LOGISTICS COORDINATION MEETING MINUTES

North Africa Crisis - Cairo, Egypt

6 April 2011

Chair: WFP

Action Point: Organizations to continue sharing any information they may have on logistics service providers for WFP to add to the lists already circulated.

Action Point: WFP to circulate a template for sharing of pipeline information. Organisations to provide pipeline information in this format.

Action Point: WFP to keep the humanitarian community updated on the space available in the WFP Benghazi warehouse.

Action Point: Organisations to share with WFP any specific bottlenecks/problems experienced with Egyptian customs, in order to help identify issues which WFP can raise with the Egyptian Customs Authority.

1. Review of Action Points from Last Week

   • **Demurrage rates:** WFP clarified that a rate of US$ 150 per truck per day would be charged if WFP-contracted trucks are delayed at the Egypt/Libya border when transporting humanitarian cargo.

   • **Sharing names of service providers:** The contacts of some additional suppliers for Tunisia were received and added to the list of service providers. No additional suppliers’ names were received for Egypt or Libya. Participants were invited to continue sharing any names they may have.

   • **Customs information:** WFP is continuing to collect information on Libyan customs to update the brief that was previously made available. On 6 April, WFP posted a briefing on Egyptian customs at: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica/egypt_customs_information_overview/view

   • **Pipeline:** No information has been received yet on the pipeline of humanitarian organisations. WFP will circulate a template for collection of pipeline information.

   **Action points:**
   
   • Organisations to continue sharing any information they may have on logistics service providers for WFP to add to the lists already shared.

   • WFP to circulate a template for sharing of pipeline information. Organisations to provide pipeline information in this format.

2. Customs Issues

   • Information on custom procedures in Egypt and Tunisia have been shared and posted on http://www.logcluster.org/. Hard copies of the Egypt customs brief were also distributed at the meeting. WFP requested participants to share their experiences on custom clearance in order to enable further updates to be added to these documents.

   • WFP reminded participants that it is not responsible for custom clearance when transporting cargo for other organisations. In case cargo transported by WFP gets stuck at the border as a result of missing documentation, the organisation that owns the cargo would have to pay demurrage fees.

   • WFP underlined the difference in clearance procedures for cargo which is in transit and cargo which needs to be re-exported from Egypt.

   • UNICEF shared its experience of sending cargo from Egypt to Libya. UNICEF applied to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for permission to export to Libya and received a positive reply after two days. The
shipment was accompanied by a packing list and a UNICEF letter to the transporter stating that the cargo was humanitarian aid for Libya. The latter document was issued in place of the certificate of origin, which was not available. Participants were reminded, however, that the procedures which apply to UNICEF, as a UN agency, may not necessarily apply to NGOs.

- WHO shared its experience of sending cargo from Egypt to Libya. According to WHO there is no problem crossing the border, as long as the documentation states that the cargo is humanitarian aid going to Libya and the cargo is accompanied by proper documents (especially signed transit documents, packing list and certificate of donation). WHO also announced that there is a WHO team at the border in Salloum, which can facilitate customs clearance for humanitarian aid.

- WFP informed participants that the Humanitarian Coordinator, WFP, WHO and UNICEF have requested the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt to facilitate the flow of relief supplies and support equipment to Libya.

**Action point:**
- Organisations to share with WFP any specific bottlenecks/problems experienced with Egyptian customs, in order to help identify issues which WFP can raise with the Egyptian Customs Authority.

3. **Briefing on WFP Transport and Storage Services**

- **Transport:** WFP is currently handling one request from IRD and two requests from IMC for transport from Egypt to Benghazi.

- **Storage:** WFP is storing UNICEF hygiene kits, recreation kits and early childhood development kits in Benghazi. There is currently no shortage of space available in the WFP warehouse in Benghazi.

**Action point:**
- WFP to keep the humanitarian community updated on space available in the WFP Benghazi warehouse.

4. **New Information Products Produced During the Week**

- During the past week, WFP shared the following products with the humanitarian community:

  **Posted on the website** http://www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica:

  - Minutes of Cairo 30 March logistics coordination meeting
  - Minutes of Zarzis, Tunisia 30 March logistics sector meeting
  - Tunisia Transporters & Forwarding Companies (Update)
  - Overview of ports in Tunisia
  - Update on Benghazi port and airport
  - Tunisia customs overview

  **Circulated by e-mail:**

  - Communications in Libya, Egypt and Tunisia (2, 3, 5 April)
  - Salloum (Egypt) Border Contacts

5. **Tour de Table – Update on Organisations’ Operations inside Libya**

- IOM is currently handling two batches of medicines. One of the batches was already provided to IMC and will soon be transported to Benghazi.
• **Libyan Appeal Team** has warehouses in Benghazi and Ajdabiya and is willing to share them with other humanitarian organisations in case needed. Libyan Appeal Team received a convoy of 17 trucks of food and medicine in Libya today.

• **WHO** has dispatched trauma kits to Benghazi and trauma kits and consumables to Tobruq.

• **ACTED** is planning to transport NFIs from Alexandria to Libya in the coming days.

• **IRD** is preparing to transport emergency medical kits to Benghazi. Another consignment of medical supplies is expected to arrive in Alexandria later in April for delivery to Benghazi.

• **UNICEF** has hygiene kits, early childhood development kits and recreation kits in Benghazi. More items will arrive soon from Copenhagen and from Egypt.

• **OCHA** announced that there is a humanitarian community meeting in Benghazi on 7 April at the office of the Libyan Red Crescent.

6. **AOB**

• **Corridor map**: WFP presented an updated map of the Cairo/Alexandria - Benghazi corridor. Copies were distributed. WFP requested participants to continue to support the further development of the map with more information.

The time and date of the next meeting will be communicated by e-mail.