Meeting Minutes, 2 June 2020
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

LOCATION
Addis Ababa, online

DATE
2 June 2020

CHAIR
Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior DRM Adviser
Adham Effendi, Acting Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS
Concern Worldwide, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Food Security Cluster, GOAL, Handicap International, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), OCHA, World Food Programme (WFP)

ACTION POINTS
• The next Cluster Coordination Meeting is set for 9 June at 11:00 EAT.
• Partners are requested to submit Challenges and Needs reports to provide sufficient evidence to advocate for funding.
• Partners are requested to report Road Constraints, to inform the Road Constraints map.

AGENDA
1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Global Updates, WFP Covid-19 response
3. Concept of Operations
4. Information Gathering
5. Partner Forum, FAQs and Knowledge sharing

1. Welcome and Introductions

• Adham Effendi, Acting Cluster Coordinator (ACC), opened the floor to introduce the third cluster coordination meeting co-led by NDRMC.
• The ACC encouraged partners to provide more information through the Challenges and Needs Report (https://logcluster.org/document/ethiopia-logistics-challenges-needs-report) to establish a detailed picture of logistics gaps and needs.
• NDRMC stressed the importance of sharing information on resource expectation. In review of the donor meeting last week, it was recognised more work needs to be done to communicate to donors the importance of Logistics Cluster efforts to support partners’ activities in reaching the affected population.
• The Logistics Cluster will continue to advocate for funding to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and other disasters, namely floods and locusts, through its vital role of supporting partners’ operations,
ensuring assistance can still be delivered. If no funding is available it will be a challenge for the Logistics Cluster to remain operational. A request was made to participants to also advocate within their respective networks on behalf of the Logistics Cluster, in order to increase the awareness of the funding requirement.

2. Global Updates, WFP Covid-19 response

- The Deputy Logistics Cluster (DLC) re-introduced the free-to-user service of the WFP Emergency Service Marketplace, with its global network of hubs that connect with Addis Ababa. Requests can be made through the platform via the organisation’s designated focal point.
- The updated schedules of passenger services are available on the Logistics Cluster operation page (https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a). Seat requests can be made via email (covid19.aviationglobal@wfp.org), on the Humanitarian Booking Hub or via the Addis Ababa Customer Service Line: +251 944334975.

3. Concept of Operations

- Planned activities include coordination, information management, capacity strengthening and access to logistics services. The core pillars coordination and information management will be provided by the Logistics Cluster.
- It was stressed that the facilitation of logistics services for partners will depend on the availability of funding.
- Coordination activities to include:
  - Weekly coordination meetings to serve as a forum to discuss sector specific logistics operations and raise issues of common concern.
  - Capacity strengthening activities, technical support and training, including on the setup of mobile storage units (MSUs).
  - Facilitation of knowledge transfer through dissemination of best practices.
  - Dedicated logistics staff to participate in the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG).
  - Coordination at the regional level on an ad hoc requirement.
- Information management activities to include:
  - Sharing of key documents to support the operational decision making of partners.
  - Dedicated operations page (https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a) for sharing information, including access to global common services, schedules, and situation updates.
  - Maps in the form of Road Constraints, Logistics Planning, and Concept of Operations maps.
  - Maintenance of and information sharing through Ethiopia-logs@logcluster.org mailing list.
- Logistics services activities to include:
  - Storage:
    - Provision of MSUs, prepositioned at the main hubs in Addis Ababa and Adama, to be deployed in-country at regional level where a common need exists. Installed through

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
engineering services and prioritised to partners who can provide MSU management on behalf of partners.

- Warehousing provided at central locations; Addis Ababa and Adama.
- Cold storage to be provisioned at main hubs, with procured cold storage containers ready for deployment to regions where a need exists.

  - Road transport:
    - Transport will be provisioned where there is a gap between key locations, but will not include last mile delivery.
    - Dedicated fleet capacity with organised departure schedules to augment services where the market is unable to provide transport options. To include temperature-controlled trucks for key medical items in strategic locations.

  - Air transport:
    - Facilitation of access to rapid air assets from commercial services, or through WFP aviation if cargo requirement is sufficient, between domestic airports for the delivery of life saving medical supplies.

- Requests to access services will be handled using the Service Request Form (SRF) and tracked through the Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA).
- Prioritisation will be managed in collaboration with NDRMC and ICCG following the recommendations from the Ministry of Health and WHO for prioritising resources to the COVID-19 response, and based on the available funds for resources.

5. Information Gathering

- The existing communication channels for the dissemination of key information and products were shared, including the mailing list Ethiopia-logs@logcluster.org and newly published Ethiopia operation page (https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a).
- The Digital Logistics Capacity Assessment (DLCA) (https://dlca.logcluster.org/display/public/DLCA/Ethiopia) for Ethiopia is currently being updated to provide essential information on logistics infrastructure and services in country.
- Partners are encouraged to submit reports on the following:
  - The Logistics Challenges and Needs Report (https://logcluster.org/document/ethiopia-logistics-challenges-needs-report) provides a form for partners to report their ongoing constraints and challenges affecting operational activities, essential for triggering an operational response and advocating need to obtain further funding.
  - The Road Constraints Report (https://logcluster.org/document/ethiopia-road-constraints-report) allows partners to report on physical road constraints affecting operations, the data of which will be used to create Road Constraints Maps.
- To further involve partners in the information gathering the DCC confirmed that the Logistics Cluster will reach out bilaterally to partners.
5. Partner Forum, FAQs and Knowledge sharing

- NDRMC supported the information gathering exercise of partners’ needs, which is critical for providing evidence for resource mobilisation, and encouraged partners to submit information via the Logistics Challenges and Needs Report.
- Partners asked about the visa situation for United Nations laissez-passer (UNLPs) and Ethiopian nationals arriving via WFP Aviation flights at Addis Ababa Bole Airport. The Logistics Cluster recommended to contact the organisation’s travel focal point for these queries.
- It was confirmed that the creation of a field hospital in Addis Ababa is not part of the Logistics Cluster activities. This is a WHO/government-led project, with WFP providing engineering services, to build a treatment center for humanitarian workers only, to be completed in the next two weeks.
- Partners were informed that there is congestion and a shortage of trucks at Djibouti, but that this is typical due to it being peak season for cargo movement into the country. Transport has been moving without disruption.

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for 9 June at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

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