

**LOCATION:** Humanitarian Staging Area Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu

**DATE:** 11 May 2015

**CHAIR:** Logistics Cluster Coordinator

- Action Points:**
- Organisations are requested to send in Service Request Forms (SRFs) in sufficient time before their international air cargo arrives at the airport;
  - Organisations to share information regarding road access constraints;
  - Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) to share flight schedule and booking procedures;
  - Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) representative to share details of inaccessible sites presented by the Nepal Mountaineer Association;
  - Logistics Cluster to publish a user guide to request UNHAS cargo movements.

**Agenda:**

1. Introduction
2. Logistics Operational Update/ International Air Cargo Transportation
3. Civil-Military Logistics Coordination
4. Any Other Business (AOB)

## 1. Introduction

- Around 70 representatives from over 40 organisations, including national government authorities, UN agencies, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), donor agencies, representatives of the Nepal Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) and international military representatives, were welcomed to the meeting.
- Logistics information, contact details, meeting schedule and procedures are available on the Logistics Cluster website: [www.logisticscluster.org/ops/nepal](http://www.logisticscluster.org/ops/nepal).

## 2. Logistics Operational Update/ International Air Cargo Transportation

### Upstream pipeline updates

- Organisations were requested to share their incoming pipeline plans and give feedback about relief supplies coming into or transiting to India. Visibility on the upstream pipeline will enable the Logistics Cluster to match assets with demand and advocate for funding of the logistics operation.
- Confusion about customs clearance procedures at the road entry points from India was reported by various organisations, although the MoHA circulated a memo to concerned authorities to facilitate clearance of relief materials.
- Organisations reported that the duty exemption certificate still needs to be processed in Kathmandu, creating a backlog at the road border crossing points between India and Nepal.
- Improvements can be reported concerning cargo handling and customs procedures; thanks to the US military presence and the DHL Disaster Response Team (DRT) cargo has been moving faster and the offloading time has been reduced.

- Participants were reminded of the importance of palletising cargo, not to create congestion, and well-packaging it as cargo can overnight on the ramp.

#### Staging Areas and Logistics Hubs

- The logistics hub in **Deurali**, 20 km south of Gorkha city, is operational with four Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) erected. The hub is used as logistics base to forward relief cargo (via 4x4 trucks and tractors) to the Western region and to support local air operations. No dedicated space for organisations is foreseen at this stage but common storage could be expanded if need are identified.
- **Chautara** logistics hub has been fully operational since 10 May. One MSU has been erected and one is being set-up. Due to road conditions, only small trucks (3-5 mt capacity) can access the base.
- Another hub has been established in Banepa (IT park), Dhulikhel, in Kavre district. Handicap International, through a recently signed agreement, will manage the hub on behalf of the Logistics Cluster and the humanitarian community. The purpose of this hub is to meet the need for longer storage and de-congest the HSA. All cargo sitting longer than 48 hours at the Humanitarian Staging Area (HAS) will be transferred to Dhulikhel hub.
- The establishment of a staging area in **Bharatpur** is on-going. The hub is meant to handle inbound cargo transported via road from India.
- More visibility of the incoming pipeline was requested to participants in order to allocate the correct amount of resources in the various locations.
- To access Logistics Cluster free-to-user cargo transport (air and road) and storage services, a Service Request Form (SRF) is available on the Logistics Cluster website: <http://logcluster.org/document/nepal-service-request-srf>. Organisations are requested to duly fill it in with correct volume and weight information and send it to [Nepal.cargo@logcluster.org](mailto:Nepal.cargo@logcluster.org).

#### Road Transportation

- The capacity of secondary transport in the regional hubs is being expanded by deploying more trucks to each of the locations.
- Road access constraints will be mapped by a dedicated GIS Officer who is collaborating with various authorities and the DFID/GIZ Risk Management Office for the collation of data.

#### Air Transportation

- UNHAS briefed organisations about the current assets available in country that can be tasked following identification of needs:
  - One MI8 helicopter can be tasked with cargo (2-2.5 mt cargo capacity)
  - One MI8 helicopter is being assembled and will be operational by Thursday, 14 May.
  - One AS 350 helicopter is available for assessment missions (max. 4 passengers).
  - More air assets are expected to be deployed next week.
- Participants were reminded that:
  - An SRF should be submitted if requesting air cargo transport. Cargo transport will be facilitated by the Logistics Cluster.
  - A passenger booking form should be submitted to UNHAS for passenger air services.
  - Procedures and a user's guide will be shared through the Logistics Cluster website.

- Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) reported that 20 organisations have registered so far to use their services, and their two light helicopters are operational and versatile in landing.
- Few organisations were reported to run their own air transport operations.

### **3. Civil-Military Logistics coordination**

- Participants were advised that the US Air Forces assets are in country to support the humanitarian response. They can currently operate only in certain areas. Assets include four Ospreys and one Huey.
- It was advised that the UK military have one C130 aircraft and three Chinook helicopters stationed in Delhi and are still awaiting clearance.
- The UK and US military assets will be tasked through the Logistics Cluster to support the humanitarian response.
- Organizations were advised that civil-Military logistics coordination for non-logistics issues such as engineering, medical and road clearance, is discussed at the Civil Military Coordination meeting.

### **4. Any other Busines (AOB)**

- The next Logistics Coordination meeting will be held at **Kathmandu HSA** on 14 May 2015 at 11:00.
- The next Logistics Coordination Meeting in Gorkha district at the **Deurali logistics hub** will take place on 12 May at 16:00.
- The next Logistics Coordination Meeting in Sindhupalchok district at the **Chautara logistics hub** will take place on 12 May at 11:00.

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