Meeting Minutes, 9 June 2020
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

LOCATION  Addis Ababa, online

DATE      9 June 2020

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


ACTION POINTS

- The next Cluster Coordination Meeting is set for 16 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 provide further quantity details of cargo in their upstream pipeline planning.
- Partners are requested to report Road Constraints to inform the Road Constraints map.
- The Logistics Cluster will share COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for warehousing.

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Information Gathering
3. Aviation Updates
4. SOPS - Guidance
5. Logistics Challenges
6. Partner Forum, FAQs and Knowledge sharing

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Adham Effendi, Acting Cluster Coordinator (ACC), opened the floor to introduce the fourth cluster coordination meeting co-led by NDRMC. He welcomed participants and introduced colleagues from NDRMC, the Logistics Cluster as well a new member, Yoseph Ambaw, who will support the cluster as an Operations Assistant.

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- The ACC encouraged partners to continue sharing 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 as well as quantities in terms of volume.
- Numerous requests have been received and with funding coming through from the Ethiopia Humanitarian Fund (EHF), the Logistics Cluster will be fully operational.
- Advocacy for funding by supporting partners to their respective networks on behalf of the Logistics Cluster is of upmost importance to remain able to provide support as required, since operation of the cluster is dependent on the availability of funds.

2. 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 were 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 the facilitation of services and advocating the 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 Deputy Cluster Coordinator (DCC) confirmed that the Logistics Cluster will reach out bilaterally to partners. In particular, partners were requested to submit details on their upstream pipeline planning.

3. Aviation Updates

- The latest commercial flight departure schedule for Ethiopia Airlines from Addis Ababa was presented. Partners were reminded that flights offered on the Humanitarian Booking Hub (https://humanitarianbooking.wfp.org) do not serve commercially available routes.
- Partners were asked to continue to submit upstream cargo movement requests via the Emergency Service Market Place.
- The latest schedule for WFP Aviation was presented. Schedules change often depending on demand. The Humanitarian Booking Hub shows the latest available passenger flights.
• Partners were requested to reach out to the Logistics Cluster team if they have any queries or need support.

4. SOPS – Guidance

• The Logistics Cluster shared recommended SOPS on warehouse management during the COVID-19 pandemic currently being implemented by WFP and advised partners to put in place such procedures in their respective warehouses and logistics operations. Requests for more information and questions can be sent by email.
• The DCC also specified in detail the SOPS and mitigation measures for COVID-19 risks currently being implemented by the government at border crossings and on border posts.
• The Logistics Cluster will share the warehouse guidance with partners in the coming days.

5. Logistics Challenges

• Partners who had already submitted to the Challenges and Needs Reports were thanked.
• It was advised that this process is ongoing and greater detail is needed from partners on specific needs, in particular the volume of required storage or transport.
• The basic assessment criteria were explained:
  o **No Impact** - The situation is manageable and mitigation measures are in place to meet operational requirements.
  o **Increasing Impact** - The situation is manageable, however, with a developing situation operations could start being impacted.
  o **Critical Impact** - It is having an impact on operations currently.
• The Gaps and Needs Analysis (GNA) initial findings were presented, which are based on 11 reports from partners on challenges impacting operations:
  o Six reports indicated a need for storage.
  o One report showed a need for cold chain and storage rehabilitation work, with a critical impact on operations.
  o Five reports showed storage having an ‘Increasing Impact’ on operations, with four of the five assessing storage availability as poor; the lowest rating.
  o Five reports on transport showed an ‘Increasing Impact’ on operations. Two assessed transport availability as poor.
  o Eight of the reports requested air transportation at the respective locations.
  o One partner reported the need of cold chain at country level.
  o Partners continue to report storage concerns.
• A number of requests have already been facilitated by the Logistics Cluster, including the provision of four MSUs to be installed at the Djibouti border to help establish screening centres and driver waiting areas.

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Planned activities include coordination, information management, capacity strengthening and facilitating access to logistics services. The core pillars coordination and information management will be provided by the Logistics Cluster.

6. 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 updates on the status of UNHAS flight availability from Djibouti Airport. The Logistics Cluster clarified that WFP Aviation, operating the humanitarian passenger services, only offering flights from locations when there are no other commercial options available.
- 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 16 June at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

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