LIBYA LOGISTICS CLUSTER MEETING MINUTES

Cairo, Egypt
20 April 2011

Chair: WFP

Participants: WFP, Save the Children, IMC, OCHA, Mercy Corps, OFDA, US State Department, MAG, UNMAS, IRD, ACTED

Action Point: WFP to find out more about customs arrangements in eastern Libya.

Action Point: OCHA to gather information on efforts to secure customs exemptions for relief cargo in Egypt.

Action Point: WFP will circulate by e-mail the latest ECT update on communications in Libya.

1. Review of Action Points from Last Week

   • WHO Information on Customs: WHO has previously stated that their experience is that it is important for cargo to be accompanied by a statement that it is humanitarian aid going to Libya, as well as signed transit documents, a packing list and certificate of donation. WFP was unable to reach WHO to provide any additional or updated information.

   • Deconfliction documents: It was confirmed that the OCHA documents posted on the Logistics Cluster website are the most recent.

   • Concept of Operations: See below.

2. Concept of Operations

   The draft Concept of Operations for the Libya Logistics Cluster was presented, as follows:

   • Services available free of charge: Sea transport to Libya from Mediterranean ports, common storage in Benghazi and Tobruq (and possibly later in other locations if there is sufficient demand).

   • Services available on cost recovery basis: Road transport Alexandria/Cairo to Benghazi/Tobruq. Potentially also road transport from Tunisia to north-western Libya (not yet confirmed).

   • Logistics Cluster coordination cells: Located in Cairo and in future also in Benghazi and Tripoli with assistance from WFP Logistics Officers in Zarzis (Tunisia) and Malta.

   • Other activities include fuel assessment in Libya and technical assistance.

   Participants were asked if they felt that the proposed activities were appropriate or whether they had any other suggestions. They confirmed that they were satisfied with the proposed activities.

   It was clarified that although an UNHAS passenger service has been proposed, it is not mentioned in the ConOps as it is regarded as a separate service.

3. Transport and Storage

   Transport

   • A convoy of WFP trucks carrying wheat flour from Tunisia arrived in Tripoli on 18 April. This opens a new humanitarian supply route to Tripoli that will allow the humanitarian community to access previously closed areas in western Libya.

   • IMC consignment of emergency health kits was dispatched on 19 April.

   Storage

   • ACTED consignment was received at Benghazi warehouse on 18 April. UNICEF and IMC consignments received on 17 April.

Standard Operating Procedures

• Standard Operating Procedures for the services provided to the humanitarian community by WFP are available on the website: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/lby11a/sop/view.
• The SOPs cover how to access the storage, sea transport, and road transport services listed in the ConOps, as well as all the conditions, liabilities and requirements.

4. Customs
• ACTED reported that its shipment to Benghazi was delayed in Tobruq for reasons unknown. It may have been stopped for customs clearance by the authorities in that area, but this has not been confirmed. (Previously no customs formalities had been in place in eastern Libya since the crisis began). ACTED and WFP are still working to find out more information.
• As of 18 April, it was reported that immigration is functioning on the Libyan side for those crossing into Libya on the Salloum-Tobruq road.

Action point:
• WFP to find out more about customs arrangements in eastern Libya.
• OCHA to gather information on efforts to secure customs exemptions for relief cargo in Egypt.

5. New Information Products Produced During the Week
• Corridor map: WFP presented a draft Tunis – Tripoli corridor map for participants to review.
• During the past week, the following products were posted at http://www.logcluster.org/ops/lby11a:
  • Minutes of April 13 Cairo logistics coordination meeting
  • Minutes of April 13 Zarzis, Tunisia logistics coordination meeting
  • Transitional National Council update on condition and management of Benghazi, Tobruq and Derna ports
  • Alexandria – Benghazi Logistics Corridor map
  • Benghazi warehouse snapshot
  • Libya Airports Snapshot
  • SOPs for accessing WFP services available to the humanitarian community
  • Logistics Cluster Situation Report

6. AOB
• The Malta Government has set up a humanitarian hub to assist organizations using Malta as a transit point into Libya. George Galia is the officer in charge: george.f.galea@gov.mt. Tel: 0035699862612. Organizations interested in using the hub services are encouraged to contact him directly.
• OCHA reported that NATO airstrikes had hit communications stations around Sirte. Participants reported no impact on communications in Benghazi.
• At the General Coordination meeting held in Benghazi, WFP was requested to compile a cumulative list of all known humanitarian aid deliveries to Misurata. A template was shared with the participants of the meeting and will be circulated via email for input.
• No pipeline inputs were received from partners to date. Participants were reminded that by sharing information on relief items expected to be delivered into Libya, the Logistics Cluster can assess demand for its services and plan more effectively.

Action point:
• WFP will circulate by e-mail the latest ECT update on communications in Libya.

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