SANTO DOMINGO LOGISTICS CLUSTER – MEETING MINUTES

Haiti Earthquake
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
28 April 2010

1. Opening of the meeting
   • The members were informed that this would be the last regular Logistics Cluster meeting. However, future meetings may be organised if so required. One such future meeting may be held to introduce a representative of the Haitian Department of Civil Protection (DPC) to the Cluster members.
   • Carlos Melendez, the Regional Logistics Officer of WFP, was introduced.

   Action Point: N/A

2. Update on the situation in Haiti
   • The LC encourages the use of the website for information on operational issues.
   • SAHDEC, an Haitian NGO can provide support with registration and customs issues. Contact information: Ms. Inesse +509 37651292 or +509 34106018/pasteury@yahoo.fr
   • The current fuel shortage is considered to be of a temporary nature only. Fuel tankers are calling at PaP on 28 April and in the first week of May.
   • The volume handled at Port-au-Prince seaport is increasing. Several assessments of the different ports in Haiti have been carried out and the LC will summarise these, post the summary on the web and update with details as they become available.
   • Organisations that are in need of storage space can use Cluster warehouse 3 to set up their own storage units. The Haiti Logistics Cluster can provide interested organisations with more information.

3. Update on the situation in the Dominican Republic
   • Friday 30 April is the last day for receipt of CMRs, and 15 May is the last day for transport ex Santo Domingo.
   • The Logistics Cluster will share as much information as possible about different providers of logistics services in the Dominican Republic.
   • All organisations are encouraged to let the Cluster know what, if any, specific issues for which there is a lack of sufficient information.
   • All Cluster users are encouraged to subscribe to the general Haiti Logistics Cluster mailing list – subscription can be done on the website. The local Dominican Republic mailing list may still be used for potential upcoming meetings.
   • Logistics Cluster and WFP staff will still be available in Santo Domingo to advise organisations on logistics issues. Elizabet Fadul (Elizabet.Fadul@wfp.org) and Deyvy Roa (Deyvy.Roa@wfp.org) were introduced to the Cluster as key staff who are based permanently in Santo Domingo. The general email address, logcluster.sdq@wfp.org will also remain in use.

   Action Point: N/A

4. Updates from UNHAS
   • UNHAS operation continues as normal with two-three daily flights ex Santo Domingo with the Caravan.
   • More than 3000 passengers have to this date flown with UNHAS from Santo Domingo to Port-au-Prince.
   • Mike Aitchison is back as head of the UNHAS operation in Santo Domingo.
• In Haiti, 2 helicopters have been taken of contract, and the UNHAS operation is currently served by one cargo helicopter and one assessment helicopter.

**Action Point:** The Logistics Cluster to share information about providers of logistics services in the Dominican Republic.

5. **Questions and updates from participants**
   • Several organisations expressed their gratitude to the Logistics Cluster for the services provided in this emergency.
   • With respect to a potential resume of Logistics Cluster services, Cluster members were reminded that there is no one factor that may trigger that. Rather, the activation of the various Clusters depends on sector needs.
   • MercyCorps expressed dissatisfaction with the way in which the decision to discontinue the services in Santo Domingo was made, saying that Cluster members had not been sufficiently consulted. Furthermore, customs clearance processes are still perceived as a gap, especially for unregistered organisations, something which could justify continued Logistics Cluster assistance.
   • Representatives from the Clinton Foundation shared their experiences on the customs clearance process. It is confirmed that all regular customs clearance documents are now required to pass the border.
   • Cluster members were reminded of the existing Yahoo-group as a tool for sharing information in logistics and procurement issues. The yahoo-group is found here: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SD-Haiti-NGO-Forum](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SD-Haiti-NGO-Forum). Please contact moderator Rob Valdez (mxrvaldez@gmail.com) from MercyCorps if you are interested in joining.

6. **Closure**
   • As of 28 April, the Logistics Cluster has moved:
     • 1120 truckloads from SD to various destinations in Haiti
     • 42000 m³ of NFIs – in addition to 4100 mt of WFP food commodities
     • From the Logistics Cluster side it has been a pleasure to work with all Santo Domingo Logistics Cluster members!