LOCATION: Addis Ababa, online

DATE: 16 February 2021

CHAIR: Robert Sepe, Logistics Cluster Coordinator
Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior DRM Adviser


ACTION POINTS:
- Partners are requested to submit their transportation and storage requests using the Service Request Form (SRF) and clearance requests using the Cargo Clearance Form to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org by every Friday COB.
- Partners are requested to submit a Release Order Form in order to request the release of their cargo out of any of the Logistics Cluster storage spaces.

AGENDA
1. Physical Road Constraints
2. OCHA Updates
3. Operation Update
4. NDRMC Updates
5. Release Order Forms

1. Physical Road Constraints

The recent physical road constraint reports were presented using the Interactive Physical Road Constraints Map:
- Routes from Amhara region through Kobo towards Southern Tigray and through Gondar to Western Tigray are physically accessible.
- Main corridors from Djibouti, Berbera, and Kenya via Moyale are operating smoothly.
- Some areas in Afar (zone 1 and zone 3) are inaccessible due to flooding.
- Access is challenging for the route from Dembi Dollo to Gambella via Gedi Adis.
- Corridors from Gambella to the border points of Pagak and Raad are accessible.

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2. OCHA Updates

- Last week, clearances have been received for more than 40 staff to deploy to Tigray region, mainly to Shire and Mekele. An additional 40 staff clearances are still pending.
- Despite some progress, access to rural areas in Tigray remains a challenge.
- The road from Shire to Sheraro is partially accessible, as some partners have reported that they have been able to travel to Sheraro.
- An Access Working Group has been activated in Mekele and Gondar. A communication channel for updates has also been created; partners interested in joining should inform OCHA colleagues.
- Access to Western Tigray has significantly improved. Areas along the route to Dansha and Humera are reported to be partially accessible.

3. Operation Update

- The Logistics Cluster finalized the contract for a 1600 m² warehouse for common storage in Mekele and deployed a Logistics Officer to set up the warehouse as a logistics hub.
- The Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 34 mt of cargo on behalf of three partners to Shire and Mai Tsebri camps on 11 February.
- Around 65 mt of cargo on behalf of three partners was dispatched by the Logistics Cluster from Kombolcha on 15 February to be delivered to Mekele.
- This week, the Logistics Cluster submitted clearances on behalf of seven partners for destinations in Tigray (Wokro town, Shire, and Mekele).
- Partners are reminded to submit their cargo clearance forms to the Logistics Cluster every Friday for any cargo traveling to areas inside Tigray in the following week. Cargo intended for host communities and IDPs will be sent to NDRMC, while cargo for refugee operations will be sent to ARRA for clearance.

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.
- The warehouse in Gondar (2400 m²) currently has 800 m² available.
- The logistics hub in Kombolcha (1500 m²) currently has 1000 m² available.
- 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 Service Request Form (SRF) and send it to Ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org.
4. NDRMC updates

- NDRMC reaffirmed their commitment to ensure the clearances process is timely and efficient, and the potential to issue blanket clearance for humanitarian cargo movements as partners’ operational responses increase.
- The Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) focal point in Mekele reported that Samaritan’s Purse delivered aid directly from the US by air through the Mekele Alula Aba Nega Airport, after having received customs clearance from NDRMC.
- Partners are requested to share their cargo movement plans and requests with the Logistics Cluster every Friday COB via Ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org.

5. Release Order Forms

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator introduced the Release Order Form (ROF) to partners. The form is used for requesting withdrawal of cargo out of any of the Logistics Cluster facilitated storage spaces. Instructions on how to fill out this form can be found here.
- To request transportation or storage services from the Logistics Cluster, partners should use the Service Request Form. However, to request the release of cargo, partners should fill out the ROF, clearly indicating who is designated to receive the cargo. Once the hub officers verify this information, they will allow for the release of cargo to the authorized person.

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for 23 February at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

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