LOCATION: DRC Compound, Erbil, Iraq
DATE: 26 August 2014
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS: ACF, ACTED, ICRC, IFRC, IMC, Medair, MSF-Suisse, OCHA/EU Civil Protection, Qandil, Save the Children, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, World Vision

ACTION POINTS:

- Logistics Cluster to invite OCHA to discuss LogIK at next Coordination meeting on 02 September 2014.
- The Logistics Cluster reiterated its commitment to be flexible to partners who need additional time to store their cargo in the interagency warehouse, however partners required to provide justification for any extension beyond the 30 days provided.
- The Logistics Cluster to send a request for information regarding the warehouse space available by location and partner, to provide an overall picture of storage capacities currently available. Any organization who has spare capacity is encouraged to share the information with the Logistics Cluster for dissemination among partners.
- Organizations are requested to provide feedback regarding gaps and needs by completing the online needs assessment, which will inform which services are to be provided and where.
- Any partners who require additional clarification or information regarding UBDs are encouraged to contact the Logistics Cluster.

AGENDA:

1. Update on Incoming Flights
2. Update on Storage Capacity
3. Logistics Cluster Needs Assessment and UNHAS Survey
4. A.O.B.

Update on Incoming Flights

- Since 15 August, the Logistics Cluster has assisted humanitarian partners with the clearance of 17 flights. Sixteen of the flights have had customs clearance granted and the final flight’s cargo clearance is pending with officials at the airport; clearance is expected to be granted today.
- Additional flights are continuing to arrive at Erbil International Airport with humanitarian cargo, however information continues to be limited regarding the items or consignee.
- The Logistics Cluster introduced the OCHA in-kind donation tracking system, LogIK. Partners have received the LogIK weekly update via the mailing list and OCHA Iraq has been invited to discuss LogIK during the next Logistics Cluster meeting on 02 September. Partners are encouraged to contact OCHA at logik@un.org for additional information and to discuss in-kind donations received and/or pending.
- The Logistics Cluster reiterated that the delays faced with customs clearance are largely related to lack of documentation and/or unclear consignee details. The Logistics Cluster, WFP, and OCHA are working together with donor governments and the EU Civil Protection mechanism to ensure documentation is received prior to arrival of incoming donations.
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- Erbil International Airport cargo operations and handling is designed for regular commercial traffic and not specifically designed to accommodate large numbers of humanitarian flights. As discussed in previous meetings, the arrival of cargo on regular commercial flights is handled systematically and often clears faster than dedicated charter flights, which also require special flight clearance for landing; landing permits are processed through Baghdad and can take several days to sometimes weeks to be granted.

- One chartered flight is expected to arrive tomorrow with Non Food Item (NFI) cargo consigned to OCHA on behalf of two NGO partners. The Logistics Cluster is assisting OCHA with the clearance process.

- One NGO requested feedback from partners regarding charter flight prices into Sulaymaniyah, as one quote received was reported to be approximately $70,000 less expensive than flying into Erbil. Partners had limited feedback but suggested it may be due to insurance costs and recommended that the commercial provider be contacted on this issue.

Update on Storage Capacity

- Storage operations in Sumel (Dahuk) are ongoing. Five organizations are currently utilizing the Logistics Cluster warehouse in Sumel for emergency short term prepositioning of relief cargo.

- Organization representatives whom are utilizing the warehouse space have been requested to provide feedback on their distribution plans as some cargo has been in storage for up to 21 days. According to the SOPs, the maximum time for storage in Logistics Cluster warehouse in Sumel is 30 days.

- The Logistics Cluster reiterated its commitment to be flexible to partners who need additional time to store their cargo in the interagency warehouse, however require justification for an extension beyond the 30 days provided.

- One partner has removed nearly 100mt (400m³) of cargo from the Logistics Cluster warehouse for distribution to beneficiaries in Dahuk governorate.

- The Logistics Cluster announced plans to erect an additional Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) in Dahuk to provide additional space for partners, however the date is not confirmed. Additional storage needs are anticipated for the upcoming winterization campaign; the Logistics Cluster requests information on needs and possible gaps.

- One partner noted that they currently have space available in their warehouses in Dahuk and could provide support to other agencies for emergency short term usage.

- The Logistics Cluster will send out a request for information regarding the warehouse space available by location and partner, in order to provide an overall picture of capacities currently available. Any organization who has spare capacity is encouraged to share the information with the Logistics Cluster for dissemination to partners.

Logistics Cluster Needs Assessment and UNHAS Survey

www.logcluster.org
The Logistics Cluster launched an online needs assessment survey and distributed it to partners via the dedicated mailing list; it has been sent by OCHA to the Heads of Agencies as well as the Inter Cluster Working Group (ICWG) members. Organizations are requested to provide feedback which will guide which services are to be provided and where. As a service based cluster, partner feedback is critical to ensuring services are provided where needed and limited resources are utilized effectively.

Feedback from the Needs Analysis will directly feed into the Logistics Cluster’s Strategic Response Plan.

UNHAS has finalized their findings from a recent needs analysis survey and meetings with partners/donors. A position paper was submitted and discussed with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) on 25 August.

Initial indications from UNHAS is that an urgent need for regular passenger services is not currently present, however there is a need for some standby capacity for emergencies.

### Procedure for Customs Clearance – Air Cargo – Erbil International Airport

The Logistics Cluster distributed a draft customs procedure document with guidelines on documentation required as well as contacts for customs, ground handling, and transport at Erbil International Airport.

Partners are requested to contact the Logistics Cluster if they have received alternate information on customs procedures at Erbil International Airport or are facing delays.

A brief discussion on challenges related to clearance revealed that the procedures are enforced by authorities and most issues related to delays are due to flights arriving without prior submission of clearance documentation.

### A.O.B.

The Logistics Cluster informed partners about the launch of the new Iraq.Logs@logcluster.org mailing list. The purpose built email list is moderated by Logistics Cluster staff, however can be utilized by partners requesting information or coordination from other organizations as well. For example, emails sent to the list, if requested, will be released to the full mailing list where organizations who have spare capacity on a truck, in a warehouse, or who want to join a convoy, can contact each other to best utilize the assets available and maximise capacity. The mailing list can also be used to send out notifications to partners and to communicate logistics information to the entire humanitarian community.

Partners expressed concern that cargo is still arriving by air, even though many road corridors are open and functioning normally. One partner noted that deliveries from Turkey clear in approximately 24 hours at the border and normally purchases are received within one week of order.

Land transport is also available via Iranian borders, however one partner noted that trucks with Iranian registration need to transshipped on to Iraqi registered trucks and cross loaded at the border due to regulations.
• One organization requested additional information regarding Unsolicited Bilateral Donations (UBDs); the partner was contacted by youth groups who have conducted a campaign and collected NFIs which they would like to send to the IDPs in Iraq. The Logistics Cluster will provide additional UBD guidance bilaterally. Any partners who need additional clarification or information regarding UBDs are encouraged to contact the Logistics Cluster.

Contacts:

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