LOCATION: Baghdad, Iraq
DATE: 21 December 2017
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS: Danish Refugee Council (DRC), NCCI, UIMS, UN OCHA.
ACTION POINTS:
- The Logistics Cluster to continue gathering information and sharing updated guidance on importation into Baghdad.
- The Logistics Cluster to draft and circulate a snapshot of required procedures and documentation for transport of staff to/from Baghdad airport.

AGENDA:
1. Previous Action Points
2. Humanitarian and operational updates
3. Roundtable discussion on response and logistics constraints/bottlenecks
4. Logistics Cluster updates and common services
5. AOB

1. Previous Action Points
- The Logistics Cluster shared information on access, accessibility and the bridges north of Ana.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to follow up on the duties exemption letter for humanitarian cargo coming through Um Qasr sea port; any official Government communication and guidance will be shared through the mailing list.
- The Logistics Cluster to share information on a WFP tool that can be used for market assessments. Assessment templates can be found on the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) portal: http://dlca.logcluster.org/display/LOG/Logistics+Operational+Guide+%28LOG%29+Home

2. Situation and Humanitarian Updates
- Military operations continue to clear the desert area between Anbar and Ninewa and along the Syrian border.
- The total number of people displaced in West Anbar this year stands at 68,454 people, of which more than 22,000 were displaced after 20 September. The majority of IDPs have gone to Falluja and Ramadi (83%), and limited numbers to Erbil, Mosul and Baghdad. The number of returnees identified at their location of displacement currently stands at 2,766, according to IOM DTM (http://iraqdtm.iom.int/). Larger returns are in Ana.
- A total of 103,566 people remains displaced from the Hawija and the Shirqat areas due to the ongoing conflict between August 2016 and October 2017. A total of 115,836 returnees have gone back since September 2017 and the number is expected to rise.
Insecurity and clashes continue in and around Tuz Khourmatu, Salah al-Din, predominantly between the ISF/PMUs and Organized Armed Groups (OAGs). Access from Kalar to displacement sites around the area is not problematic, as of the time of writing.

3. Access and Logistics Constraints

Access

- There has been no change to any international border crossings lately. Ibrahim Khalil (Turkey), Fishkhabor (Syria) and Bashmaq (Iran) remain open. There are reports indicating that Haji Omeran and Parwez Khan crossings will reopen soon; Trebil border crossing with Jordan is open by the procedures for import and transport of commodities are reportedly lengthy and delays have been faced. The KRI airports remain closed to all but domestic Iraqi Airways flights.
- The Mosul-Dahuk Highway (HWY 2) is now functioning for humanitarian traffic, but as of 17 December, the east-west route running directly below the Mosul Dam is restricted to dam workers only. Partners can travel south from Dahuk, through Badrya and down into east Mosul. From there, they can also cross into west Mosul and on to the western Tigris areas, if needed. The Ninewa access letter for NGOs and a Ninewa Operational Command (NOC) letter for UN agencies are also required.
- The office of Gen. Basim moved from Ana and will be soon opened in East Mosul, not covering Anbar operations. Requirements for the clearance letter have changed, restricting the validity for each letter to one week and five trucks.
- As for Anbar/Western Anbar, the JCMC letter is required. However, to access Ana and Al Qaim areas, organisations are encouraged to make contact with local authorities to ensure movements. East Anbar Operations Command Center (Falluja) and JBOC in Haditha are also facilitating humanitarian operations and OCHA CMCoord unit can assist in providing contact details and troubleshooting.
- Access between the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and federal Iraq: Khazer checkpoint remains open; Nawaran, Makhmur and Sahela checkpoints remain closed. Comments from Dahuk authorities and the Joint Crisis Coordination (JCC) centre suggest that Sahela will reopen but with restricted access (not for humanitarian operations). There is a planned mission to the Makmour area to identify one alternative route to cross.

Importations to Baghdad

- The Logistics Cluster has compiled further details on the ‘Green Light’ process for importing medical items into the Baghdad International Airport (BIAP).
- Submit eight copies of the below documents to the Ministry of Health (MoH) in Baghdad:

http://www.logcluster.org/ops/irq14a
- Official request letter to MoH;  - Certificate of Origin;
- Certificate of Analysis;  - Packing List; and
- Invoice.

- The letter must include the names of several focal points within the organisation who will follow the process.
- The MoH will forward these documents to the other relevant ministries.
- Once all ministries have signed off, the requesting organisation will have the ‘green light’ to ship the consignment by air to BIAP, with an exemption on taxes. The process may take up to six weeks, so organisations are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.
- Once the shipment has arrived at BIAP, the medical items can be released to the organisation’s (or the MoH’s) warehouse, where it will be quarantined while samples are collected and analysed in order to issue an Iraqi Certificate of Analysis.
- The process to obtain the Iraqi Certificate of Analysis varies widely, as it can depend on the availability of testing kits
- An updated guidance will be shared and feedback welcomed from organisations involved in the process.
- Onwards transport from Baghdad to the KRI is problematic as transporters have trouble getting through the many areas under different delegations of authority. Partners are encouraged to share experiences and feedback through the Skype group.

4. Logistics Cluster Activities

- Between 17 October 2016 and 17 December 2017, a total of 78,364 m³ of humanitarian cargo, equivalent to 21,638 mt, has been received for storage, and 7,336 m³ (1,692 mt) transported on behalf of 48 humanitarian organisations across the different Logistics Cluster hubs.
- Arrangements are being finalized to deploy one mobile storage unit (MSU) to Mercy Corps in Ramadi (Anbar); another one is likely to be mobilized in Ana (western Anbar) as requested by Terre des Hommes (TdH) and a third one in Shirqat area (Salah al-Din) for People in Need (PIN).
- The Logistics Cluster and the JCC are extending the One Stop Shop (OSS) for customs clearance for a further six months. As of 31 October, the OSS had processed 933 requests, representing 10,433 mt of humanitarian cargo worth over US$133 million.
- The Logistics Cluster is working with a number of cooperating partners on exit strategies from the majority of the in-camp common storage facilities by the end of 2017.
- The following facilities will be closed on 31 December and any MSUs returned to stock:
  - Bardarash: 1,200 m²
  - Debaga camp: 240 m²

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- Gogali: 1,200 m²
- Hasansham camp: 240 m²
- Khazer camp: 920 m²
- As Salamiyah – UNHCR camp: 960 m² (TBC)

- The following facilities will be converted from common storage to MSU loans to individual organisations from 1 January 2018:
  - Hajj Ali camp: 640 m² (TBC)
  - Qayyarah Airstrip camp: 1,280 m²
  - Qayyarah Jad’ah camp: 320 m²
  - Zummar: 420 m²

- From 1 January 2018, a total of 16,680 m² across 6 locations:
  - Baghdad: 2,000 m²
  - Dahuk: 2,760 m²
  - Erbil: 5,400 m²
  - Hamam al ‘Alil (MODM): 1,040 m²
  - Hamam al ‘Alil (UNHCR): 2,080 m²
  - Tikrit: 3,400 m²

- The Logistics Cluster has currently 24 MSUs in stock (in Baghdad, Dahuk and Erbil) available for loan and specific partner needs.

- The cluster defences took place on 12 December; the Logistics Cluster project was well received and endorsed. The Logistics Cluster HRP 2018 requirement has been adjusted to US$ 2.5 million.

- Logistics Cluster activities in 2018 will focus on:
  - Coordination and information management – Maintain presence in three hubs, with a full IM capacity/web platform and GIS capacity and more field-level coordination meetings, as required.
  - Service provision - Provide common humanitarian storage with a focus on pre-positioning and consolidation of stock in central locations; promote MSUs loan; expand the facilitation, guidance and advocacy role on customs and clearances (Erbil and Baghdad).
  - Partnerships and capacity building – Strengthen the technical capacity of the Government, national and international actors through relevant logistics trainings.

5. AOB

- One organisation requested support in drafting a guidance on SOPs for transfer of staff from/to Baghdad airport, including key contacts of relevant authorities and security entities on site.

- The following documents and assessment reports are newly available:
  - Mosul and Tel Afar Context Analysis (Dec. 2017) - Rise Foundation

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- Priority Winter Needs and Gaps (Dec. 2017) - Shelter Cluster
- Integrated Location Assessment II - IOM, 10-Dec-17
- RPA Crisis Information Report: Karamba IDP Camp, Tikrit (29 Nov.) - Protection Cluster
- October Factsheet: Joint Price Monitoring Initiative - REACH, 29-Nov-17
- Rapid Needs Assessment: Anbar - Human Appeal, 28-Nov-17
- Mosul Response: Explosive Hazards – UNMAS, 27-Nov-17
- Winterization Strategy DRAFT - ICCG, 22-Nov-17
- Anbar Implementing Partners map – OCHA, 14-Nov-17

To request a copy of any of these reports, please contact georgia.farley@wfp.org.

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