LOCATION: Baghdad  
DATE: 11 November 2015  
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator  
PARTICIPANTS: ACTED, Mercy Hands, Medecins sans Frontieres France (MSF-F), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), NGO Coordination Committee for Iraq (NCCI)  

AGENDA:  
1. Operational Updates  
2. Common Storage Services  
3. Any Other Business  

1. Operational Updates  

- Partners were informed of the request received in mid-August from OFDA/USAID to assist on logistics aspects and accommodate incoming NFIs for winterization interventions in Iraq. The cargo will be allocated to UNICEF, IOM and UNFPA as main recipients and then to implementing organizations. Items will start arriving in country by mid-November and consignments - up to 35 trucks per day in Erbil and up to 12 trucks per day in Baghdad - will be ongoing until early January. The Logistics Cluster has been tasked to centrally coordinate the initial planning as well as the in-Country information flows, cargo handling, storage, management and tracking of cargo under the common services provision. The Logistics Cluster has moreover contracted further warehouse capacity, management and handling services in both Baghdad and Erbil, as well as augmenting staffing structures and capacity, to support an operation of this scale.  

- Discussion with organisations moved to the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan that has been drafted by each Cluster, reviewed by an Advisory Board and to be launched at the end of November as a main fund raising instrument for the whole humanitarian community. The strategic objectives of the plan, based on the ‘most likely humanitarian scenario’ for next year, were illustrated to participants to identify each organisation intended areas of intervention and possible constraints. The chair also illustrated the reasons behind this coordinated planning exercise and the importance of having supply chain and logistics aspects, priorities and constraints taken into consideration at programme inception, design and planning stages. In 2016 the Logistics Cluster plans to continue supporting organisations’ requests for logistics services (temporary storage for emergency, contingency and prepositioning) from the three hubs of Dahuk, Erbil and Baghdad, and keep the role of coordination and information management, while being ready to expand services and support in other areas as per organisations’ needs.  

- Participants discussed about the situation of the Bzibiz Bridge where needs are reportedly high and access/crossing is problematic. Distributions of relief commodities, including food, have been ongoing but not regularly. MSF-CH is to open a mobile clinic in December and support from other participants operating in the area was offered.  

2. Common Storage Services
• The Logistics Cluster gave an update on the storage capacity at the different hubs in the country. The total in-country storage capacity is currently 18,990 m².
  o Erbil = 11,850 m²
  o Baghdad = 5,500 m³
  o Dahuk = 1,640 m²

• At present 4 organisations are using the Logistics Cluster storage services in Dahuk (MSF-CH, French Red Cross, NRC and International Rescue Committee), which gives a total stock balance of 86.369 mt (707.172 m³). In Baghdad, NFIs (dignity kits) from UNFPA are stored at the Logistics Cluster warehouse of 19.77 mt / 59.31 m³.

• Participants were reminded that the Logistics Cluster remains available to support organisations in need for temporary storage services in the three hubs, currently 1,480 m² available in Dahuk, 5,487 m² in Baghdad, and 11,850 m² in Erbil.

• With regard to transport capacity available in country, no major issues were reported in terms of transportation as needs are covered by the market capacity. Access to several locations remains problematic and issues are experienced in terms of slow authorizations when transporting items from a governorate to another. Participants normally rely on transportation companies to be able to reach the locations; however due to delays in obtaining all necessary permits, deliveries take longer and final costs result in higher transportation fees.

3. Any Other Business

• Participants were informed of the "Let's Comm Digital" training offered by the Emergency Telecommunication Cluster in December, addressed to ICT personnel with a technical background on VHF/UHF. Interested organisations can send applications through the ETC website: [https://www.etcluster.org/training/lets-comm-digital](https://www.etcluster.org/training/lets-comm-digital) until 26 November.

• The Logistics Cluster made available to organisations different trainings in the past months in the three hubs. Similar activities will continue to be organized in 2016. Participants suggested to repeat the WH and commodities management trainings on a regular basis, with a special focus on NFIs. Other subjects of specific interest, like emergency procurement, can be explored and discussed among partners within a dedicated session during the coordination meetings.

• As of November the Logistics Cluster will not have GIS capacity in country; however requests and support for maps will continue to be facilitated through other actors operating in Iraq with GIS capacity and also through WFP.

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