Meeting Minutes, 27 May 2019

Libya

LOCATION
Tunis

DATE
27 May 2019

CHAIR
Logistics Sector

PARTICIPANTS
ACTED, FAO, Mercy Corps, Premiere Urgence Internationale, UNICEF, WFP, WHO.

ACTION POINTS
• Logistics Sector to circulate a survey to partners
• Partners to inform the Logistics Sector should they experience delays or issues at entry points

AGENDA
1. Logistical bottlenecks for the ongoing response
2. Import Procedures
3. UNHRD
4. Access Working Group
5. UNHAS
6. AOB

1. Logistical bottlenecks for the ongoing response

Situation Update
• Fighting in and around Tripoli has been ongoing since the beginning of April. The impact of these clashes not only on the Tripoli area but also in the south and other areas of the country continues to be monitored.
• Access to the port of Tripoli was temporarily unavailable on 19 May. Although operations at Tripoli port are proceeding normally as of Monday 20 May, close monitoring of the situation is needed as the receipt of humanitarian shipments could be delayed or hampered should access to Tripoli port be disrupted again.
• Information regarding the temporary closure and subsequent re-opening of Tripoli port has been circulated through the Logistics Sector’s mailing list to ensure that all partners are kept informed on possible new logistical constraints. The Logistics Sector will keep updating partners if further disruptions are identified.
• All partners have been invited to inform the Logistics Sector should they experience delays or difficulties with the receipt of their cargo at all Libyan ports, so that immediate follow up can be ensured.
• Unimpeded access to Libyan ports should be guaranteed for humanitarian cargo, to ensure the humanitarian community’s ability to appropriately respond to the identified needs.

Storage
• The common warehouse in Tripoli has been operational since 8 April. Partners are welcome to submit Service Requests Forms (SRFs) to libya.clustercargo@wfp.org.
• During the meeting it was discussed whether the common storage should be maintained in Tripoli, and only one partner expressed its interest in using this service. It was agreed that a survey will be launched to better understand what Logistics Sector support would be most beneficial, based on partner’s feedback.
• Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) are available for requesting partners to increase storage in areas where commercial sector services are lacking or partners’ storage capacity needs to be increased.
• Benghazi warehouse assessment reports, compiled by WFP, have been shared with interested partners and are available upon request.
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Transport
Ra’s Ajdir and Dehiba/Nazzut borders from Tunisia to western Libya, as well as the Musaid/As Sallum border from Egypt to eastern Libya are operational.

Access to Tripoli:
• Tripoli port is currently operational.

Access to Misrata:
• Misrata port is currently operational.
• The possibility remains of an increase in humanitarian needs in the areas of Misrata, Sirte and Bani Walid. The Logistics Sector shared an updated suppliers list on 17 May, which includes contacts of logistics service provider based in the areas, following partners’ suggestions.

Access to Benghazi:
• Despite the coastal road being still accessible, partners are facing difficulties in finding transporters willing to deliver cargo from Tripoli to Benghazi.

Access to the south region:
• While commercial transport deliveries to the south remain limited, two partners have successfully delivered humanitarian cargo from Tripoli to Sebha in April and May.

2. Import Procedures

• A strong need remains for expedited import procedures for humanitarian cargo, to be clearly stated and applied by authorities. Fast-tracking of humanitarian cargo blocked at entry points would also greatly assist the prompt availability of supplies and ensure timely delivery of assistance to affected populations.
• The import guidance document was updated based on feedback received from partners, and now includes a specific section dedicated to procedures successfully followed by partners in Benghazi. The document is available here.

3. UNHRD

• A presentation on UNHRD was provided to participants and can be found attached to this email. Additional information on UNHRD can be requested to: unhrd.customerservice@wfp.org

4. Access Working Group

• A representative from Mercy Corps attended the meeting and presented the Access Working Group (AWG), co-chaired by Mercy Corps and OCHA.
• The AWG is collecting information on bureaucratic and security-related access constraints encountered by humanitarian organisations. Detailed information on incidents or delays experienced by partners would help the AWG to better identify access constraints faced by humanitarian organisations as well as specific constraints

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experienced per sector and/or per location. Having detailed info on specific bottlenecks would help make advocacy messages more compelling.

- Organisations willing to provide information can share the coordinates of their offices and warehouses with the AWG through the Humanitarian Notification System for deconfliction template.
- Both the incident reporting template and the deconfliction template have been shared through the Logistics Sector mailing list last week.

5. UNHAS

- UNHAS Libya has launched a survey at the beginning of May to better understand the actual needs on the ground with the current security situation in Libya. 24 responses have been received from 4 UN agencies and 8 INGOs.
- To cut unnecessary costs, UNHAS’s aircraft is currently on stand-by in Malta. Relations with the Tunisian and Libyan Civil Aviation Authorities are ongoing and stable, this will allow the restart of standard operation in a short timeframe and serve regularly Tunis, Tripoli, Misratah and Benghazi based on actual needs.
- Based on the survey results, UNHAS is planning to reposition a new aircraft with a wider capacity in Tunis (autonomy to make direct flight Tunis-Benghazi without stop in Tripoli for refueling purposes). UNHAS is currently aiming at restarting operations around the third week of June.

6. AOB

- A revision of the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) has been agreed at inter-sector level in order to allow for the April 2019 Flash Appeal to be incorporated in the HRP plan.
- Partners were reminded that OCHA has established ‘Area Based Coordination’ structures in Benghazi, Sebha and Tripoli. Organisations willing to become the focal point for the Logistics Sector in one of these areas are welcome to contact the Logistics Sector, in order to notify OCHA.
- During the meeting it was agreed to maintain the frequency of the Logistics Sector coordination meetings to one per month. Should specific needs arise, ad hoc meetings can be organised.

Contacts

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