

MEETING MINUTES

Nairobi, Kenya

09 December 2011

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

Participants: Logistics Cluster, UNICEF, Save the Children, ADRA, ACTED, Haleelo, Somali Aid

Action Points:

- The Logistics Cluster will share new SOPs for common services with participants.

Agenda

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

Situation Update

General

- A large number of UN organisations 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>). An update was provided in the meeting by each organization on its current status and steps taken.

Ports Situation

- Mogadishu Port - The port now has a steady flow of traffic. There are six vessels and dhows under discharge, carrying both humanitarian and commercial cargo. There are two vessels waiting to berth. The waiting time is currently one day maximum. In the past month, strong seasonal winds had resulted in lower numbers of dhows calling at the port, but these have now ended. The port is expected to remain busy with more dhows calling the port now with commercial cargo.
- Bossaso Port - The port congested due to the many dhows calling the port with commercial cargo. There are no labour related issues affecting the port.
- Berbera Port - The port is presently very busy. There are vessels and dhows discharging humanitarian and commercial cargo. There are four vessels and five dhows waiting to berth and load commercial cargo (containerized) as well as livestock.
- Mombasa Port - The port is presently very congested. The bulk berth has four waiting vessels and the waiting time is currently averaging 22 days. The conventional and container berths have two and eleven waiting vessels respectively, and the average waiting time ranges from 3-5 days. More containerized cargo is still expected at the port. Dar Es Salaam Port – There is congestion for container vessels only. Continuing heavy traffic of container vessels is expected in the coming days as the festive season approaches. Presently, waiting time is averaging 3-4 days. The strike that had affected some part of the port has since been resolved.
- Djibouti Port – With the recent purchase by the Ethiopian Government of 500,000 mt of wheat and the start of the fertiliser season this week, Djibouti is becoming more congested. The fertiliser silo, which has been available for bulk wheat for the past month is no longer available. There is also a below-optimal upload from the warehouses due to a shortage of trucks. This port congestion is expected to continue until at least the end of March 2012.

Access/Weather

- A presentation was made on recent road accessibility. An updated Somalia Physical Road Network Conditions Map is available at: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a/somalia-physical-road-conditions>

Logistics Cluster Operational Planning

Coordination

- The Logistics Cluster participated in an Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) Meeting in Mogadishu on 06 December and briefed other Clusters on the Logistics Cluster's objectives and common services.
- The Logistics Cluster also held a Cluster Coordination Meeting in Mogadishu on 07 December. Unfortunately due to security, the meeting was delayed, and all participants were not able to attend.

Shipping

- The next Logistics Cluster-facilitated sea transport vessel is scheduled to depart from Mombasa on 11/12 December. Based on the Cargo Movement Requests (CMRs) received, over 1,000 mt of relief cargo were lined up for the voyage, including both food and Non-Food Items (NFIs). However, due to the ban on certain organizations, a large amount of the cargo was cancelled. Delays were also experienced on the part of Clearing and Forwarding (C&F) agents in bringing the cargo to the port, with some parcels not showing up before the deadline, leading to additional cargo being shut out. Non-seaworthy packaging was also observed, as well as unclear marking.
- As per the User Group Meeting discussion, the Logistics Cluster will be updating the Shipping Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and inserting a clause with charges for dead freight/cancellations. Regarding a query on the next expected voyage, the Cluster informed participants that it was not expected before the first week of January. If a large number of requests are received, the Logistics Cluster could also look into obtaining a voyage charter.
- A query was also raised regarding a potential list of reliable C&F agents that could be shared. The Logistics Cluster will share informal feedback on C&F agents who they have worked with, after consultation with the WFP Mombasa Office and the Port Captain.
- Regarding confusions in communication lines, participants were advised that the WFP Mombasa Office will continue to have direct communication with the C&F agents on the loading operation, and the communication line for the Logistics Cluster participants/clients will be the Logistics Cluster Coordinator, as per the SOPs.
- The time-chartered vessel has been extended for another three months, based on WFP pipeline. Presently, there is not enough combined cargo to justify a second time-chartered vessel. As in the past the time-charter could be augmented with voyage charter vessels.
- Participants with cargo requests for any other destinations are to inform the Logistics Cluster, as other WFP vessels can also be utilized.
- Regarding reports of a new government agency to deal with incoming cargo at Mogadishu, no new information has been received as yet.
- Regarding shipping communication, participants were requested to share alternate focal points' numbers as well, in case the main focal point cannot be reached at an urgent time.

Storage

- The arrangements for the two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in Mogadishu Port are being finalized. The Logistics Cluster apologised for the delays on this service. As previously discussed, the Logistics Cluster has also been requested and will assist the port authorities with augmenting with an equal amount of mobile storage units for the port authority, in order for them to accommodate humanitarian cargo directly as well.
- In terms of warehouse assessments outside the port, the Cluster is in touch with some partners' focal points on the ground. UNDSS feedback on potential areas for storage is still awaited. However, with the current security situation, this is looking quite difficult.

AOB

- The Somalia Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) Launch will be held on 13 December. An Emergency Telecommunications (ETC) Cluster presentation was held last week. Participants may request the Cluster if any ETC information is required.
- The Cluster Coordinator will be leaving the country on 21 December for a contract break, and returning on 25 January. During this time, there will be a replacement Coordinator. Contact details will be shared

once the replacement is confirmed.

- The next meeting will be postponed to 19/20 December; the meeting on 23 December will be cancelled. The confirmed time/date will be shared via email.

Contacts:

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

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