LOCATION: Dohuk
DATE: 21 October 2015
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS: French Red Cross (FRC), Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), Save the Children, WFP, Samaritans Purse

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

1. Operational Updates

- The Logistics Cluster informed organisations of the work done since mid-August to accommodate a request to receive a significant amount of Non-food items (NFIs) cargo from OFDA/USAID that will be allocated to UNICEF, IOM and UNFPA in Iraq as main recipients and then to be distributed by implementing organisations. The Logistics Cluster has been requested to coordinate the initial planning as well as the in-Country information flows, cargo handling, storage, management and tracking of those assets 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 the operation.

- Organisations were updated on the status of the inter-agency convoy scenario planning to Haditha. Following Humanitarian Coordinator’s (HC) decision to explore airlift as a possibility for the cargo movement, scenario planning at both airport locations has been conducted. The Logistics Cluster has also continued access options for a road movement via the southern K-160 route, which will provide a more cost-effective and sustainable solution. Pending formal authorization and confirmed participation by individual UN agencies, contingency plans for both options are being discussed.

- Discussions with organisations moved to the upcoming 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan, that is currently been drafted by each Cluster to be launched at the end of November. The strategic objectives of the plan, based on the most likely humanitarian scenario, were illustrated to participants to identify each organisation intended areas of intervention and possible constraints. Areas, especially in Ninewa governorates, will likely see an increase in humanitarian activities over the coming months; therefore organisations may be in need of additional support from the Logistics Cluster. In the area, substantial infrastructures damage and the various options for access have been considered by organisations. Assessments are likely to be conducted and will provide a better picture of needs/gaps.

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.

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- Erbil = 11,850 m²
- Baghdad = 5,500 m²
- Dohuk = 1,640 m²

- At present, three organisations are using the Logistics Cluster storage services in Dohuk (MSF-CH, FRC and NRC), which gives a total stock balance currently in Dohuk Logistics Cluster warehouse of 55,286 mt/443,392 m³. In Baghdad, a total of 20 mt/75 m³ dignity kits from UNFPA are being stored.

- Participants were reminded that the Logistics Cluster is available and ready to support organisations in need of temporary storage services in the three hubs, especially in light of the emergency, access and pipeline constraints.

3. Any Other Business

- The Logistics Cluster informed participants of the recent Warehouse and Commodities Management training held in Erbil that was attended by 20 staff from 14 organisations.

- NCA presented the upcoming defence driving training course organized in Dohuk for the humanitarian community, for which each organization has to pay their own cost.

- The Logistics Cluster mentioned that it will support additional training needs and activities as brought forth by partners to increase logistics related capacities and expertise for the overall operational benefit.

- Partners were also informed that a blog post on the GPS and Road Assessment training organized in August in both Dohuk and Erbil has been published on the Logistics Cluster webpage.

- The recent Humanitarian Storage Capacity map produced as a draft has been shared for participants’ feedback.

- One question was raised on the possibility to support Government as well as humanitarian actors in preparing evacuation plans in case of worsening security situations. Organisations exchanged their particular experiences and continuing efforts in this regard.

- One issue was brought to attention, regarding the distribution of kerosene lamps/heaters to displaced families living in tents, which is recognized to be dangerous in those living conditions. Organisations and the Logistics Cluster will keep looking at and sharing possible alternatives.

- Information were shared about the procedures needed to use one-to-one radio in camps. the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) was contacted to provide support on this particular request.

- It was agreed to keep a monthly schedule for the Logistics Cluster coordination meetings. Next meeting in Dohuk is planned for 25 November at 3pm in WFP office. Partners will continue to be informed/updated in due time through all communication channels (email, online page, Skype group).
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