Meeting Minutes, 5 January 2021

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



LOCATION Addis Ababa, online

DATE 5 January 2021

CHAIR Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior DRM Adviser

Annemaud Drugeon, Deputy Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS Action Against Hunger (ACF), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Concern

Worldwide, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Food for the Hungry (FH) Ethiopia, Food Security Cluster, GOAL, Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), Mercy Corps, NALA Foundation, National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), OXFAM, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organisation (WHO).

ACTION POINTS

- Partners are requested to submit their transportation and storage requests using the <u>Service Request Form (SRF)</u> and send the form to <u>ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org</u> by every Friday COB.
- The Logistics Cluster will update the access constraints map and share it with partners on the Ethiopia operations page.

AGENDA

- 1. Physical Road Constraints
- 2. Multi-sector Assessment
- 3. Operation Update
- 4. Information Sharing Mechanism
- 5. FAQs and Partner Discussion

1. Physical Road Constraints

The recent physical road constraint reports were presented using the <u>Interactive Physical Road Constraints</u>

Map:

- The main corridors from Djibouti to Addis Ababa are open.
- The road from Dewele to Dire Dawa is in good condition.
- In the Afar region, the main road to Asaita is accessible. The Gewane, Gewaro, and Awash Fentale roads are accessible until the woreda (district) capital, leaving some kebeles (wards) flooded by the Awash river.
- The corridor from Berbera to Jijiga/Ethiopia is accessible for all types of traffic movements and there are no issues on the border crossing at Togwajale.
- The Mustahil bridge is now accessible for trucks.



Reports from Gambella indicate that the road via Nekemte and Jimma is accessible, but challenges in
access are reported for the route via Gedi Adis from Dembi Dollo to Gambella. The corridors from
Gambella to the border points of Pagak and Raad (South Sudan) are accessible.

2. Multi-sector Assessment – presented by OCHA

- A multi-sector assessment, headed by OCHA, has been conducted in prioritized locations in Tigray where
 the humanitarian situation is reported to be dire. Two teams were sent out to Western and Southern
 Tigray. OCHA presented the findings of the assessments.
- The team assessing Southern Tigray successfully completed the assessment all the way to Enderta, 10 km north of Mekele. The main travel road from Addis Ababa to Enderta was accessible.
- The team assessing Western Tigray encountered access challenges and was not able to reach Shire. Another assessment is being planned.
- There will be another assessment mission to explore an alternative route to Mekele through Alamata.

3. Operation Update

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the delivery of the first cargo on behalf of partners to Mekele on Friday 1 January.
- Four trucks carrying 40 mt of cargo on behalf of six partners are stationed in Gondar, awaiting clearances for Shire.
- Ground levelling work for the first mobile storage unit (MSU) in Semera has been completed. The MSU
 will be set up by the end of this week. This will serve as logistics hub for cargo delivered through the
 Semera Alamata Mekele route.

As a reminder, below are the storage and transportation services that can be facilitated by the Logistics Cluster for the Tigray response:

- There is 3900 m² of warehouse space available in Adama as common storage for partners, and 2400 m² in Gondar. The Logistics Cluster is also facilitating access to a warehouse with 900 m² storage capacity in Kombolcha. Currently, 700 m² is available for partners.
- The warehouse in Addis Ababa (1000 m²) currently has 250 m² available. This warehouse is used for the consolidation of cargo that is to be dispatched to Gondar, Kombolcha, and Semera.
- Partners requesting storage services are invited to fill in the <u>Service Request Form</u> (SRF) and send it to <u>Ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org</u>.
- Two trucks with the capacity of 10 mt are being positioned in Adama for any zone in Afar, while three
 trucks with the capacity of 5 mt are being positioned in Semera for any zone in Afar. Partners are
 requested to submit their needs using the SRF.
- There is 80 mt capacity for transport from Kombolcha to Mekele in the second week of January. In the
 future, additional convoys can be made available from Kombolcha to Mekele at the request of partners
 once an SRF has been submitted.



4. Information Sharing Mechanism

- NDRMC presented the new information sharing mechanism that has been arranged in collaboration with the Ethiopia Ministry of Peace and OCHA.
- As per the mandate of the Logistics Cluster and as agreed by the Humanitarian Country Team to coordinate and ensure there is no duplication of efforts, the Logistics Cluster will manage all cargo movement clearances on behalf of partners for the Tigray humanitarian response.
- Partners requesting movement into Tigray, whether requiring storage and transportation assistance
 from the cluster or moving independently, must submit their plans to the Logistics Cluster. After
 consolidating these plans, the Logistics Cluster will submit directly to NDRMC once a week.
- Partners are requested to share their cargo movement plans and requests to the Logistics Cluster every
 Friday COB via Ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org.
- Personnel movement requests are to be submitted to OCHA directly.
- The Logistics Cluster reminded partners on the importance of filling in the SRF correctly. SOPs for filling out the SRF will be shared with partners to ensure that the units are entered correctly.

5. FAQs and Partner Discussion

- Partners enquired about the possibility of air transport to deliver cargo to currently inaccessible areas in Western Tigray. The Logistics Cluster is exploring this option and will share any further details with partners.
- NDRMC presented their recent cargo movements. They have successfully moved trucks carrying relief items from Adama to Mekele in coordination with the regional authorities.

The next coordination Meeting is scheduled for 12 January at 11:00 EAT.

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