Sierra Leone Ebola Response – Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Freetown
DATE: 12 May 2015
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS: CAIPA, Department for International Development (DFID), National Ebola Response Centre (NERC), Partners in Health (PiH), German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

ACTION POINTS:
- UNOCHA to share its planned activities in Sierra Leone at the next meeting scheduled for 19 May

AGENDA:
1. Follow up on Action Points from previous meeting
2. Updates from NERC
3. Follow-up on access constraints data gathering
4. Forecast pipeline coming into Makeni Forward Logistics Base (FLB)
5. Updates from organizations on logistics issues
6. A.O.B.

1. Follow up on Action Points from previous meeting
   - The Logistics Cluster Coordinator invited feedback on the rainy season preparation toolkit for mechanics and vehicle recovery, which had been previously circulated to organisations. No further additions or changes were suggested.
   - The Logistics Cluster Coordinator requested whether guidance on driving in poor conditions during the rainy season would be useful for organisations. A further inquiry will be made to assess requirements.

2. Update from NERC
   - The NERC is still waiting for official guidance on how it will transition at the end of the month, in the meantime, a number of NERC staff will begin sharing offices with the National Office for Disease Control.

3. Follow-up on access constraints data gathering
   - Following earlier discussions regarding sharing information on access constraints across Sierra Leone with the aim of updating the access constraints map, the Logistics Cluster Coordinator asked if any organizations had any further information and feedback. To date there have been no inputs.
   - Partners in Health mentioned the road between two of their main activities remains clear, although it would be useful to know what constraints might be expected as the rainy season continues.
   - UNOCHA suggested the NERC could facilitate a briefing by government authorities on historical rainy season knowledge. The NERC advised it would follow up.

4. Forecast pipeline coming into Makeni Forward Logistics Base
• To help plan workflows at the Makeni Forward Logistics Base (FLB), organizations were asked who is using or planning to use the storage facility, and to store what items and in what quantity.

• Organizations were asked to provide storage plans, and to send them via email to the Logistics Cluster Coordinator (alberto.zerboni@wfp.org).

• The Logistics Cluster will also circulate updated information on current usage of Makeni FLB.

5. Updates from organizations on logistics constraints

• On 30 June, the German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) will finish operations. The Freetown Country Office will close and the Makeni workshop will be handed over to MADAM, a national NGO.

6. AOB

• UNOCHA offered to provide an update on its planned activities in Sierra Leone at the next meeting on 19 May.

The next meeting will take place on 19 May at the UNMEER Compound’s Block 3 Conference Room

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