LOCATION: WFP office

DATE: 8 November 2018

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS: ACF, ADRA, Croix Rouge Française, OCHA, PLAN INTERNATIONAL, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, WHO

AGENDA:
1. Logistics Cluster activation and role
   • The Logistics Cluster gave an overview of its role as a coordination body and of its capacity in terms of information management and facilitation of common logistics services.
   • The cluster presented how it could support organisations in responding to the crisis in the South-West and North-West regions of Cameroon, following its activation on 18 October 2018.
   • A preliminary Concept of Operations was shared with participants to gather feedback and recommendations.

2. Situation overview
   • Douala is the main logistics hub for the response. National procurement is mostly done there and the majority of internationally procured goods arrive to the port.
   • Buea (1 hour from Douala by car) is becoming the centre of the operations for the response, organisations are relocating staff there.
   • With Buea as a response coordination hub, organisations plan to reach Kumba, Mamfe, and Bamenda and the areas around these cities.
   • It was reported that, given the security situation, private transporters are reluctant to travel to the affected areas and suppliers who had been delivering at destination, from Douala to Bamenda, have now discontinued this service. This will be further assessed.
   • Some participants raised that Bamenda should be considered as an additional operations hub, or in alternative, Bafousann. The two cities are less than 30 km apart, however the road is in poor conditions and the journey takes approximately three hours.
   • It was reported that storage capacity is available in the affected areas, but status, availability and suitability is to be further assessed.
   • The Logistics Cluster Coordinator will travel to Douala and Buea next week and will start assessing the situation on the ground in terms of road access, infrastructure, suppliers’ presence and capacity. The results will be shared during the next coordination meeting.
   • As some organisations have already conducted assessments, participants were encouraged to share their results with the Logistics Cluster.
3. Next steps

- Very few organisations are distributing at the moment, WFP will start next week. Most of the responding organisations are still assessing needs, therefore no pipeline or implementation timeline is currently available. As a consequence, for the time being, there is no definitive demand for common logistics services.

- A few local NGOs have been identified as implementing partners by the responding organisations. The Logistics Cluster will liaise with them to assess their capacity in case of a common response coordinated by the cluster.

- While these assessments are conducted, the Logistics Cluster will work to coordinate the logistics efforts of the responding organisations. Another coordination meeting will be held Yaoundé next week, but this forum will probably move to Douala and/or Buea in the next two weeks.

- Information management products, including Meeting Minutes, Situation Updates and Access Constraints Maps, will be shared to help organisations in planning and or adjusting their response.

- A page dedicated to the emergency in Cameroon will be available on the Logistics Cluster website (www.logcluster.org/cmr18a) by the end of the week to facilitate information sharing.

- A mailing list dedicated to the Cameroon emergency will be also set up. Humanitarians interested in joining the mailing list can do so by clicking the button “subscribe to our mailing list” at the bottom of the Logistics Cluster Cameroon page.

The next meeting will be held on 16 November at 9.30 at WFP office in Yaoundé

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