

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

**DATE:** 7 May 2015

**CHAIR:** Logistics Cluster Coordinator

**PARTICIPANTS:** Last Mile Health (LMH), US Department of Defence, Global Communities, Medecins Sans Frontieres France (MSF F), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization Migration (IOM), United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), John Snow International (JSI)

**ACTION POINTS:**

- UNHAS to share new integrated flight schedule.
- UNMIL to continue sharing weekly mapping and road updates with the Logistics Cluster.
- Partners to share precise questions on road rehabilitation with the Logistics Cluster for further liaison with UNMIL.
- Organisations to continue sharing information on pipeline projections, dispatches or prepositioning.

- AGENDA:**
1. Procedural Updates
  2. Announcements
  3. Update on Action Points
  4. Operational Updates
  5. Working Group
  6. Any Other Business

### 1. Procedural Updates

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator informed the attendees that all Logistics Cluster services information, updates, key documents and procedures can be found on the Logistics Cluster website at: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14>

### 2. Announcements

- The new customs clearance procedure, including the names of government certified customs agents, has been published on the Logistics Cluster Ebola Response webpage at <http://www.logcluster.org/document/liberia-customs-procedure-snapshot-5-May-2015> and shared with all partners.
- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator reminded partners that they need to ensure that before requesting movement of containers from the port, they must provide proof that the cargo has already been customs cleared.
- Ahead of their scale down in Liberia, Global Communities shared a list of ambulances they are operating in various counties in Liberia. Global Communities enquired which of the other participants would be receiving new donated ambulances and what the final locations of these ambulances would be, in order to reduce overall ambulance activities in these counties.
- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator informed partners that he is being reassigned and his successor will arrive shortly and take over the Liberia Logistics Cluster Coordinator role from next week.

### 3. Update on Action Points

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator informed participants that the list of certified customs agents has been published and shared as part of a new customs snapshot (see link above).
- Participants were informed that the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) will organize radio trainings for partners. Training information and contact details are to be discussed in the working group session (see below).

- Regarding logistics trainings, the Logistics Cluster is still assessing various options and will share any new information as soon as it is available.
- The Logistics Cluster received the latest road access constraints map from UNMIL and shared it with partners via mailing list.
- It was advised that partner agencies took part in the monthly physical stock inventory which occurred at all storage facilities on 1 May.
- Organisations were reminded to continue sharing information on pipeline projections, dispatches or prepositioning.

#### **4. Operational Updates**

- Regarding winterization, it was advised that ahead of the rainy season, drainage channels and ground elevation works are ongoing at all of Main Logistics Bases (MLBs), the five Forward Logistics Bases (FLBs) and nine Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) erected for the Ministry of Health (MoH) at the Counties where there is no FLB. Works at the facilities are nearing completion but the large amount of stock in storage has slowed down the pace of work for floor raising, levelling and compacting.
- The Logistics Cluster, through WFP, continues to support partners in the transportation and storage cargo. Since March, there has been a 25% increase in storage requests and 39 % increase in transport requests as partners preposition cargo for the rainy season.
- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator noted that Liberia continues to receive donations; 35% of the volume of donations for the operation have been received in the past two months. This has contributed to the fact that logistics hubs are nearing full capacity: the SKD MLB is at 85 %, airport MLB 75 % and port MLB is 70 % occupied. Regarding the FLBs, Gbarnga, Harper and Zwedru are all above 70 %, Buchanan is nearly at 60% and Voinjama is nearly 50% occupied. By accepting additional storage requests, the Logistics Cluster therefore depends on partners to increase their dispatch of stored cargo, in particular for relief items that have been stored for long periods of time.
- The 9th May marks the 42nd day of no new Ebola cases in Liberia. With this milestone, the Logistics Cluster alerted partners that a transition strategy is being discussed with the government and partners. It was noted that under the Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) coordination, the WFP-lead Logistics Cluster and ET Cluster and the other Clusters in Liberia, are commencing the process that will lead to a formal review of each Cluster in Liberia, to assess remaining operational priorities, continuing humanitarian needs/risks and options for transition of each Cluster and successor arrangements. This coincides with extensive on-going discussions that WFP and key supply chain partners are having with the government on the supply chain transition strategy.

#### **5. Working Group**

##### **Topic 1: Capacity Building**

- Details regarding ETC training sessions and contact details were shared with the attendees. These training sessions are open to all humanitarian organizations in Liberia.
- With regards to logistics trainings, the Logistics Cluster is assessing options of providing trainings at different logistics levels and on different topics. Existing WFP trainings will be tailored to best match the current requirements for Liberia. These trainings will be offered as part of a full capacity development and augmentation plan that WFP is working on with the government as part of a transition strategy.

##### **Topic 2: Road Status Information**

- UNMIL provided a road status update, showing the current status of various roads in Liberia. It was highlighted that there is a deliberate road maintenance during the dry season, whilst during the rainy season, the roads are assessed and

monitored in order to compile reports on any future/possible road repairs. Attendees were reminded only roads that are important to UNMIL operations are being repaired.

- The Logistics Cluster will continue to provide updates on road conditions that could impede cargo and passenger movement throughout the country, and to provide updates on alternative access options, if such information is available. Partners are requested to share information in order for the Logistics Cluster to alert others. In that regard, the Logistics Cluster resent a sample road access constraints template through the mailing list. This template is designed to support overland transport, through the marking and describing of conditions of the roads as well as any type of obstacle (bridges, checkpoints, etc) by all partners.
- Global Communities shared an access constraints template they send out with their drivers in order to assess road statuses in the areas they operate. This was shown as another means to capture access constraints in the country, in order to share as much information as possible with all partners.

**Topic 3: Projections**

- Attendees were encouraged to share any type of information they have on pipeline projections, dispatches or prepositioning.

**6. Any Other Business**

- An UNHAS users' group meeting took place after the 30 April meeting to revise the current integrated flight schedule ahead of the rainy season. UNHAS will share a new integrated flight schedule in the coming week.
- Partners inquired how to address specific road repair requests. The Logistics Cluster advised them that they can share these inquiries or requests on road rehabilitation with the Logistics Cluster, for further liaison with UNMIL. However, it should be noted, as above, that currently only roads important to UNMIL operations are being repaired by UNMIL.

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