
Meeting Minutes, 4 August 2020

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



LOCATION	Addis Ababa, online
DATE	4 August 2020
CHAIR	Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior DRM Adviser Hakim Froissart, Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Concern Worldwide, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC), Global Affairs Canada, GOAL, National Disaster Risk Management Commission (NDRMC), Save the Children, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Food Programme (WFP)
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The next Cluster Coordination Meeting is set for 11 August at 11:00 EAT.• Partners are requested to submit Challenges and Needs reports for funding advocacy purposes.• Partners are requested to provide further details on quantity of cargo in their upstream pipeline planning.• Partners are requested to report road constraints to inform the Road Constraints map.
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Welcome and Introductions2. Information Gathering3. Aviation Updates4. Land, Air and Port Status5. Logistics Updates and Challenges6. Service Request Form7. Partner Forum, FAQs and Knowledge sharing

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Hakim Froissart, Logistics Cluster Coordinator (LCC), opened the floor to introduce the ninth cluster coordination meeting co-led by NDRMC.
- Partners are encouraged 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.
- Advocacy for funding by supporting partners to their respective networks on behalf of the Logistics Cluster is of utmost importance to remain able to provide support as required, since the 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 Ethiopia operations 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.
- The dedicated COVID-19 response page (<http://logcluster.org/COVID-19>) provides essential updates and information to minimise disruptions in the supply chain of current humanitarian operations.
- 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.
- The Ethiopia Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was issued originally in January 2020 (<https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/ethiopia-humanitarian-response-plan-2020-january-2020>) and has been updated with the revised Annex based on current situations (<https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/annex-update-2020-ethiopia-humanitarian-response-plan-may-2020>) in May 2020.
- To further involve partners in the information gathering process, the Logistics Cluster will reach out bilaterally. In particular, partners are requested to submit details of their upstream pipeline planning.

3. Aviation Updates

- The latest commercial flight departure schedule 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. Land, Air and Port Status

- The most recent port, air and land status of neighbouring countries was presented.
- Djibouti port is operational but facing delays due to congestion issues. Ethiopia has officially started using the Tadjourah port in Djibouti.
- The port status for Somalia and Kenya show no current issues and the ports continue to operate without any major delays.
- Commercial flights are opening in Djibouti and Kenya. In Somalia, Hargeisa airport is open for passengers flying with Ethiopian Airlines. South Sudan has authorised international as well as regional flights.
- The land status shows no changes, as there are no movement restrictions from Djibouti, South Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and Sudan to Ethiopia and vice versa on essential cargo movement.

5. Logistics Updates and Challenges

- The [Physical Road Constraints map](#) was presented, showcasing current challenges and delays in different areas of operation.
- Amhara region reports no access issues, except for Negele bridge, which remains closed.
- Incidents that have been affecting movement of vehicles were reported on routes between Gedi Adis to Gambella. In Gambella inaccessibility of the route to Mater and Burpe port has been reported due to flooding. Alternative access to South Sudan by river via Itang port was suggested.
- In Somali region, Mustahil bridge was confirmed to be fully blocked, while no impact has been seen on the route from Khalafa to Afdub.
- Significant delays have been reported in Dire Dawa as flooding impacted the routes to Galabu and Afdem.

6. Service Request Form

- The Logistics Cluster presented the service request form (SRF) and partners were guided on how to use it to access services of the logistics cluster.
- The partners were briefed on the services the Logistics Cluster provides. These include storage in terms of MSUs as well as rented and shared capacities depending on needs; transport services by organising convoys and consolidating cargo for cost efficiency; and the facilitation of chartered air lifts for cargo within Ethiopia. Services also include the usual coordination and information management by closely working with NDRMC and other partners.
- In addition to the SRF, a tracking system called RITA was introduced to partners for tracing and following up on their cargo.

7. Partner Forum, FAQs and Knowledge Sharing

- NDRMC supports 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 road conditions from Addis to Jijiga specifically towards Chiro and Awaday and most part of east Hararge. In response the Logistics Cluster and NDRMC assured partners, they will be informed of situations in those areas as soon as updated information is available.
- Partners wanted to know the lead time to handle the service request to the Logistics Cluster; they were assured that depending on the type of service, feasibility and constraints, 48 hours or less was ideal to give feedback, respond or proceed with the request.
- NDRMC and the Logistics Cluster underlined the importance of the service request form as well as the need to create linkage with the ECC, as the incoming requests are expected to relate to emergencies being addressed under the ECC.
- Partners asked the possibility of availing light trucks with a capacity of eight metric tons and less for distribution of supplies to different beneficiaries in different regions. The Logistics Cluster stated that contracting companies with small trucks was possible to cover the need.
- The ECC gave an update on current operations taking place on the points of entry (Dewelle and Galafi) that involves both the Logistics Cluster and the ECC, as well as similar needs in other regions.
- The Logistics Cluster and ECC discussed the strengthening of both the ECC and the Logistics Cluster, with particular focus on regions. The Logistics Cluster has scheduled weekly meetings with the ECC to present current updates of the cluster.

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

Contacts

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