LOCATION: Duhok, Iraq
DATE: 4 Sept 2018
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS: Al-Ghad League for Women and Children; Blumont; CARE; Catholic Relief Services (CRS); JCC Duhok; Médecins du Monde France (MDM-F); Médecins Sans Frontières OCP (MSF-OCP); Médecins Sans Frontières Netherlands (MSF-H); OCHA; Premiere Urgence Internationale (PUI); Syria Relief; Tearfund.

ACTION POINTS: 
- Logistics Cluster to share Joint Crisis Centre (JCC) Duhok and OCHA northeast Syria office contacts with partners.

AGENDA:
1. JCC Duhok coordination – cross border/ Access Q & A.
2. Humanitarian and operational updates
3. Humanitarian Needs Overview – your feedback on What are the country Logistics priorities for 2019?
4. Access
5. Logistics Cluster updates and common services
6. AOB

1. JCC Duhok coordination – cross border/ Access Q & A

- The chair welcomed the participants to the meeting and introduced the Joint Crisis Centre (JCC) Duhok Governorate Director Manal Mohammad to lead the discussion. The purpose of discussion is to develop an understanding of JCC Duhok’s role and to share relevant information.

- JCC will soon have a meeting room available within the JCC office, which will be available for use by partners for humanitarian sector workshops and meetings.

- JCC Duhok can assist partners with access issues. Enhanced coordination and information sharing would be appreciated (e.g. if Logistics Cluster partners share brief monthly updates on their activities) and JCC can then share information briefs with partners.

- One Stop Shop (OSS): partners expressed that the system and process are efficient and it is unfortunate to see that the project will likely end in September. The processes after September need to be clarified, discussed and agreed. The Logistics Cluster will meet with JCC HQ in Erbil to discuss the way forward, document and share information on future processes.

- Zakho warehouse compound: JCC has confirmed available land in Zakho of 5000 m2, located 2 kilometres from Ibrahim Khalil entry point. JCC Duhok intends to develop an emergency preparedness logistics base, with secure storage available for use by humanitarian partners. At this stage JCC is seeking funding to begin the project. Completion time will depend on interest from potential donors and obtaining funding. If any partners are aware of funding sources, please contact JCC Duhok.

- Access approval discussion: most partners moving staff and cargo through JCC Erbil HQ state the system is working well. Partners will continue to operate through JCC Erbil HQ for approval, however if partners are moving through the Khazer checkpoint, or other routes down to Mosul from Duhok then JCC Duhok must be notified to be able to assist with any problems (both passenger and cargo).

http://www.logcluster.org/ops/irq14a
A request for clarification was raised concerning difficulties faced by staff movements from Duhok – Erbil – Khazer. These movements require JCC Erbil approval Letters and JCC Duhok office official letter.

Role of JCC versus Board of Relief and Humanities Affairs (BRHA): it was noted that JCC Duhok deals with approvals, authorisations and coordination of humanitarian issues as well as crisis response; while BRHA deals with camp management related issues. JCC Dohuk pointed out that there is a good coordination between both entities.

JCC Duhok requested that all partner provide their activities on the JCC Duhok template.

All partners wishing to communicate with JCC Duhok can contact Manal Mohammed, Director, (+964) 7504016929 manal_moh@yahoo.com

2. HNO Humanitarian needs Overview

Discussion/request for input from Duhok postponed until next meeting due to time limits.

Market capacity:

Regarding the Iraq market capacity, feedback has been received from partners in Mosul, and through bilateral discussion, that the market capacity in Iraq has greatly improved over the past year, allowing organisations to procure within Iraq and reduce the need for large scale import of humanitarian goods.

Although this is the case in major capitals, some development is still required for local markets in Mosul from a business sense.

Local level suppliers are reluctant to deal with tender and pro-forma and continue to require cash payment. Most partners are conducting and sharing market assessments, and working on procurement systems that compromise between developing/using local market mind-set and ensuring donor accountability.

Partners should consider using and developing local markets within their projects (for example, more time and effort required for local procurement).

A general concern is in relation to supplier registration, as most organisations need proof of registration and taxes records as a requirement for donors. A note to donors that local procurement plays an important role in the capacity building and localisation efforts should support the proposals.

The need for coordination and information management, and links with government will continue as a need into 2019.

Government emergency response capacities could be worked on as a preparedness measure.

In general, the capacities of all actors to respond (government and national/international agencies) has greatly improved.

http://www.logcluster.org/ops/irq14a
3. Access

- Sebastian Weber introduced himself to the forum as the OCHA representative now based in Duhok, dealing with northeast Syria issues. Sebastian can be contacted on (+964)7517403573.

4. AOB

- The chair confirmed that the OSS project is likely to be closed at the end of September, as initially informed. Discussions with Head of Agencies and JCC are still ongoing to facilitate the transition phase.
- Any requests for information can be sent to gabriela.espana@wfp.org

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