Background
Severe seasonal flooding has hit the Central and Northern provinces of Mozambique (Zambézia, Niassa, Nampula and Cabo Delgado); causing widespread damage to infrastructure, while displacing segments of the population. More than 160,000 people have been displaced (UNOCHA, 9 Feb) with the number expected to rise as the rainy season continues.

In Zambézia, the most critically affected province, the Licungo river basin has caused damage to road and bridges infrastructure and interrupted regular supply routes. Resettlement centres have been set up and relief items started to arrive in affected areas. The Government declared the institutional red alert as of 12th January, 2015. The funds allocated from the state budget were used for the initial response such as rescue operations by National Civil Protection Unit (UNAPROC) in all affected areas, and purchase and delivery of shelter, food and water to assist the affected populations at a first stage. In this Province alone, it has been reported that more than 120,000 people have been affected, with many currently seeking temporary shelter in 49 accommodation centres.

Given the significant level of destruction in Zambézia province, the Humanitarian community responded with immediate support to the Government from their contingency stocks; and WFP as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster has been requested by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) to provide common logistics support; and services to the Government and the humanitarian community in response to the emergency.

Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks
Access to affected areas is challenging and severely limited particularly in Zambézia province. The following logistics gaps have been identified and should be addressed in order to facilitate the delivery of urgent humanitarian relief items:

1. **Lack of Coordination and Information Sharing:**
   Stronger coordination and information sharing amongst the various humanitarian actors is required in order to mitigate the duplication of efforts and maximise the use of available logistics assets.

2. **Lack of Access:**
   The floods have cut off primary transport routes to the affected areas, and transportation infrastructure is damaged. To overcome this, the use of river transportation (boats and barges) and air transportation (Helicopters) to access affected populations in critical locations is required.

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3. **Limited Storage Capacity:**
   Currently, a limited capacity of reliable storage in the affected areas is hampering relief efforts. The establishment and augmentation of logistics hubs in strategic locations is intended to overcome this and facilitate cargo transportation.

4. **Limited road transportation means in key areas:**
   Consolidation and grouping of relief items for transportation would enable the Logistics Cluster partners to maximise the use of available road transport assets.

**Objectives**

The common logistics service augments the response initiated by the Government of Mozambique and supports all humanitarian actors in transport, storage and handling. WFP as a lead agency for logistics coordination, administers the resources required to effectively manage the logistics response. WFP, through the coordination platform ensures that both the government and the Logistics Cluster members use common information management and collectively use existing resources to meet the gaps through services made available by the logistics cluster. The need for the provision of common services will be monitored and revised as required.

**Planned Activities**

The following range of activities and services are not intended to replace the logistics capacities of individual agencies or organisations, but rather to fill identified gaps in the humanitarian supply chain and supplement the response of the humanitarian community through the provision of common services, based on need.

The Logistics Cluster supports the National Authorities of Mozambique in augmenting the humanitarian community’s capacity to deliver life-saving and life-sustaining relief assistance to the populations in the affected areas in a rapid and coordinated manner.

The Logistics Cluster activities will include:

1. **Coordination:**

   The following coordination services will be provided to minimise duplication.

   - The Logistics Cluster Coordination Cell in Mozambique is established in Maputo and Quelimane and staffed by a dedicated Logistics Cluster Officer to facilitate the overall response strategy and optimise the use of logistics assets.
   - If needed and/or requested; additional Logistics Coordination Cells can be established at field level.
   - As part of the logistics coordination mechanism, the Coordination Cell also ensures liaison with the National Authorities, through the National Disaster Management Agency (INGC).
   - Based on the priorities set by the HCT; the Logistics Cluster will facilitate the use of common logistics services through the management of Cargo Movement Requests and Storage Requests.
   - The Logistics Cluster will facilitate regular coordination meetings with the humanitarian community and government counterparts to share information on the logistics situation, bottlenecks, gaps and decisions taken.

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2. Information Management:

WFP will coordinate the logistics operations and support decision making to improve the efficiency of the logistics response. The following information management activities will be undertaken:

- A dedicated Logistics Cluster Information Management Office will be based in Maputo.
- Consolidate information on the overall logistics situation from the humanitarian community and local authorities, identify logistics gaps and bottlenecks.
- Provide updated information on operational data such as customs’ procedures, prioritization of cargo, publication of Situation Reports, bulletins, snapshots, flash news and briefings, where required.
- Provide updated maps on logistics infrastructure to facilitate decision-making for transportation of humanitarian relief items by the humanitarian community.
- Provide a platform for sharing and dissemination of logistics information at [http://www.logcluster.org](http://www.logcluster.org).

3. Logistics Services:

The services made available by the Logistics Cluster are not intended to replace the logistics capacities of the agencies or organisations, but rather to supplement them through the provision of common services. Access permitting, the following services may be provided at no cost to the user, or on a partial/full cost-recovery basis, depending on the availability of funds.

**First leg transport**

- According to preparedness plans developed by the Logistics Cluster, 75% of the required humanitarian assistance will be brought to Zambézia from Beira, while the remaining dispatched from Maputo. The Logistics Cluster offers consolidation and grouping of relief items in those locations and then road transport to the core of operations.

**Warehousing**

- The Logistics Cluster will make temporary storage capacity available in intermediate storage sites as close as possible to the distribution areas in order to minimize transport costs and facilitate operations. The identified locations are Quelimane, Mocuba, Nicoadala and Caia, subject to needs. These locations will also be used as transhipment hubs, where cargo will be consolidated and prepared for secondary transport to the final delivery points.
- Locations of intermediate storages sites may change depending on needs and requirements.
- Temporary storage services will include handling, consolidation and tracking of cargo.

**Road, boat and air transport**

- Transport from the intermediate storage sites to the final delivery points will be provided using small all-terrain trucks when possible. In areas inaccessible by road; small motorised boats, barges and helicopters will be used for the last transport leg.
- All cargo transported and stored will be handled according to the priorities established by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

As “Provider of Last Resort” (PoLR) WFP, through the Logistics Cluster, is responsible only to provide logistics services that fill identified gaps in logistics capacity, where access and funding permit and where these gaps limit the ability of the humanitarian community to meet the needs of the affected population.

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