# MEETING MINUTES

**LOGISTICS CLUSTER – SOMALIA**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Nairobi, Kenya

12 October 2012

| **Chair:** Logistics Cluster Coordinator |

## Action Points:
- The Logistics Cluster will send out final invoices for the previous Bilateral Cost-Recovery Voyage.
- The Logistics Cluster will compile data on road access during the 2011 rainy season in Somalia and produce a map showing past access difficulties.

## Agenda:

1. Follow up on previous Action Points
2. Situation Update
   - General/Security/Access
3. Logistics Network Update
4. Strategic Consultations for Logistics Cluster activities moving forward
5. WFP Bilateral Shipping Services Update
6. AOB
   - Supplier List/Air Update/Storage
   - Mombasa Shipping Workshop
   - CAP 2013 – 2015
   - Contingency Planning (Kenya Elections)

## Follow-up on previous Action Points

- [The Logistics Cluster will send an email to participants for Partner Consultations on the future role of the Cluster in Somalia] – Done. 20 responses received. More information under Agenda Point 4.
- [Participants are requested to send their Logistics Project Proposals, if any, to the Logistics Cluster for review and potential submission into the CAP 2013 – 2015] – No proposals received so far.

## Situation Update

### General
- Humanitarian needs are reportedly high in Kismayo Port, and the humanitarian community continues to engage in operational and security planning for the area.
- More organizations have been reportedly banned from operating in specific parts of Somalia.
- After the river Shabelle burst its banks, displacement and loss of life was reported in Beletweyn (Hiiran region) on 1 October. An estimated 4,000 families (3,200 existing IDPs and 800 residents of Beletweyn) were displaced to a new IDP makeshift camp on higher ground. Crop fields were damaged, and a large number of domestic animals perished. Reports also indicate flooding of the main market, resulting in damaged commodities.
- **Oxfam survey results:** A new survey of people across 40 regions of Somalia by the international organization Oxfam has found that water and food shortages are at critical levels and likely to deteriorate in parts of the country over the coming months, risking a prolonged humanitarian crisis well into 2013.
  - While results show a return to famine is unlikely, the situation in the south of Somalia – particularly in Gedo, Lower Juba and Bakool regions – remains critical with alarming malnutrition figures. A poor harvest, depleted incomes and high food prices are forcing people across the country to rely increasingly on aid and leaving them vulnerable to a growing threat from preventable diseases.
  - (Oxfam surveyed more than 1,800 households and held 240 focus groups in 40 regions of the country between July and August 2012 to find out the impact of poor rainfall during the Gu rainy season between April and June).
- **UN Security Mission:** A UN Security Mission for Kismayo is planned for this week. Once this
mission is conducted and security clearance is provided, a logistics mission is planned to assess
the port capacity, the surrounding area, and warehousing options. [Update: The UN Security
Assessment Mission has been delayed to end-October].

- **IDPs:** As per UNHCR data, a total of 24,000 persons were displaced in Somalia during the month of
  September. A large proportion of movements were due to the military offensive in Kismayo.
- **UNHCR** has also reported that in October thus far, 1,600 persons have been displaced in Somalia.

**Security**

- Participants discussed the current security situation in Somalia.

**Ports**

- As a result of increased access to the South Central region of Somalia, through the port of
  Kismayo, the near future could see supply chain gaps emerging in the region. The Logistics Cluster
  is consolidating a Kismayo Port Snapshot Overview, which will be shared with participants once
  finalized.
- Berbera Port is congested this week. 5 vessels are currently loading livestock. Berthing priority is
  granted to both containerized and humanitarian vessels.
- Bossaso Port remains congested this week. Berthing continues to be on a first come first served
  basis, although livestock and cement cargo vessels are given priority.
- Mogadishu Port is congested at present. Humanitarian vessels receive priority berthing.
- Mombasa Port is currently facing congestion at all berths.
- Djibouti Port is not congested. No major issues.
- Dar Es Salaam Port is facing congestion at the general and container terminals. 5 vessels are
  currently at the general terminal, with 4 large vessels at the container terminal. 14 vessels are
  currently outside the port, waiting to berth. Humanitarian vessels and car-carriers continue to be
  given berthing priority. Delivery of a quay crane to the container terminal was completed last
  week. 17 additional vessels are expected at the port in the coming week.

**Logistics Network Updates**

- The port town of Kismayo is logistically significant and may result in increased access for the South
  Central part of Somalia.
- Participants shared that they are currently assessing the situation, and await the results of the UN
  Security Mission scheduled to take place this month.
- In response to questions from participants, the Logistics Cluster informed the group that WFP is
  looking into the option of vessels calling Kismayo Port, but there is no confirmation yet. Calling the
  port will depend on the programmatic pipeline, security levels, and logistical accessibility.
- Participants queried whether a map showing past access difficulties (during the 2011 rainy season)
  could be produced. The Logistics Cluster will collect historical data and produce a Physical
  Road Network Conditions Map showing past access difficulties, cross-referenced with
  predominant rainy seasons.

**Strategic Consultations for Logistics Cluster Activities moving forward**

- An email was sent to participants for feedback on the future role of the Cluster. 20 responses have
  been received. All respondents indicated that they felt the Cluster should continue operations into
  2013. Coordination, Information Management, and Shipping were seen as the major activities to
  be continued.
- Existing gaps mentioned were road transport (in-country) and storage. Air cargo transport was
  also mentioned by some respondents as a potential activity.

**WFP Bilateral Shipping Service Updates**

- In September/October, the Logistics Cluster coordinated the transport of 140 mt (over 520 m³) of
  Shelter Items, Food, and medicines from Mombasa to Mogadishu on behalf of 7 humanitarian
  organizations. This is via the second voyage under the Bilateral Cost-Recovery Shipping service
  offered by WFP. The vessel has discharged all cargo in Mogadishu. For further information
  concerning this service, organizations may contact the WFP Somalia Shipping Officer at:
  somalia.cargobooking@wfp.org
- Overall, the discharge of cargo was smooth, with few difficulties encountered. However, the
  Cluster reminded all participants to ensure that all cargo was properly labeled, showing the
organization’s name, contact details, and final destination. Incorrect labeling by one consignee had led to brief delays at the port of discharge.

- **Final invoices for this voyage will be sent out today (Friday 12 October).**
- **Service Level Agreements (SLAs) have now been signed between WFP and 15 humanitarian organizations.**
- **The deadline for submitting Service Request Forms (SRFs) for the upcoming November voyage is: COB Fri 26 October (An email will also be sent out as a reminder).**

### AOB

**Supplier List**

- The Logistics Cluster has compiled a supplier list (Air & Road) which was shared with participants. Participants were encouraged to add/edit the lists wherever relevant and update the Cluster.

**Air**

- In September, the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) transported 2,237 passengers to locations in Somalia.

**Storage**

- A loan agreement has been signed for one of the Logistics Cluster Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in Mogadishu between the Logistics Cluster and one humanitarian organization. The MSU is currently being erected in Mogadishu.
- 4 additional Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) remain available in Mogadishu to organizations for use in Somalia on a lease basis, free of charge. The organizations leasing the MSUs will be responsible for transporting the MSUs to their final destinations, and installing and managing the units themselves. Interested organizations should contact the Logistics Cluster directly.

**Shipping Workshop**

- The Shipping Workshop in Mombasa has been re-scheduled for mid-November 2012 to coincide with the berthing of the vessel. 10 humanitarian organizations have expressed interest in participating so far. A Draft Agenda with topics to be covered is being developed. Topics will include customs clearance, cargo packaging, and loading/discharge.

**Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) 2013 – 2015**

- No logistics project proposals received from other organizations thus far.

**Contingency Planning – Kenya Elections**

- A WFP Logistics Officer provided details on his experience working on the post-election violence in 2007. The violence, subsequent displacement, and caseload during that period was fast-moving and the scenario was constantly changing. Obtaining accurate information was very difficult. Logistically, there were some major constraints – including Mombasa Port coming to a standstill, transporters hiking rates with a high ‘security surcharge’, and increases in fuel prices due to reported shortages. For over 8 days, the northern corridor between Nairobi and the Uganda border was closed. The railway network was also temporarily closed during this period.
- If there is violence around election time in March 2013, road transport to Somalia via north-eastern Kenya could be affected, as well as shipments into and out of Mombasa. It was recommended that organizations engage in contingency planning in light of the previous experience, in order to avoid facing logistics bottlenecks in 2013 (for both Kenya and Somalia operations).

**Contacts:**

- **Website:** [http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a)

**Nairobi, Kenya**

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