LOCATION: Erbil  
DATE: 17 December 2015  
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster IM Officer  
PARTICIPANTS: ACTED, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), OXFAM, UN OCHA  

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

1. Operational Updates

- The Chair gave an update to participating organisations on the status of the OFDA/USAID Non Food Items (NFIs) incoming cargo. As of 14 December 2015, a total of 372 mt/3,219m³ of stock is being stored in the Logistics Cluster storage facilities of Erbil, while 240 mt/1,933 m³ of stock is being stored in the Logistics Cluster Baghdad Warehouse. Additional 3,634 mt/22,460 m³ and 1,147 mt/4,516 m³ of commodities are expected to arrive in Erbil and Baghdad respectively by January. Meanwhile initial releases and dispatches to receiving organisations (UNICEF, IOM, UNFPA) have also started. The Logistics Cluster is coordinating the in-Country information flows, cargo handling, storage, management and tracking of the above mentioned cargo.

- Participants discussed about the recent regional and internal developments that caused the closure of the KR-I airspace twice during the past month and, most recently, of the Ibrahim Khalil border crossing with Turkey. These had an impact on the delivery of relief supplies. Organisations have started working at contingency plans, should the situation further deteriorate, which include looking at local purchases and different supply routes. Some agencies are specifically looking at building contingency plans in case the fight around Mosul escalates. The Logistics Cluster reminded that Ready-To-Deploy storage units (320 m² capacity) can be made available to interested organisations in setting up emergency operations in newly accessible areas across the country.

- The findings of the recent inter-agency security assessment mission conducted in the Sinjar region were presented. While damage and destruction to infrastructure and services have been widely witnessed, and humanitarian needs are estimated to be high, the main operational constraint is the heavy contamination of landmines in the area. The city of Sinuni could serve as a humanitarian staging area. Permission for humanitarian actors to access the different locations will be granted by the Dahuk authorities; no restriction has been reported so far.

2. Common Storage Services
• The Logistics Cluster gave an update on the emergency stocks in hands (non-OFDA) at the different hubs in the country. Currently 170 m³ of relief NFIs belonging to Medecins Sans Frontieres – Switzerland, are being stored at the Logistics Cluster warehouse in Dahuk, and 59.31 m³ of NFIs (dignity kits) belonging to UNFPA are stored in the Baghdad facilities.

• As of 15 December 2015, the total space available for organisations’ use in the three locations is:
  • Dahuk = 1,597 m²
  • Baghdad = 5,026 m²
  • Erbil = 10,120 m²

3. Any Other Business

• The UN OCHA Civil-Military Liaison officer gave a quick introduction on the role of the Humanitarian Access Unit and on the services that can be requested. The main goal is to harmonize humanitarian and military operations, protect the humanitarian space and provide de-conflicting support. SOPs and policy guidelines are available to ensure a clear coordination mechanism is in place.

• Oxfam recently conducted a study on returnee trends, which highlights the main factors impacting returns. The report can be shared with interested organisations.

• Participants expressed the need to build and constantly update their suppliers and prices list. It has been suggested to draft a master list from organizations’ inputs that can be evaluated through an anonymous survey among users. The Logistics Cluster will also share the UN-validated list of suppliers prepared by UNICEF as soon as consolidated.

• The Chair introduced participants to a new platform for humanitarian staff called ‘Humanitarian ID’. This portal launched by OCHA will officially be presented to the entire humanitarian community in Iraq in the coming days and will serve as a global directory for humanitarian personnel operating in emergencies.

• It has been reminded that national banks will be closed for operations during the last weeks of December.

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