

LOCATION: National Ebola Command Centre (NECC), Monrovia, Liberia

DATE: 04 June 2015

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS: Action Contre La Faim (ACF), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) International, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Oxfam, United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), US Agency for International Development/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA), World Health Organization (WHO).

ACTION POINTS:

- Organisations to accelerate stock clearance from the Main Logistics Base and Forward Logistics Base network and organise their own logistics arrangements

AGENDA:

1. Procedural Updates
2. Announcements
3. Operational Updates
4. Open Floor Discussion
6. A.O.B

1. Procedural Updates

- The Logistics Cluster's Coordinator informed the attendees that all Logistics Cluster services, updates, key documents and procedures can be found on the Logistics Cluster website at <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>.
- He also advised that he would be available after the meeting to discuss key procedures with any new attendees.

2. Announcements

- All WFP warehouses in Monrovia will be closed on 6 June for staff training in warehouse management.
- A new UNHAS schedule has been shared, which has several key changes following partner discussion and analysis on demand of the services; it is available on the Logistics Cluster website at <http://www.logcluster.org/document/regional-flight-schedule-unhas-unmeer>

3. Operational Updates

- WFP through the Logistics Cluster continues to assist partners in transporting and storing cargo. Since May, there has been an 11% increase in storage requests and 19 % increase in transport requests as partners preposition cargo for the rainy season.
- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator noted that Liberia continues to receive donations; 21% of the volume of donations for the operation have been received in the past month. This has contributed to logistics hubs nearing full capacity: the SKD hub is 82 %, airport hub 68 % and port hub 72 % occupied. Regarding the FLBs, Gbarnga and Harper are above 85 %, Buchanan is above 60% and Voinjama and Zwedru above 50% occupied. By accepting additional storage requests, the Logistics Cluster therefore depends on partners to increase the dispatch of their stored cargo, in particular for relief items that have been stored for long periods of time.
- Partners that had already been allocated a 20' Maersk container were reminded to sign the transfer letter of ownership.
- Partners who are receiving Swiss donated generators were reminded of the training to be held at the SKD hub between 23 to 28 June. Please contact the Logistics Cluster for further details and contact information regarding the generators.

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator informed participants that following a formal request from the government, WFP (Common Services) has developed a draft transition strategy with a clear implementation plan that describes the proposed process towards an effective transfer of knowledge, responsibilities and assets deployed for the Ebola response currently under WFP’s Common Services in Liberia onto the institutions of the Government of Liberia (GoL).
- The draft transition strategy document has been cleared internally and shared with the GoL; WFP is awaiting feedback after the internal GoL review and approval process.
- As part of this transition process, the strategy is to gradually shift the role of Logistics Cluster from “service provider of last resort” to coordinating body after September 2015, prior to its final phase-out. It has been announced at the Logistics Cluster meetings that free-to-the-user transport and storage for partners, not including the Ministry of Health and World Health Organization, will cease at the end of August 2015.
- WFP therefore requested its Logistics Cluster partners to accelerate their stock clearance from the Main Logistics Base and Forward Logistics Base network currently under the management of WFP Common Services, and if they have not already, to begin organising their own logistics arrangements.

4. Open Floor Discussion

Topic 1: Transition Phase

- The Logistics Cluster will phase out its role as storage and transport “service provider of last resort” by the end of August 2015.
- It was advised that Service Request Forms (SRF) are assessed before they are cleared to ensure all requests are Ebola related.

Topic 2: New UNHAS Schedule

- Following discussions with partners and analysis of demand for the services, a new integrated flight schedule has been posted on the Logistics Cluster website.

5. A.O.B

- Following discussion with partners at the meeting, it was agreed that as the Ebola Response is transitioning, the Logistics Cluster meetings will move to a biweekly meeting schedule. The next Logistics Cluster meeting will therefore take place 18 June.

Contacts:

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| Daryll Ainsworth | <i>Logistics Cluster Coordinator</i> | daryll.ainsworth@wfp.org |
| Rachael Wilson | <i>Information Management Officer</i> | rachael.wilson@wfp.org |
| T. Stewart Sherman | <i>Logistics Assistant / GIS Mapping Officer</i> | stewart.sherman@wfp.org |
| Mira Baddour | <i>Cargo Tracking Officer</i> | mira.baddour@wfp.org |