LOCATION: WFP Somalia Conference Room
DATE: 9 September 2015
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster

ACTION POINTS:
• Organisations to share their response plan with the Logistics Cluster.
• The Logistics cluster to update and share maps on road and weather conditions on a weekly basis.

AGENDA:
1. Operational Updates
2. Roundtable
3. Situation on road corridors and access constraints
4. AOB

1. Operational Updates

• Considering the expected response to the El Nino flood and the new situation in South Somalia, organisations were requested to share information on their movements as agreed during the previous coordination meeting.
• The Logistics Cluster informed organisations on the Inter Cluster meeting held two weeks ago on the efforts of the humanitarian community regarding the El Nino emergency along the Shabelle and Jubba rivers that are at higher risk being flood. The exact number of people that could be affected and displaced by the floods is difficult to predict, but numbers could raise up to 900,000 people, based on previous experiences.
• Regarding the preparations to the flood response organisations agreed on the following key activities:
  • Identifying warehouses in Jowhar and Mogadishu to be contracted and used as a staging area for humanitarian relief items;
  • Coordinating humanitarian aid movements to flood affected areas, including prioritization of life saving items;
  • Coordinating with organisations on using the existing logistical assets/capacities to ensure a more effective and efficient response;
  • Establishing stand-by contracts for specialized 10 to 15 mt trucks for road movements to the flood-prone areas;
  • Making available helicopters for an effective response since some of the airstrips such as Jowhar, Bulo Burte are currently not operational, and others, like Beletwein, are expected to deteriorate during the floods. Considering this, it is planned to charter one Mi8 helicopter based in Mogadishu with a capacity to carry 2.8 mt or 26 m3 for a 3 months period.
  • Using cargo planes to transport humanitarian items to other areas, such as Hudur, Wajid, Baidoa, Garbahare, where the airstrips are operational. Discussions are ongoing on chartering a Fokker 50 or equivalent plane with the load capacity of around 5 mt or 45 m3 for a 3 month period.
• The Logistics Cluster shared that reports on roads/airstrip conditions and volumes transported for each agency will be shared on a weekly basis.
• Depending on the scale of the response, weekly or bi-weekly coordination meetings will be held in both Nairobi and Mogadishu.
• Regarding the increasing budget needs a proposal for the release of US$ 3 million has already been prepared by the Inter Cluster and forwarded to the relevant departments for consideration.
• Additionally, organisations shared details on their flood response preparations:
  • WFP have prepositioned three boats in Kismayo and four in Mogadishu with a capacity of 2 to 2.5 mt each. Interested organisations are requested to liaise with the Logistics Cluster.
• UNICEF shared that they have seven boats in their regional hub in Jowhar for WASH cluster that can be made available to interested organisations through the Logistics Cluster.
• ICRC and WVI are currently preparing their response.

2. Roundtable

• WVI was granted a six months permit to facilitate cargo movement across the border between Kenya and Somalia while some organisations are still awaiting for it.
• The cargo plane contract has been extended up to the end of the year 2015
• WFP shared that their time charter vessel is available for organisations on a cost-recovery basis. Organisations are requested to ensure that the documents required for booking are complete.

3. Situation on roads corridors and access constraints

• The Logistics Cluster shared, that the road from Mogadishu to Baidoa is still not accessible, however the connection between Berdale and Baidoa is open for commercial movements.
• Access to Huddur has improved and commercial cargo movements have been carried out without escorts. The Logistics Cluster will follow up and share updates with organisations.
• Due to the security situation Wajid and Garbaharey are only accessible by air.
• Due to the security situation Beletwein to Bulo Burte still not accessible by road.

4. A.O.B

• Plans to reconstruct Garowe airport are ongoing, however the construction of the airstrip is facing funding constraints. Conoco airstrip which is located 40 km from Garowe has been suggested as an alternative, depending on other factors such as road conditions and the security situation. Negotiations are currently ongoing.
• UNHAS plans two flights per week from Mogadishu to Kismayo airport. However, due to the security situation these plans have been cancelled by UNDSS until further notice.
• UNDSS carried out an assessment of Dinsor airstrip.
• It has been shared that there are commercial flight from Mogadishu to Bardera three times per week.

*Details on the next Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will be shared through the mailing list*

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