LOGISTICS SECTOR – Fiji Emergency Preparedness & Response
Meeting Minutes
Suva, Fiji – 26 August 2016

CHAIR: Logistics Coordinator, Fiji Procurement Office (FPO)

PARTICIPANTS: Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council, Fiji Procurement Office (FPO), Fiji Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross Societies (IFRC), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), National Fire Authority (NFA), OXFAM, Save the Children, Shelter–Cluster Secretariat, World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organisation (WHO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

ACTION POINTS:
- Organisations to indicate interest in pre-positioning contingency stocks at a planned shared warehouse to be established in Walu Bay;
- Organisations to identify areas of collaborative work under the Minimum Preparedness Actions plan;
- Organisations to provide information on warehousing, transport and other equipment, with the purpose of mapping out existing logistics capacity and resources.

AGENDA:
1. Introduction Fiji Connecting Business Initiative (CBI)
2. Fiji Prepositioning Hub Update
4. Organisations introduction/sharing of ongoing logistics contingency plans
5. Any Other Business (A.O.B.)

1. INTRODUCTION FIJI CONNECTING BUSINESS INITIATIVE

- A representative from the Fiji Connecting Business Initiative reiterated the need to strengthen private sector engagement in disaster management.

- The Connecting Business Initiative (CBI) is not intended to function as a separate response mechanism but rather to complement existing cluster structures by strengthening relationships with humanitarian partners; supporting capacity building; mapping out needs and resources; and contributing to information sharing.

- The CBI is being developed across the Pacific with the support of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the United Nations Development Agency (UNDP) and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

- Collaboration between clusters and CBI should avoid overlaps and the duplication of functions and networks (i.e. a Regional Stockpile Map and Logistics Capacity Assessment are already being conducted by WFP)

2. FIJI PREPOSITIONING HUB UPDATE

- Plans are ongoing to set-up a common warehouse in Suva for the prepositioning of humanitarian stocks in Fiji. A warehouse in the Fiji Procurement Office’s Walu Bay compound in need of renovation and totalling 720m² has been identified for this purpose.

- A comprehensive proposal has been prepared for the consideration of the Minister for Economy, within whose ambit lies the designated premises, as well as Government’s Office Accommodation Unit that oversees Government properties.

- A concern was raised as to the viability of the identified premises given its proximity to the harbour, and its potential vulnerability to Tsunami. In mitigation, it is to be noted that such a hazard has never been known to occur in the area. Given the progress established thus far with regard to multi-stakeholder consultations regarding the hub it’s endeavoured that the cluster will proceed with the site as an initial pilot project. Subject to review, medium to long
term plans can be developed to include an alternate location. Feedback from the forum suggested the Kalabo Tax–Free Zone to be considered as a potential alternative location.

- Organisations in need of assistance with the formulation of preposition stocks are welcome to contact the Shared Warehousing Project Manager: Vincent Graff | vincent.graff@wfp.org | +679 920 4202
- Discussions around operational issues emphasised that stocks stored at the hub should be at the discretion of organisations.
- Organisations suggested that the concept to be followed is akin to that employed by United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD).

3. MINIMUM PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS (MPA) WORKING GROUPS

- Feedback from organisations to support the implementation of Minimum Preparedness Actions (MPA) is still pending. A form was circulated requesting organisations to indicate which MPA they would be interested in contributing to. However, no expression of interest have been received so far from the Logistics Cluster.

4. ORGANISATION INTRODUCTION/SHARING OF ONGOING LOGISTICS CONTINGENCY PLANS

- ADRA indicated the availability of their own logistics contingency plans. Interested parties should contact ADRA directly to receive these plans.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (A.O.B.)

- Participants were reminded that national Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs) are available online at: http://dlca.logcluster.org/display/public/DLCA/LCA+Homepage
- The next Fiji EPR Logistics meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 October. Participants interested in hosting Logistics preparedness meetings are welcome to contact the Cluster secretariat via the contacts below.

Contacts:
Josua Rabukawaqa  Fiji Procurement Office Logistics Coordinator  jrabukawaqa@finance.gov.fj  (+679 331 1388)
Bret Bestic  Logistics Cluster Project Development Manager  bret.bestic@wfp.org  (+679 7844 793)