NEPAL Kathmandu – Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA), Tribhuvan International Airport (KTM), Kathmandu
DATE: 16 February 2016
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS: Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) co-chair, All Hands Volunteers, Danish Church Aid, International Medical Corps (IMC), IOM, Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW), Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF), Médecins du Monde (MdM), Samaritan’s Purse, Save the Children, UNICEF, WHO.

ACTION POINTS:
• Organisations to share their weekly plans for fuel requests;
• Organisations to share their logistics pipeline projects and their needs for Logistics Cluster services;
• Organisations to report on any problems related to movement around the border region and impact of fuel shortages on their activities.

AGENDA:
1. Logistics Information Updates
2. Logistics Cluster Services
3. AOB

1. Logistics Information Updates

• Organisations were urged to share their pending requests for Logistics Cluster services, as the hubs decommissioning plan depends on their inputs; i.e. dismantling strategies are chosen according to the number of service requests received from the organisations and respective locations.

Entry points

• Birgunj border point was reopened on 5 February and the fuel situation in the country is expected to resume as normal in one week however, as a result of the volatile political situation, further protests may grow. All other Nepal-India border points remain unobstructed.
• If any problem arises with entering the country, organisations can contact the Logistics Cluster for guidance.

Fuel provision

• Organisations received an update on the fuel provision situation. Key issues discussed were:
  o The Association of International NGOs (AIN) is finalizing a SOP for the provision of fuel to support organisation operational needs;
  o The process is waiting for a No-Objection Letter to be signed by the Government. The letter will ensure that fuel is provided to NGOs for operational purposes.
  o The process doesn’t involve UN agencies, but only NGOs. The Logistics Cluster Coordinator informed organisations that this subject will be raised for discussion with the WFP Fuel Committee.
As the number of fuel requests to the Logistics Cluster from the organisations is going down to less than three requests per day, the Logistics Cluster Coordinator asked the organisations to share their feedback on the impact of fuel shortage on their distribution activities and on their current needs;

2. Logistics Cluster Services

- Organisations were reminded to provide information on their needs in order to help the Logistics Cluster to plan its services accordingly. Services will be facilitated by the Logistics Cluster until the end of April.

Transport

- Road transport with both origin and destination is provided on a free-to-user basis from Kathmandu Humanitarian Staging Area (HSA) to Ramechap and Okhaldunga and from the hubs of other three priority districts, Gorkha, Sindhupalchok and Dolakha to the final destinations.
- The Logistics Cluster is receiving less requests from the organisations. As the Logistics Cluster operates on the basis of needs, if no further need is registered in the following weeks, the Logistics Cluster will adjust transport and storage contracts accordingly.

Air Transport

- Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) confirmed that its services will continue until the end of March and that it currently has the capacity to accept additional requests for transportation to areas inaccessible by road. Priority is given to humanitarian air transport distributions, but a need for air transport for assessment and reconstruction activities arises, they can perform these services as well.

Warehousing

- Organisations were informed that Dhading and Bidur hubs have now been dismantled.
- Dhulikhel platform will continue to be operational in the following weeks depending on the needs of the organisations however, in conjunction with the Logistics Cluster closing down strategy, the storage capacity in Dulikhel will be minimized in the coming weeks.
- Deurali, Charikot and Chautara platforms are still operational. The Logistics Cluster Coordinator advised organisations to use the available free storage space in the hubs, if required.
- Organisations were reminded to provide information on their tentative warehousing needs in order to help the Logistics Cluster to plan its services accordingly, i.e. reallocating empty MSUs if there is no further need.
- As the WHO hospital in Chautara has received medical equipment that needs to be stored, WHO enquired about the possibility to store these items in the Chautara Logistics Cluster hub. The Logistics Cluster has four available MSUs in Chautara at the moment, and therefore can allocate one MSU for the storage of WHO equipment.
GIS

All the Logistics Cluster maps for the Nepal Response Operation can be accessed at the following link: http://www.logcluster.org/search?f[0]=field_raw_op_id:24058&f[1]=field_document_type:27

3. AOB

- The Hub Manager reminded the organisations that there are medicines left in the warehouse in Kathmandu that can be donated. WHO informed that they can take them and organise distribution.
- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator encouraged organisations to share information about spare items that can be donated.

_The Logistics Cluster Coordination Meetings will be held as follows:_  
_Kathmandu: HSA, 16 February at 11:00_

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