

MEETING MINUTES

Nairobi, Kenya

25 November 2011

Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

Participants: Logistics Cluster, UNICEF, WFP, CRS, CARE, CESVI, WARDI, Save the Children, Islamic Relief, SafUK-International, ETC Cluster

- Action Points:**
- Participants to share contact details of their focal points in Mogadishu and to assist coordination of the Logistics Cluster Meeting planned for 07 December.
 - The Logistics Cluster will provide more information on procedures when dealing with humanitarian cargo at Mogadishu Port.
 - Participants to send the Logistics Cluster any available information on road access/conditions.
 - A User group meeting will be held to discuss SOPs for common services – shipping etc. New Draft SOPs will be produced and shared with the user group for endorsement.
 - The Logistics Cluster to share the ETC Cluster's Situation Report and Services Matrix with the group.

Agenda:

1. **Situation Update**
 - General
 - Access/Weather
2. **Logistics Cluster Operational Planning**
 - Shipping
 - Storage
3. **AOB**
 - Emergency Telecommunications (ETC) Cluster Presentation
 - Other Issues

Situation Update

General

- On 18 November, the Somalia Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) announced that three areas of Somalia (Bay, Bakool, and Lower Shabelle) have been downgraded from famine to emergency. According to the study, the situation is still critical in Southern Somalia, but the number of people facing imminent starvation has reduced. These improvements will only be sustained if the current level of assistance continues. In some areas where there has been significant access/intervention the situation has not improved (e.g. Mogadishu). This could be due to the dynamic nature of IDP movements. Updates on the general IDP population will be shared by the Logistics Cluster.
- Djibouti Port is currently facing congestion at its bulk terminal, with an average waiting time of five days. It is operating on the principle of 'first arrived, first berthed.' The port is expected to remain busy in the coming weeks as more cargo (commercial, fertilizer, humanitarian) is expected.
- At present, no congestion is reported in Somalia's Northern Ports (Bossaso and Berbera).
- There is currently no congestion in Mogadishu Port. Average waiting times have decreased significantly, with a maximum waiting time of one day. Discharge of both humanitarian and commercial cargo is on-going at the port.
- Congestion issues in Mombasa Port are continuing, with delays in berthing and a significant number of vessels at anchorage. The port capacity is overstretched, compounded by slow discharge/loading; average berthing times vary from five days (conventional vessels) to ten days (bulk vessels), depending on the time of arrival and vessel type/size.

Access/Weather

- North Somalia experienced below average rainfall, while Southern Somalia experienced above average rain in the past week.
- Due to muddy road conditions (especially from Kenya into Somalia) some organizations are looking

into the use of routes from northern ports, including transport through Ethiopia (Nazareth and Dolo Ado). Close liaison with transport companies to identify trucks suited for the current road conditions is recommended.

- Road conditions from Kulan to Liboi remain poor due to recent rainfall, slowing down movements of humanitarian relief cargo.
- The route from Gode to Dolo Ado is still muddy. There have also been cancellations at airstrips in Dolo Ado. The Logistics Cluster Physical Road Conditions Update Map is available at: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som11a/somalia-physical-road-conditions>

Logistics Cluster Operational Planning

Shipping

- The time-chartered vessel is currently discharging humanitarian cargo at Mogadishu Port, having sailed out from Mombasa Port on 18 November on its second voyage and arriving in Mogadishu on 20 November. The Logistics Cluster has accommodated approximately 250 mt of humanitarian cargo for five organizations on this voyage, including both food and Non-Food Items (NFIs).
- Challenges were experienced during the loading for this voyage (some cargo not brought, non-seaworthy packaging), although the vessel berthed almost immediately in Mogadishu, and all cargo was discharged smoothly. Participants were reminded that all organizations must be present quay-side to collect their cargo.
- The Logistics Cluster will discuss bilaterally the newly received Cargo Movement Requests (CMRs) (deadline for submitting CMRs is 25 November). Participants were reminded to clearly note the correct volume of the items (in m³).
- The Logistics Cluster will provide more information on procedures when dealing with humanitarian cargo at Mogadishu port.
- The Logistics Cluster is planning a Cluster Meeting in Mogadishu, in early December. This will aim to include some of the organisations who are present in Mogadishu and are unable to come to the meetings in Nairobi.
- The time-chartered vessel's third voyage is tentatively scheduled for the second week of December. The Logistics Cluster will provide a voyage charter vessel for this journey. Thus far, CMRs for more than 800 mt of humanitarian cargo have been received for this voyage.
- Participants queried whether there was an option to ship cargo to/from Berbera/Bossaso/Djibouti Ports. The Logistics Cluster advised participants to submit such requests.

Storage

- The Logistics Cluster is finalising management contract arrangements for interagency storage space in Mogadishu Port with more than 1,000 m³ storage capacity via two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs).
- The Logistics Cluster is awaiting feedback from UNDSS on potential areas where warehouses outside Mogadishu Port could be set up. Once information is received, it will be shared with participants. Participants are encouraged to submit list of warehouses already assessed with findings and potential new locations to assess with contact details.
- In response to a query on storage, the Logistics Cluster stated that storage is not being offered in Mombasa Port, that this was not part of the original strategy and the WFP warehouses there are all utilising full capacity at present.

AOB

Emergency Telecommunications (ETC) Cluster Briefing

- The NGO Liaison/Coordinator from the Emergency Telecommunications (ETC) Cluster gave a brief presentation on the services offered by the Cluster. For additional details please contact the Logistics Cluster coordinator.
- The ETC Cluster has a mandate to provide basic telecommunication, security telecommunications, radio networks, and data connectivity (i.e. Internet) inside compounds, connectivity exists for WFP and UN partners, and can be made available for NGOs. Connection for other compounds can also be looked into, on a case to case basis.
- WFP is supporting DSS radio rooms. (Mogadishu and the northern part of Somalia). Security channels can be made available for NGOs supplying their own radios
- In Somalia, the ETC Cluster is focusing on projects in Mogadishu and Galkayo for wireless connectivity; the Logistics Cluster requires that participants whether this is an urgent need, due to the current security situation. The ETC Cluster stated that DSS radio rooms have emergency communication channels and these can be made available for NGOs upon request.

Other issues

- The Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP) launch is scheduled for 13 December. More information is available on the OCHA Somalia website, at:
<http://ochaonline.un.org/Default.aspx?alias=ochaonline.un.org/somalia>

Contacts:

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

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