Situation Update, 13 May 2020
COVID-19

1. Cross-cutting Updates

- Webinars presenting WFP Emergency Service Marketplace (ESM) platform will take place on Tuesday, 19 May and Tuesday, 26 May. These sessions will introduce the process for registering on the platform, show participants how to log a request for cargo movement and explain the information that will be required. Please note that as of now, all requests for cargo movement through WFP Service Provision for the COVID-19 response must be submitted via the ESM. Prior to the webinar, all participants are invited to see the Concept of Operations, which can be downloaded here, as well as the FAQs about the services. Please also note that these sessions are for cargo requests only and do not address the passenger services provided by WFP Aviation. More information on passenger flights, including booking procedures, schedules and all other relevant information can be found on the Humanitarian Booking Hub.
- WFP is accepting cargo movement requests for several planned cargo flights available on a free-to-user basis. Click here to access the details of upcoming cargo flights.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to consolidate Cargo Entry Point Updates (CEPU) on a daily basis. An online map version of the CEPU is also available. Organisations are encouraged to provide their inputs to COVID-19@logcluster.org.
- The last Global Logistics Cluster COVID-19 response conference call took place today (13 May) and was attended by over 200 participants from 73 organisations.

2. Cluster Operations

Central African Republic

- After providing support for the first of three ECHO-donated flights received last week, the Logistics Cluster helped with the reception of cargo on the second flight which came from Lyon, France, on 13 May with 13 mt of COVID-19 response items for ACF, CRF and MSF-France.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

- A meeting aimed at discussing imports and customs in DRC during COVID-19 was organised with the IMPortation and Customs Clearance Together (IMPACCT) working group on 5 May. Participants in this meeting agreed to share requests related to customs clearance constraints with IMPACCT for future advocacy support.
- A map on the status of DRC entry points and import restrictions related to COVID-19 is being finalised and will be available by the end of this week.

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Ethiopia

- The Logistics Cluster is currently running a Gaps and Needs Analysis involving interviews with partners in order to identify the logistics gaps and to help inform the Concept of Operations.
- Borders between Ethiopia and Sudan via Gallabat (Gadarif State) and Kurmuck (Blue Nile State) are fully closed. However, discussions are ongoing between the Ethiopian and Sudanese authorities to re-open the border via Gallabat in the coming weeks.

Pacific Region

- The Pacific Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19 has been finalized. The plan includes a dedicated section on logistics.
- Commercial airlines are continuing to amend and update their schedules of flights to Pacific Island Countries (PICs). The Pacific Logistics Cluster is continuing to track this information and share it with partners on a regular basis. Cargo flights to some PICs are operating regularly although schedules are significantly reduced. There are some remaining PICTs that are not currently serviced by scheduled commercial flights.
- Regular cargo shipping scheduled within the Pacific region continues to operate. The Logistics Cluster is closely monitoring and sharing information with attention given to the impact on the supply chain of COVID-19 non-standardized quarantine regulations across the region.

Somalia

- Heavy rains, which have caused widespread flooding in Somalia, are exacerbating existing access constraints and impeding the humanitarian community’s ability to reach COVID-19 affected populations via road.
- The Logistics Cluster is facilitating airlifts of COVID-19 supplies on a full-cost recovery basis on behalf of the Ministry of Health, the Office of the Prime Minister, WHO and other key health partners. The Logistics Cluster is also advocating for funding from the Somalia Humanitarian Fund to support COVID-19-related transport needs.
- The Logistics Cluster has facilitated the loan of one Mobile Storage Unit to the Ministry of Health for the storage of medical equipment.
- Ethiopia-Somalia and the Kenya-Somalia borders remain closed for commercial entities while the Berbera corridor remains operational for WFP. No reports have been received for COVID-19 specific restrictions regarding the internal movement of humanitarian supplies apart from access constraints resulting from widespread flooding across different regions of Somalia.

Syria

- WFP informed the Logistics Cluster that cargo flights (both commercial and humanitarian) between Damascus and Qamishli have started again. A points of entry (POE) update has been shared with partners.

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Inside Syria
- The Health Sector inside Syria has compiled a list of COVID-19 health related requirements for the next three to six months for the Syria response. This list has been submitted to the Whole of Syria (WoS) Health Cluster.
- This list will be submitted to the Supply Portal and the Logistics Cluster has been informed by the WoS Health Cluster that it will be notified once these items are purchased by the consortia and are in the pipeline for Syria.
- WFP Headquarters will notify WFP Syria Country Office as and when COVID-19 related items are in the pipeline for Syria. The Logistics Cluster will act as focal point for receipt of these notifications and will hence have full visibility on all incoming dispatches.

Cross-border operations
- The Logistics Cluster is monitoring Turkish customs regulations with a particular focus on COVID-19 related items and shares a list of prohibited and restricted items for import with partners on a bi-monthly basis.

Yemen
- UNHAS-Yemen is open to receiving booking requests for the tentative flights UNO132H Addis Ababa – Aden – Addis Ababa on 18 May, 21 May, and 28 May. The flights are NOT yet confirmed but booking requests can be sent by organisations’ focal points to unhas.yemen@wfp.org.

3. Sector Operation

Bangladesh
- The Logistics Sector has adapted its Concept of Operations in order to address the specific logistics needs of the humanitarian community in the event of a potential COVID-19 spread in Bangladesh. The newly published ConOps can be downloaded here. PDF and PNG versions of the ConOps map is accessible here.
- The Logistics Sector received its first charter A330 freighter coming from Kuala Lampur at Chittagong Airport with COVID-19-related humanitarian cargo comprising generators, prefabs, accommodation and ablution units. Beside the Logistics Sector, the cargo was also received for WFP, IOM and UNHCR. The Logistics Sector coordinated the procurement which was based on full cost recovery.
- The Logistics Sector has added one more common storage service in Unchiprang and transportation services are managed and provided by Humanity and Inclusion (HI)/Atlas Logistique. The Logistics Sector currently has four storage hubs:
  - Madhu Chara Logistics and Engineering Hub with WFP as a service provider;
  - Balukhali Logistics Hub with WFP as a service provider;
  - Teknaf Logistics Hub with HI and Atlas Logistique as service providers;
  - Unchiprang Logistics Hub with HI and Atlas Logistique as service providers.
An addition to Cox’s Bazar COVID-19 special Logistics Hub is under construction with 1,200 m² of storage space which will be managed by HI and Atlas Logistique.

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