

MEETING MINUTES

Nairobi, Kenya

02 December 2011

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

Participants: Logistics Cluster, ACF, UNICEF, FAO, CRS, Save the children, Somalia Aid, USAID/OFDA, SRDF, SOSES, PAH

- Action Points:**
- User Group Meeting to discuss SOPs/Procedures for shipping and other common services.
 - Revised Shipping SOPs to be shared with the group by the Logistics Cluster.

Agenda:

1. **Situation Update**
 - Access/Weather
 - General (Ports etc)
2. **Logistics Cluster Operational Planning**
 - Shipping
 - Storage
3. **AOB**

Situation Update

Access/Weather

- A large number of UN Agencies and NGOs working in South Central Somalia were banned on 28 November. (For additional information please see the statement from the Emergency Relief Coordinator, available at: <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ERC%20STATEMENT%20ON%20SOMALIA%2028November2011.pdf>)
- This incident has had a direct impact on the humanitarian community's ability for distribution, logistics, and monitoring. A discussion was held in the Logistics Cluster Meeting on 02 December, on the impacts and potential mitigating steps.
- North Somalia faced below average rainfall, while Southern Somalia faced above average rainfall in the past week.
- On the Kenyan side, it has been reported that the road segments Dadaab – Kulan, and Kulan - Liboi have been flooded due to the recent rainfall, severely affecting truck movements.
- On the Ethiopian side, the stretch from Gode down to Dolo Ado is still quite muddy. The airstrips in Dolo Ado have faced some cancellations as well.
- For more details, please see: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a/somalia-physical-road-conditions> and http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a/logistics-cluster-weather-and-road-conditions-presentation_111129/view

General (Ports etc.)

- There is no congestion at Mogadishu Port at present. The average waiting time is one day. Discharge of both humanitarian and commercial cargo is on-going at the port.
- No congestion is being reported in Somalia's Northern Ports (Bossaso and Berbera).
- Congestion issues in Mombasa Port are continuing, with delays in berthing and a significant number of vessels at anchorage. Average berthing times continue to vary from five days (conventional vessels) to ten days (bulk vessels), depending on the time of arrival and vessel type/size.
- Dar-es-Salaam Port faces congestion for container vessels only. Waiting time has reduced from ten days to around three to four days. Presently there are no waiting vessels.
- At Djibouti Port, under normal circumstances the average waiting time for bulk berth is five days. Heavy traffic of vessels, both container and bulk carriers, is expected in the coming days, continuing into late December 2011 and into January 2012. This is due to the seasonal grain importation.

Logistics Cluster Operational Planning

Shipping

- Via the time-chartered vessel's second voyage, the Logistics Cluster has transported 250 mt of humanitarian cargo for five organizations (two UN Agencies, three INGOs) to Mogadishu. This cargo included food, kitchen sets, blankets, tarpaulins, and energy-saving stoves for famine-hit populations in Somalia. Overall, the Cluster has transported over 780 mt of relief cargo in support of the Somalia famine response since October.
- A chartered vessel, coordinated through the Logistics Cluster to provide transport of humanitarian cargo from Mombasa to Mogadishu is expected to depart in the second week of December. Cargo Movement Requests (CMRs) for over 1,000 mt of relief cargo have been received for this voyage, including both food and Non-Food Items (NFIs).
- The Cluster reminded participants to ensure that all cargo arrives at the quay-side on time; in sea-worthy and well-marked packaging, and with correct documentation.
- Due to port congestion issues (especially on the Mombasa side), it is usually three weeks between each sailing. The next voyage is expected to take place in early January; however, this could be reviewed if a large amount of CMRs are received.
- Participants requested that the Cluster insert a clause in the Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) for Shipping that would include charges for organizations that book space and fail to use it. A cost per m³/mt of space not utilised could be used for this.
- A User Group Meeting will be held later today to discuss this addition to the SOPs.

Storage

- The Logistics Cluster is finalizing management contract arrangements for interagency storage space in Mogadishu Port with more than 1,000 m³ storage capacity via two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs).

AOB

- Last time, there were reports of a new government agency being set up to handle incoming humanitarian cargo at Mogadishu Port. No further information has been received yet. Once received any information and contact details will be shared with the group.
- The new UNHAS schedule is available upon request. The booking procedures for UNHAS are already available on the website at: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a/requirements-for-users-wishing-to-avail-unhas-somalia-transport-services>

Contacts:

Website: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a>

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