

## MEETING MINUTES

Somalia Logistics Cluster, Nairobi, Kenya

12 August 2011

**Chair:** Logistics Cluster Coordinator

**Participants:** Logistics Cluster, WFP, UNOPS, CRS, Save the Children UK, NRC, UNICEF, UNHCR, ACF

- Action Points:**
- The Logistics Cluster will follow up with remaining organisations on transport rates.
  - Organisations to submit operations/pipeline plans for logistics when available.
  - Partners interested in using common storage in Somalia should contact the Logistics Cluster on a bilateral basis.
  - The Logistics Cluster to provide details on any confirmed common storage capacity.
  - Participants are requested to inform the Logistics Cluster of their mapping needs.

### Agenda:

1. Security Update
2. Transportation
3. Incoming Pipeline and Clearance/Transit Issues
4. Supply Strategies for South Central Somalia
5. Information Sharing
6. Concept of Operations
7. AOB

### Security Update

- The reported withdrawal of Al-Shabaab forces from Mogadishu is a major development, and organisations are currently assessing what this will mean for access and operations in Somalia.
- Organisations continue to work in the Gedo area, and access is also opening up into Northern Bakool.
- The general expectation is that access should be granted and then secured for the longer term in Mogadishu, with the withdrawal of Al-Shabaab.

### Transport Information

- NRC, UNHCR, and Save the Children have agreed to share transport rates.
- Additional routes have opened and the cost of transportation is expected to increase as transporters gain access to new areas, as they will be extending operations to cover new routes.

### Supply Strategies for South Central Somalia

- Humanitarian actors are continuing to enter into parts of Gedo (Dolow, El Waq and Luuq districts), Hiraan, Lower and Middle Shabelle, as well as Doble district in Middle Juba.
- Air deliveries to Mogadishu are ongoing. In some cases relief cargo is being airlifted from Berbera and Hargeisa.
- UNHAS has been conducting flights to Dolow; a flight also landed in El Berde this week.
- While airlifts are at a preliminary stage, as additional airstrips open up there will be further possibilities for airlifts of humanitarian relief.
- UNHCR stated that it is using the Dubai-Mogadishu sea corridor for the shipping of relief cargo, the route takes approximately 7 – 10 days at best. Delays are expected due to current sea conditions.
- UNICEF is planning to increase the frequency of its shipping voyages between Mombasa and Mogadishu.
- Organisations continue to evaluate the options for establishing transportation corridors from Somaliland, Puntland, or across Ethiopia to facilitate entry into areas of southern Somalia.

### Information Sharing

- Information sharing for operations in Somalia is complicated due to the complex political situation and sensitivity of information in some cases. Participants are requested to share any non-sensitive information whenever possible.

### Concept of Operations

- The chair informed participants that the Concept of Operations was an attempt to scale up capacities in order to be ready for increased needs in the coming months. While humanitarian activities are ongoing, and currently access is the main issue, large pipelines are expected to be operational by

September and it is important to be prepared for the increased requirements at that stage.

- This is a draft for the project which was also discussed at the Global Logistics Cluster level. The main elements of this proposed project are:
  1. Increased coordination and information management capacities with a dedicated cell based in Nairobi.
  2. Common Services:
    - a) Warehousing
      - Mobile Storage Units (in both Kenya and Somalia) will be pre-positioned and made available to organisations that need them.
      - A 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> warehouse in Somalia has been offered by a private sector partner to the Logistics Cluster in support of the humanitarian community.
    - b) Sea Transport
      - The shipping line between Mombasa and Mogadishu will be re-established. This is planned to be a regular service, which will make voyages twice a month, offering a predictable and reliable service. In addition, space will also be made available on regular WFP ships from Djibouti.
    - c) Tactical Airlifts
      - As more areas become accessible, it will be necessary to rapidly transport essential items (medicines, supplementary food) by air in order to cover any delay created by longer transport times for road deliveries.
- Participants expressed interest in using these services and also discussed the potential risks of sharing storage with the Logistics Cluster or WFP, given the political sensitivities in Somalia.
- Participants expressed interest in further details on the operating mechanisms for Common Storage.
- **Partners interested in using common storage in Somalia should contact the Logistics Cluster on a bilateral basis.**
- **The Logistics Cluster will provide details on any confirmed common storage capacity.**

### AOB

- In response to inquiries about radio communications support in Mogadishu, the chair informed participants that the Emergency Telecommunications (ETC) Cluster was ramping up operations and that the contact details of the ETC focal point would be shared with the group.
- Save the Children inquired about flight schedules for passengers and cargo into Mogadishu.
- The chair informed the group that currently flights to Mogadishu were on an ad-hoc basis and there was no fixed schedule at present. However, this was expected to change in the coming days. Any update will be shared with participants, including information from the UNHAS User Group Meeting.
- Participants also expressed interest in obtaining maps of the region for planning purposes.
- **Participants to inform the Logistics Cluster of their mapping needs.**

### Contacts:

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