

LOCATION: WFP Somalia Conference Room

DATE: 12 May 2015

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS: ACF, FAO, OCHA, Save the Children, Trocaire, , UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision, WFP

- ACTION POINTS:**
- Logistics Cluster to revert to partners with updates on the Kenya-Somalia border closure
 - Organisations to submit their cargo movement plans and requirements for the next three months to the Logistics Cluster
 - Logistics Cluster to liaise with UNDSS and share updated information on record of transport companies

- AGENDA:**
1. Operation Overview
 2. Situation on road corridors and access constraints
 3. Rehabilitation of the Ugaas Khalif Airport in Beletwein
 4. Update on Kenya-Somalia borders

1. OPERATION OVERVIEW

- An aircraft and WFP time charter vessel continue to be available to interested organisations. Transportation is done on cost recovery basis.
- Some organisations reported difficulties in meeting their operational needs for cargo movement due to financial limitations. Organisations requested the Logistics Cluster to look at the option of support through alternative funding sources to cater for possible airlifts. However, they were reminded that funding requests should be based on need and organisations should submit three-month plans as discussed in previous meetings. Plans enable the Logistics Cluster to determine the movement needs and required level of support.
- UNHCR is working on establishing systems to be able to address the current influx of Yemeni refugees arriving in Bossaso.
- ACF informed partners that it was able to transport cargo by road from Ceel Barde to Xudur, through coordination with local authorities.
- UNICEF advised that as part of a trail, it successfully transported cargo by road to Baidoa via Dollow last week. Due to security concerns, however, transporting cargo through this route remains a challenge.
- Organisations requested the Logistics Cluster to liaise with UNDSS and share information regarding updated transport companies.
- Following concerns raised regarding the challenges moving their relief items between Somaliland and Puntland, an update on progress was requested as the Humanitarian Coordinator brought the issue to the attention of the authorities. Organisations were advised that through the facilitation of commercial transporters able to secure transport permits, border movement of supplies between Puntland and Somaliland is now possible and that WFP had successfully moved some consignments.
- Puntland authorities have informed the humanitarian community of the impending closure of Garowe International Airport in mid-May 2015 for a period of 18 to 20 months for rehabilitation. The closure will have

huge access implications for humanitarian operations in Garowe. The Humanitarian Coordinator has proposed the construction of an alternative/parallel runway at Garowe Airport to sustain some level of air access for the humanitarian organisations. This is because the alternative airstrip proposed by the authorities is 50 kilometers away from Garowe. The construction of the alternative runway would cost USD 600,000 that will have to be raised by the humanitarian community.

- Due to security concerns in Bulo Burte, cargo is being airlifted rather than transported via road. WFP chartered a helicopter, and requests for air transport from partners could be considered. Some cargo was airlifted during the week on behalf of UNICEF.

2. SITUATION ON ROAD CORRIDORS AND ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

- The Logistics Cluster advised that more roads are now impassable following heavy rainfall that hit most regions of Somalia. Those most affected are roads to and from Kismayo and the Kenyan-Somalia border area to Dollow. These physical constraints are paired with continuing security constraints.
- Movement of cargo to Wajid has not been possible during the week due to the security situation. The Logistics Cluster will continue to monitor the roads situation and share updates on physical access constraints.

3. REHABILITATION OF THE UGAAS KHALIF AIRPORT IN BELETWEIN

- A joint rehabilitation and repair operation of the Ugaas Khalif Airport in Beletwein has been completed. This was facilitated by Beletwein communities and AMISOM following damage to the runway as a result of heavy rainfall. In addition, rehabilitation of the first runway in Dolow airstrip has also been completed and was carried out by the local community.

4. UPDATE ON THE KENYA-SOMALIA BORDER

- The Kenya-Somalia border (Mandera) was closed following security incidents in the region. The Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Internal Security issued a directive to that effect. It is not clear how long the directive will take effect as no confirmation has been given. Humanitarian supplies can only be transported across the border with prior approval given by the Ministry of Interior Coordination. Humanitarian organizations wishing to use the border will be required to send a written request for approval to the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Interior & Coordination of National Government, and to include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Some organisations have observed their clearance requests to transport supplies across the border have been rejected, or are still undergoing evaluation.

The next meeting scheduled for mid-June, with the details to be shared via the mailing list.

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