

LOCATION	Online/held remotely
DATE	18 August 2020
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Formal Education Network for Private Schools (FENPS), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Vision.
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Logistics Cluster to share the presentation given by Peris Muchiri, Hydrometeorologist, FAO Somalia Water and Land Information Management (FAO SWALIM), with participants via the mailing list.• Based on feedback from the poll, the Logistics Cluster to follow up with partners bilaterally on interest in a Logistics Cluster-facilitated cargo consolidation service.• Interested partners to register for the Logistics Cluster Induction Training by 01 September.
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Update from Peris Muchiri, FAO SWALIM2. Action points review3. Situation Update - Flood & COVID-19 Response4. Preparedness planning and cargo consolidation discussion5. Reminder - Logistics Cluster Induction Training6. AOB

1. Update from Peris Muchiri, FAO SWALIM

- Peris Muchiri, Hydrometeorologist from FAO, gave a presentation on the **Flood Update along the Shabelle River**:
 - Current floods along the Shabelle are due to unusual heavy rains in the upper parts of the Ethiopian highlands. This has led to increased river levels inside Somalia consequently causing floods. As of 18 August, River level at Beletweyne is at 7.25m which almost 1.0m below the bank level. There is **High Risk** of flooding in the area. In Jowhar, Balcad and Afgooye the river levels declined slightly in the last week but are still significantly above normal at this time of the year. Following the heavy rain in the Shabelle River basin in Ethiopia, river levels continued to rise. Some parts of the town are currently inundated due to overbank spillage. About 2,100 Ha of agricultural land has been submerged as seen

- from satellite images. About 31 villages have been affected and evacuation has begun in the worst affected areas.
- SWALIM has sent over 200 SMS flood alert messages to elders, community leaders and members of the communities likely to be affected by floods, including Beletweyne. The river level at **Jowhar** remained high since May 2020 and a similar trend has been observed in Balcad and the lower reaches of the river. Flooding in Jowhar district has been caused by an open river breakage in several parts. About 88,900 ha of cropland has been inundated while 129 villages have been affected. 62 villages in Balcad and 72 in Afgooye have been affected by the current floods. A total of 29,500 ha of agricultural land in Balcad is currently flooded and 11,300 ha in Afgooye.
 - Peris also gave an overview of the **trend analysis** of rainfall in Beletweyne and the Shabelle River flow for the last 20 years. This may be attributed to climate change among other reasons. The pattern has also been observed in the Ethiopian highlands which contributes to more than 80% of the river flow inside Somalia. The impact of Gu 2020 floods is expected to be less compared to the last two floods of 2018 and 2019. Early Action followed by timely early warning can be contributed to the decline of the impacts among others.
 - A rainfall forecast was given until 25 August. Moderate to heavy rains will continue in the Ethiopian highlands. Light rains are also foreseen in the coastal areas of Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba regions.
- The Logistics Cluster stated that this information would be useful for operational planning and prepositioning of cargo – especially the flood trend maps. It was noted that FAO SWALIM will be able to share real-time data with the Logistics Cluster as soon as available, in order to facilitate operational planning.
 - In terms of trends, it was noted that FAO SWALIM maps river breakages – although the rains were heavier this year, action that was taken was greater as information was shared on the impact of the flooding in Beletweyne in a timely manner. This lessened the overall impact despite the unprecedented levels of rainfall.
 - A partner asked how long it usually takes for the flood waters to recede in a place such as Beletweyne and populations to return to their homes. It was noted that this was around five days – however there is currently no trend analysis being conducted around this as this is based on information from satellite imagery. It was also questioned as to whether these kinds of predictions could be used to assess the accessibility of roads in the areas / when those flooded will have dried out etc. It was noted that this depends on the soil water content and so is challenging to make any general predictions.

2. Action Points Review

- The Logistics Cluster to share Cash-based Transfers (CBT) presentations and contacts of CBT focal points – *completed*.
- Registration details of the Logistics Cluster Induction Training to be sent out via the mailing list – *completed*. *Around 33 individuals have registered so far.*

- The Logistics Cluster to reach out to partners bilaterally on flood preparedness and cargo consolidation needs – *ongoing*.
- United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) to share updated flight schedule for dissemination via the mailing list once available – *ongoing*. *July schedule is still in operation until further notice*.

3. Situation Update - Flood & COVID-19 Response

- As of 18 August, there are 3,356 cases of COVID-19 in Somalia and there has been 93 deaths.
- All airports in Somalia are open for local and international passenger flights:
 - Baidoa airport still closed on Fridays and Saturdays for maintenance works.
 - Abudwak airport still closed for maintenance.
 - Lockdown of Mogadishu Airport (AAIA) extended until **22 August**. WFP trucks continue to have access – access given on approval for WFP staff and contractors.
- All ports remain operational. Partners to email otavio.costa@wfp.org / lucy.wambogo@wfp.org for enquiries regarding available space for bookings on Voyage 13 ex-Berbera. The latest schedule of the WFP time-chartered vessel MV Juist is available on the Logistics Cluster Somalia page and also continues to be shared via the mailing list.
- Key roads are still accessible although subject to temporary closures. The latest [Logistics Cluster Flood Affected Roads Map](#) as of 06 July is available on the Somalia Logistics Cluster page. It was noted that the Marka road ex-Mogadishu has been affected temporarily due to flooding; however, the condition is improving and if there are no rains in the coming days, it may be possible to resume this route. The Logistics Cluster will monitor the situation and inform partners accordingly.
- The Somaliland-Ethiopia (Berbera corridor) and Central Somalia-Ethiopia borders remain open but strictly for commercial trade. The Kenya-Somalia land borders remain closed for commercial entities.
- However certain points may periodically be opened for trade, subject to bilateral agreements between local authorities of relevant border towns.
- The below crossing points of Somalia - Kenya border remain closed indefinitely:
 - Somalia – Beledhawa - Closed
 - Kenya – Doble - Closed
 - Ethiopia – Elbarde - Closed
 - Ethiopia – Beletweyne - closed
 - Ethiopia - Dollow – Closed

4. Preparedness Planning and Cargo Consolidation Discussion

- The Logistics Cluster conducted a short poll via zoom to facilitate a discussion around cargo consolidation requirements and flood preparedness planning needs.
- The results of the polls were shared with participants – 100% of participants are operating in flood-affected areas and 75% are planning to preposition cargo (or are already prepositioning their cargo) in flood-affected areas.

- The second poll aimed to assess in which locations partners are working – Baidoa, Beletweyne and/ or Jowhar as well as whether there are any additional locations for which partners would need Logistics Cluster-facilitated cargo consolidation. These locations had been put forward as they make up 80% of the airlift requests made to the Logistics Cluster this year so far. The results showed that most organisations are operating in Baidoa. Partners also highlighted that south Galkayo is a key location in which organisations are operating. Partners also responded (75%) that they would be interested in a Logistics Cluster-facilitated cargo consolidation service. In terms of locations for this service, 75% of respondents would be interested in Baidoa and Jowhar.
- The Logistics Cluster updated participants on a Transportation Requirements document – this is in tabular format and captures transportation requirements for cargo movement into / within Somalia. This will be published on <https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a> in the coming days and shared with partners via the mailing list.

5. Reminder - Logistics Cluster Induction Trainings

- Participants were reminded that the Online Logistics Cluster Induction Training for Somalia is on 08 September 2020. The main objective of the Logistics Cluster Induction Training is to achieve a common understanding of the cluster approach and mandate, enabling their efficient and effective contribution to inter-agency logistics response.
- The training is open to Logistics Officers who are currently operating in Somalia or directly supporting the operations in Somalia. The registration has been shared with partners via the mailing list and potential attendees are requested to sign up by 01 September to ensure a place on the training.

6. AOB

- The next Logistics Cluster Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 01 September
- Participants were asked to vote on a possible topic for discussion at the next meeting – the results showed that the main interest would be on access constraints and customs clearance. Partners were encouraged to contact the Logistics Cluster with any suggestions for further discussion topics.

Contacts

Julie Vander Wiel-Hakme	<i>Logistics Cluster Coordinator</i>	Julie.vanderwiel@wfp.org
Pray Gwatinyanya	<i>Logistics Cluster Air Operations Coordinator</i>	Pray.gwatinyanya@wfp.org
Lucy Wambogo	<i>Logistics Services / RITA Focal Point</i>	Lucy.wambogo@wfp.org
Amelia Stewart	<i>Information Management Officer</i>	Amelia.stewart@wfp.org
Otavio Costa	<i>Logistics Officer</i>	Otavio.costa@wfp.org
Ali Yackub	<i>Logistics Officer</i>	Ali.yackub@wfp.org