**LOGISTICS SECTOR – MEETING MINUTES**

*North Africa Crisis*

*Djerba (Tunisia)*

*23 March 2011*

**Chair:** Matteo Perrone – Logistics Coordinator (Tunisia)

**Participants:** UNICEF, Save the Children, IMC, UNHCR, OCHA

**Action Points:**

- Logistics Sector to report back on possible facilitation for import of vehicles and telecommunications equipment.

1. **Situation Update**
   
   - The number of migrants has increased slightly to between 7,000 and 8,000 people in the camp as of 23 March. This is due to both an increase in those coming across the border and a decrease in the number of repatriation evacuation flights per day.

2. **Customs Procedures**
   
   - Efforts are ongoing to obtain a waiver for the importation of vehicles and telecommunications equipment. For some UN agencies, the arrival of their equipment has been delayed due to the importation issue.
   
   - It remains urgent to resolve this issue and is being raised at the highest levels. OCHA’s Logistics Support Unit has offered to activate its network within the World Customs Organization and the Customs Administration of Tunisia. Organizations are requested to communicate the approximate number of vehicles and telecommunications items they intend to import, as this will facilitate the process.
   
   - It has been reported that the current procedure to import telecommunications equipment is the following: A Note Verbale is sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, following which the request goes to the Ministry of Industry and Technology, then to the ANF (Agence Nationale des Fréquences). A bill must then be paid in order to get authorization to withdraw samples of the equipment (one of each piece of equipment, at a cost of over USD 200 per item), which must then be taken to CERT (the Centre d’Etudes et de Recherche des Télécommunications) in order to get technical certification. Once the samples are certified, the certificate must be presented to the ANF, which gives the final authorization to withdraw the equipment.

   - **Action Point:** Logistics Sector to keep organizations informed of progress on this matter.

3. **Transport: Air and Sea**
   
   - The main entry points for importing humanitarian cargo into Tunisia are Sfax Port for commercial vessels and Zarzis for chartered vessels with a capacity up to 15,000 mt.
   
   - It was suggested that organizations transporting goods directly into Zarzis could coordinate with other participants to combine shipments on chartered vessels.
   
   - An assessment was carried out at Sfax Airport by UNHCR. The airport is small, with a capacity of two flights at a time. Djerba Airport is still considered the best available option for passengers, while Tunis Airport is the best for cargo airlifts.
   
   - WFP has ships entering the port of Benghazi to deliver supplies. No problems have been reported to date.

http://www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica
For information on shipping schedules into Tunisia please see: [http://www.oceanschedules.com/schedules/search.do](http://www.oceanschedules.com/schedules/search.do).


Detailed information on Tunisian ports can be found at [www.ommp.nat.tn](http://www.ommp.nat.tn).

The list of Tunisian transporters has been updated and made available at [www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica).

4. Warehousing

- WFP has erected two of the five Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) delivered to provide additional capacity for the Libya response. For now, one will be used as a kitchen; the other will store the remaining three MSUs as contingency capacity and provide some limited short-term interagency storage space on a first-come-first-serve basis.
- UNHCR will also have three spare MSUs and can make them available to participants if required.
- WFP is not planning to install MSUs for long-term common storage in Tunisia since there is sufficient commercial warehousing capacity available in-country.
- WFP has provided logistics supply chain and warehouse management training to Tunisian Red Crescent staff in Tunisia to ensure capacity building for long-term partnerships. A total of 60 people were trained this week.

5. NFI

- UNHCR has formalized contingency planning for NFIs and drafted a list of local suppliers.

6. Mapping

- The Logistics Sector has made maps available for the North Africa Crisis. These are all available for download at [http://www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica). Requests for specific maps can also be accommodated.

7. Meeting Schedule

- Logistics Coordination meetings are once a week on Wednesdays at 20:00 hrs, Hotel Oasis Marine, Zarzis

  **Next meeting:** Wednesday, 30 March 2011, 20:00 hrs, Zarzis

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