
Global Teleconference Minutes, 10 August 2020

Lebanon Emergency Response



LOCATION	Teleconference
DATE	10 August 2020
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	Action Contre la Faim; Airlink; American Refugee Council; Atlas Logistique British Red Cross; CARE; Concern Worldwide; DG ECHO HELP Logistics; HOPE Worldwide; Humanitarian Research Group; International Medical Corps; Intersos; IOM; MAERSK; Malteser International; MEDAIR; Médecins Sans Frontières; Norwegian Refugee Council; Relief International; ShelterBox; Solidarités International; UNFPA; UNHCR; UNICEF; UPS Foundation; WFP; World Economic Forum
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An assessment of Tripoli's port to be conducted on Wednesday 12 August. Results to be shared on the Logistics Cluster website.• List of available storage space to be shared with partners. A map of the different warehouses to be created and uploaded to the Lebanon webpage.• Letter to the Ministry of Finance and Customs to request the prioritisation of cargo, tax exemptions and the creation of a One-Stop Shop to be finalized and submitted in the coming days by the Logistics Cluster and WFP.• Partners interested by CMA CGM offer free-for-user cargo transport are invited to insert transport needs in CHOCOLAT or contact CMA through AideHumanitaireLiban@cma-cgm.com
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Presentation of the Logistics Cluster's resources online for the Lebanon emergency response2. Update from the Logistics Officer in Beirut3. Questions from attendants4. Update on the fuel situation in country5. AOB

1. Presentation of the Logistics Cluster's resources online for the Lebanon emergency response

- As of today, the Logistics Cluster is not formally activated in Lebanon.
- A Lebanon page was launched on the Logistics Cluster's website. It is accessible [here](#).
- An email was created for the Logistics Cluster Lebanon emergency response: Lebanon-logs@logcluster.org. Participants can contact this address for questions related to the response.

<https://logcluster.org/countries/LBN>

- Participants interested in signing up to the Logistics Cluster Lebanon emergency response mailing list can do so by accessing the [Lebanon page](#) and clicking on the “*Sign up for our mailing list*” button at the bottom of the page.
- Participants were informed that they can access the [Lebanon Logistics Capacity Assessment \(LCA\)](#) on the Logistics Cluster website.
- Furthermore, participants were requested to share information on their cargo transport needs or capacity on the [Cluster Humanitarian Operational Coordination of Logistics and Air Transport \(CHOCOLAT\)](#) platform. As a reminder, this platform combines requests from various humanitarian partners for potential transports needs.

2. Update from the Logistics Officer in Beirut

A Logistics Officer (contact info below) was deployed to Beirut and provided updates from the field:

- A meeting was facilitated on 9 August by the Lebanese NGO forum with some of the humanitarian partners already present in the country to discuss the emergency response.

Ports Status

- A large part of Beirut’s port was significantly damaged. Some maritime transports are rerouted to the port of Tripoli.
- Activities and operations should resume shortly at the port of Beirut.
- 5 out of 16 cranes were structurally assessed and were operational as of Sunday 9 August.
- The Customs Officials have set up a new office at the port.
- The Customs’ IT system is now fixed, connected to the terminal and operational.
- An assessment of Tripoli’s port will be conducted on Wednesday 12 August. The results of this assessment will be shared on the Logistics Cluster website.

Airport Status

- The Lebanese Army operates at the airport. As of 10 August, the offloading is done to warehouses belonging to the Lebanese Army or to the Red Cross.
- In the last 24 hours, 27 flights arrived in Lebanon with humanitarian cargo.
- There is a need to assess the capacity of Beirut’s airport to process the incoming aid.
- The Logistics Cluster is working with WFP’s country team to assess and list the availability of storage spaces, including cold chain storage, around the airport and port of Beirut. The list of the available storage spaces will be shared with partners. A map of the different warehouses will also be created and uploaded to the Lebanon webpage.

Customs

- The Logistics Cluster and OCHA are working together on a letter to the Ministry of Finance and Customs to request the prioritisation of cargo, tax exemptions and the creation of a One-Stop Shop. This document should be finalized and submitted in the coming days.

3. Questions from attendants

- **UNFPA Geneva:** *Regarding the assessments of Beirut's port, airport and storage facilities to be shared with partners: will there be an assessment of cold chain? Particularly for medical supplies?*
Cold chain is taken into consideration during the conduction of the assessment: a warehouse with cold-chain space was already identified, pending a control visit.
At the moment there is no capacity at the Beirut port to receive supplies for cold storage, but it is possible at Beirut's airport and Tripoli's port.
- **British Red Cross:** *Will the Logistics Cluster assess local suppliers of items needed for the response?*
No, the conduction of such an assessment would be outside of the Logistics Cluster's scope.
- **HOPE Worldwide:** *Any update on the customs clearance situation for shipments?*
To our understanding the Port of Beirut will be reopening in the coming days – taking in consideration that a large part of the port is damaged. A part of the maritime transports has been rerouted to the port of Tripoli. Regarding customs clearance: Food, Health and Shelter might be prioritized. The Logistics Officer in the field expects to have an update soon.
- **Médecins Sans Frontières:** *Does the Port of Beirut have the capacity to receive pharmaceuticals?*
At the moment pharmaceuticals can only be received at the port of Tripoli or at the airport.
- **Logistics Cluster:** *When do you think that another meeting might be taking place in Beirut?*
Before the end of the week.

4. Update on the fuel situation in country

- The points of entry of fuel have been mostly unaffected in Lebanon. The main points remain unaffected. There is however an issue with some tankers, but it is temporary and should not have a long-term impact.

5. Support to the crisis in Lebanon

- The Logistics Cluster reached out and has been contacted by several stakeholders. The Logistics Cluster is exploring with some of its partners the possibility of a unified coordinated effort for air and sea cargo.
- Regarding air cargo : the Logistics Cluster encourages partners to indicate their needs through the [CHOCOLAT](#) platform.
- CMA CGM offers free-for-user cargo transport (shipping and loading only) from Marseille, France to Beirut, Lebanon. Scheduled 21 August (TBC). Interested partners are invited to insert transport needs in [CHOCOLAT](#) or contact CMA through AideHumanitaireLiban@cma-cgm.com.

6. AOB

- The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday 13 August at 16:00 CEST.

Contacts

Logistics Cluster Lebanon Emergency Response Cell		Lebanon-logs@logcluster.org
Athalie Mayo	<i>Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator</i>	athalie.mayo@wfp.org
Bruno Vandemeulebroecke	<i>Deputy Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator</i>	bruno.vandemeulebroecke@wfp.org
Cyril Martin	<i>Logistics Cluster Officer</i>	cyril.martin@wfp.org
Celestin Jules Barde	<i>Information Management Officer</i>	celestinjules.barde@wfp.org