

- LOCATION:** Beirut, Lebanon
DATE: 25 July 2013
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Officer
PARTICIPANTS: WFP, Save the Children, Merlin, World Vision, UNICEF, IOM, IMC
ACTION POINTS:
- Service Request Forms (SRFs) for free-to-user transport and warehousing services must be sent to syria.cargo@logcluster.org
 - Participants to send any IM or GIS/Mapping requests to the relevant Logistics Cluster focal point below.
 - Participants requested that the Coordination Meeting be held once a month in Beirut; updates to follow via email regarding the date and time of the next Meeting.

Situation Update

Corridors Update

- The Lebanon/Syria border crossing 'Al-Masnaa' is open. Occasional closures have been experienced; however in general, the crossing continues to remain operational.
- The Lebanon/Syria border crossing 'Abboudieh' is open.
- The Lebanon/Syria 'Al-Arida' border crossing is open.
- The Jordan/Syria official border crossing point 'Jaber/Al-Naseeb' faces intermittent opening and closures, due to the volatile situation on the road which leads to Dara'a. This border-crossing is not being utilised for Logistics Cluster operations.
- The Syria/Iraq official border crossing is open. Partners were requested to inform the Logistics Cluster if they are using it.
- The Beirut-Tripoli Highway is currently open. No more issues have been reported regarding the highway; previously it was subject to sporadic closing.

Port Updates

- Beirut Port is not congested.
- Lattakia Port is not congested. The Logistics Cluster is reconsidering the practicality of using this port to support operations due to the increase in storage capacity in Safita, approximately 30km from Tartous.
- Tartous Port is not congested. The Logistics Cluster encouraged participants to utilise Tartous Port; as indicated above it is closer, and therefore provides easier access, to the Safita storage facility.

Common Services Update

Joint Humanitarian Convoys

- A Joint Humanitarian Convoy, supported by the Logistics Cluster and consisting of 15 trucks reached Aleppo on 14 July. Over 443MT/ 944m³ of relief cargo was transported on behalf of IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNRWA, WFP and WHO to support food, health, shelter, WASH and education programmes.
- The possible destinations for the next convoys are: rural Damascus, Rastan, Hamah, and Daraa. Organisations interested in sending cargo should contact OCHA and the Logistics Cluster.
- The destinations and types of cargo are being prioritized by the inter-sector coordination group in Damascus, which meets every Thursday at OCHA's office.

Storage

- WFP has allocated space in two storage facilities, one in rural Damascus and the other in Safita, for use by the humanitarian community, storage requests to be coordinated through the Logistics Cluster.
- Works at Safita, to increase storage capacity, continued this week; out of a planned 15 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs), 11 have so far been erected. The work is scheduled for completion by the end of the week.
- 6 of these MSUs (Approximately 2000m²) will be available for inter-agency usage, coordinated through the Logistics Cluster. Participants will be informed as soon as the storage facility is complete and inter-agency space is available. More space may be provided on request, and based on need.

Fuel

- The latest fuel price comparison sheet (since 01 April) was shared with participants; this compares the official and market rates of Diesel and Benzene in Damascus, Homs, Latakia/Tartous/Safita and Qamishli.
- As a contingency measure the Logistics Cluster has established a fuel depot in Damascus. The Logistics Cluster may provide fuel to partners, on a cost-recovery basis, in the event of a fuel shortage.

