Response

- The Logistics Cluster is part of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group (WG) coordinated by OCHA. The WG was set up with two objectives:
  - To start early planning and coordination for the 2011 cyclonic season. In this regard, participants’ feedback on the 2010 hurricane season is very important. In addition, the logistics capacity inventory matrix, which is currently being compiled for the Cholera response, could also be used in the framework of the 2011 hurricane season preparedness planning.
  - As an initial task, the WG has analyzed information flow mechanisms between various emergency operations centres: Emergency Joint Operations Centre (EJOINT, humanitarian coordination), Expanded Joint Operations Centre (EJOC, coordination with the military) and the COUN.
  - In terms of emergency response, the WG focused in the last week on a first draft of an Inter-Agency Cholera response plan.

**ACTION POINT:** The Logistics Cluster will prepare a set of questions, which will be submitted to participants in order to receive feedback in regards to key aspects of the 2010 contingency planning and emergency preparedness response activities for the lessons learnt document.

4.5 Civil/Military Coordination

- MINUSTAH is currently looking at possible support they can offer to the Humanitarian Community in response to the Cholera epidemic. Within this framework, OCHA will host a meeting on Wednesday 08 December at 11:00h to look at how the military and humanitarians interact in Haiti and to start discussions on the need for Haiti-specific guidelines. *(Note: this meeting had to be postponed; we will share the new date as soon as available).* OCHA’s Civil Military Coordination Team, with inputs from the Logistics Cluster, has already drawn up draft guidance for the coordination and implementation of possible military support to the cholera crisis. The document will be used to initiate the discussion, as well as similar country specific guidelines from other countries where this process has already taken place (Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan).

4.6 Update from meetings with the COUN at the Presidential Palace

- Various Working Groups (WG) meet at the Palace on a daily basis. The Logistics Cluster is part of the “Logistics and Supply” WG, which focuses on discussions on difficulties related to procurement and gaps/bottlenecks. It is mainly meant in support of the Health Cluster and for NGOs dealing with health issues. Recent discussions:
  - Humanitarian shipments arriving at the airport in Port-au-Prince by commercial companies are not being taken care of by the airport operators. They remain at the ramp, and organisations are not being informed about their arrival.
The congestion at the port is a structural problem. The pier is still partly damaged, there are not sufficient cranes and other container handling equipment available, and often commercial containers are being stacked with containers with humanitarian cargo. Hence it can take several weeks to get humanitarian goods released from the port.

**ACTION POINT:** The Logistics Cluster will try to negotiate a reserved area/ separate yard at the port for containers with humanitarian cargo, away from the commercial containers.

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### 5. Q&A

- IRD is enquiring about the level of coordination in terms of setting up CTCs.
  - The Logistics Cluster can link participants with the MSPP and/or the Health Cluster. Daily coordination meetings take place at the Presidential Palace with the COUN.
  - Samaritan’s Purse is pointing out that they are currently setting up a CTC (200 bed capacity) in Cite Soleil.
  - GrassRoots United is establishing CTCs, however, is facing a funding shortfall beyond 30 December 2010.

- Oxfam will assist with the chlorination of dead bodies; and reminded participants that the *300 line is available now for all Cholera related issues (ambulances, transport of bodies, etc).

- IRD is asking if supplies can be directly taken to the MSUs the Logistics Clusters set up by the PROMESS warehouse.
  - Yes, however storage at PROMESS is temporary and primarily for air cargo arrivals.

- GrassRoots United is enquiring if UNHAS can also do airdrops.
  - This can be discussed, but rather than air drop, UNHAS might consider using slings. Staff, however need to be on the ground to receive the cargo in order to avoid problems with distributions.

- Plan International is asking if minutes from the WG meetings at the Palace can be shared.
  - **ACTION POINT:** The Logistics Cluster will share WG meeting minutes from the COUN.

- IOM is advising that they have Personal Protection Kits, donated by USAID, in their warehouse and interested organisation can get in touch with IOM.
  - Plan International is expressing interest in the kits.

- CBM is enquiring about the process for obtaining authorisation to access PROMESS stock.
  - The NGO needs an authorization to operate in the frame of the Cholera response at the Departmental level (Directeur Departmental) or Central level (Direction de la Pharmacie).

- Oxfam is asking if a PROMESS stock overview is available.
  - A website was launched by WHO/PAHO, where stocks can be reviewed in real time [http://new.paho.org/promesswarehouse/](http://new.paho.org/promesswarehouse/)

- Plan International is in need of ambulances, which have been ordered, but facing a six-month delay in regards to insurance and registration. Also J/P HRO and IOM are pointing out that they are
encountering difficulties with the registration and that they have been advised to get regular plates, as no OI plates are available anymore.

- The Direction de la Protection Civile (DPC) offered support in speeding up the process. The Logistics Cluster can provide contact details.

- UNFPA is looking for storage space in Fort Liberte.
  - Merlin is offering support, as they have a storage facility near-by.

- CBM would like to know if anybody has experience with importing vehicles from the Dom Rep.
  - This was done frequently at the beginning of the earthquake response; Support documentation needs to be obtained from the border authorities of both countries. The Logistics Cluster can provide a list of required documents.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 14 December 2010, at 09:30h, UNFPA Conference Room, LogBase, Port-au-Prince.

End.