IRAQ – Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: DRC Compound, Erbil, Iraq

DATE: 05 August 2014

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS: UNHCR, IOM, Qandil, Save the Children, NRC, UNOPS, WHO, DRC, ACTED, ACF, Shelter for Life, IMC, InterSOS

ACTION POINTS:

- All partners are requested to contact the Logistics Cluster if they have any questions or issues regarding the SOP and/or SRF to access storage services.
- The Logistics Cluster to gather additional information regarding changes in government fuel policy.
- Partners are requested to contact the Logistics Cluster should they have any issues or experience any new regulations regarding tax exemptions or customs clearances.

AGENDA:

1. Update on Current Sinjar Displacement
2. Storage Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
3. Updates from partners
4. A.O.B.

Update on Current Sinjar Displacement

- UNHCR provided a detailed update on the security situation surrounding the recent displacement of approximately 30,000 people from the areas of Sinjar and Zuma (Ninevah Governorate).
- Humanitarian organizations are currently responding to IDPs from Sinjar and Zuma who have arrived in Dohuk as well as refugee transit sites which are also being used to provide assistance to the newly internally displaced.
- Negotiations are currently on-going between the government and humanitarian organizations regarding appropriate measures to be taken to access those still cut off from assistance.
- The Logistics Cluster requested feedback from organizations regarding any identified logistics gaps or needs in response to the Sinjar displacement. No additional gaps were identified.

Storage SOPs

- The Logistics Cluster currently has storage space available for humanitarian organizations in Dohuk. The location of the warehouse is 40km outside of Dohuk; GPS coordinates are available on the SOPs.
- The warehouse (4,200m²) is shared with WFP and the Logistics Cluster (for interagency usage). Currently there are no interagency items stored in the warehouse and space is available.
- The Standard Operating Procedure for accessing Logistics Cluster warehouse space will be uploaded onto the Logistics Cluster website including instructions on how to use the Service Request Form (SRF) as well as templates and contact information regarding submission. All partners are requested to contact the Logistics Cluster if they have any questions or issues regarding the SOP and/or SRF.

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Loading and offloading costs are included in the Logistics Cluster services; however transport to/from the warehouse is not provided. Organizations utilizing the storage need to provide for their own transport. Additional details regarding service provision are included in the SOPs.

**Updates from Partners/A.O.B.**

- Partners reported seeing queues of vehicles at filling stations in Erbil waiting for petrol. Organizations noted that it could be due to a change in the government pricing, similar to the past changes which impacted the market. Logistics Cluster to gather additional information regarding changes in government fuel policy and revert to partners.

- A UN agency noted that there has been a change in the requirements for clearance of tax exempt goods in the past week. The new requirement is not anticipated to affect NGOs. Partners are requested to contact the Logistics Cluster should they have any issues or experience any new regulations regarding tax exemptions or customs clearances.

**Contacts:**

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