MEETING MINUTES
Rubkona, Bentiu, South Sudan
18 July 2011

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator
Participants: WFP, WV, IOM, UNOCHA, CARE, RCSO, RSR.

Action Points:
1. Cluster to request WFP representative support in a letter to Director of Mission Support (DMS) United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) to aid in establishing humanitarian warehousing where available in Unity State (UNMISS) County Support Bases (CSBs).
2. UNOCHA to check for possible representation with South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC) aiming at securing minimum levels of fuel for humanitarian operations at Unity State level.
3. Resident Coordinator’s Support Office (RCSO) to inform on UNMAO’s anticipated demining schedule for Unity State. Logistics Cluster to liaise with UNMAO for regular road accessibility updates for info sharing at Bentiu level.
4. Logistics Cluster to liaise with WFP representatives and International Organization for Migration (IOM) on possibilities to augment Bentiu truck capacity with available fleet assets for potential humanitarian partner use as either a Common Transport Service (CTS) or on a cost recovery basis.
5. RCSO to provide update on the Rubkona airstrip upgrading project.

Agenda:
1. Discuss previous action items and approve minutes from 06 July 2011
2. Common warehousing
3. Fuel provisions
4. Road accessibility and truck capacity
5. Rubkona airstrip
6. AOB

Discuss Previous action items and approve minutes from 06 July 2011
- No minutes were presented from the last meeting. In future it was suggested that action items completed prior to next meeting should be removed from the table following agreement with the meeting partners. Action items that remain pending should be commented on and status updates provided.

Common Warehousing
- UNOCHA requested info on Logistics Cluster’s strategy to provide common warehousing in Bentiu and Pariang County to respond to the ongoing Jau displaced beneficiaries.
- The meeting was informed that 2 Logistics Cluster MSUs were currently being sent from Malakal to Bentiu to support Unity State common warehousing needs. The RCSO’s office were asked to look into an agreement with UNMISS to provide space at the Pariang CSB for 1 MSU. Logistics Cluster was advised to also take this up with WFP’s representative to be addressed at the appropriate Juba level with UNMISS DMS.
- It was agreed that once established, common warehouse MSUs will require partner’s local presence staff to support where WFP/Logistics Cluster do not have a presence.

Fuel Provisions
- Partners reported that operations were suffering from extremely high fuel prices within Unity State. Fuel on the regular market was often not available leaving partners susceptible to exploitative prices on the black market. It was suggested that OCHA request SSRRC to liaise
with the county commission to secure a minimum volume of fuel for humanitarian operations from the regular market.

- Additionally, the planned Logistics Cluster river CTS may also be available to transport fuel on behalf of partners from Juba to Bentiu once modalities have been finalized. However these may be impeded by rain constraints.
- Additionally, the planned Logistics Cluster river CTS may also be available to transport fuel on behalf of partners from Juba to Bentiu by river due to rains constrains, once modalities have been finalized.

Road Accessibility and Truck Capacity

- Accessibility within Unity State was becoming increasingly difficult as a result of insecurity, (mines) and poor weather. RCSO informed that UNMAO were anticipated soon in Unity State, however their deployment had also been delayed by inaccessibility issues.
- Partners also requested that truck capacity be augmented. Logistics Cluster is to look at options for CTS within Unity State using either IOM or potentially WFP fleet capacities.

Rubkona Airstrip

- The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) project to upgrade Rubkona airstrip remains ongoing. RCSO office, Bentiu is to provide information on progress and expected date of completion. For the time being, Unity airstrip remains open for use and provides an adequate alternative for air operations.

AOB

- OHCA requested improvements to the agenda and notification of the Logistics Cluster meetings going forward. Logistics Cluster remains fully committed to improving performance.
- Partners were requested by Logistics Cluster to subscribe to the southsudan.logs info sharing platform. For inclusion on the southsudan.logs cc list, kindly send an email to Diana.Lodiong@wfp.org and cc Faheem.Araie@wfp.org. Partners were also invited to view Logistics Cluster info and activities by visiting our website: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/sudan

Next Meeting: 4 August at 11:00 – Conference Room, UN Compound, Rubkona, Bentiu