Somalia Logistics Cluster

Drought Response Operation Overview (February to July 2017)

The Logistics Cluster is responsible for logistics Coordination and Information Management. Where there is a gap in logistics capacity, WFP, as the lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, acts as a ‘provider of last resort’ by offering Common Logistics Services to support the humanitarian community in their response operations.

Overview

In February 2017, following a prolonged drought, the humanitarian situation in Somalia rapidly deteriorated. Levels of malnutrition and drought-related disease outbreaks rose throughout the country and 6.7 million people are currently in need of humanitarian assistance (OCHA, June 2017). The operating environment in Somalia remains one of the most hazardous in the world, regular and sustained access to the hard hit areas represents a challenge due to surging insecurities, capacity limitations and deteriorated infrastructure. Threats and attacks against humanitarian actors and assets continue, hindering effective and efficient delivery of humanitarian aid. In response to the emergency, a Drought Operations Coordination Centre (DOCC) was established in Mogadishu and all Clusters, including the Logistics Cluster, continue to be represented within the DOCC, engaged in daily planning for the multi-sectoral response.

Coordination & Information Management

The Logistics Cluster provides essential coordination and information management to mitigate duplication of efforts by humanitarian actors and maximize the use of available logistics assets and resources. Activities include:

- Regular logistics coordination meetings are taking place in Mogadishu and Nairobi facilitating coordination with other clusters, relevant organisations and entities. Since February 2017, eight meetings have been held in Nairobi and Mogadishu with representatives from 21 organisations attending. Coordination is also facilitated through the Inter Cluster Coordination Group.
- Identification and provision of information on common logistics services in cases where logistics gaps/bottlenecks exist;
- Assessment missions to key locations in order to identify logistics gaps and bottlenecks;
- Rapid dissemination of strategic logistics information and guidance to organisations through a dedicated mailing list and Somalia Logistics Cluster webpage: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som14a
- Provision of updated information on operational data through the publication of route accessibility maps, supplier/transporter lists, situation updates, flash news and briefings.

http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som14a
Common Logistics Services

The Logistics Cluster also coordinates access to common logistics services intended to fill the identified logistics gaps in the humanitarian supply chain and complement the response of the humanitarian community. Common logistics services are provided by WFP as lead agency on a cost-recovery basis for humanitarian organisations.

Air Transportation

- In collaboration with UNHAS, three cargo planes are positioned in Mogadishu to facilitate the airlift of critical humanitarian supplies. In addition, the Logistics Cluster can support with coordination on behalf of the humanitarian community for access to helicopter and commercial air services.
- Since the beginning of the drought response in February through to July 2017, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated air transportation of more than 340 metric tonnes (MT) of humanitarian aid throughout all of Somalia on behalf of the Government of Somalia (GoS) and humanitarian partners.
- In addition, in support of the GoS and in collaboration with UNHAS, the Logistics Cluster has supported the coordination of air transport of personnel for medical and coordination missions. Since the activation of the support programme, ten missions have been organised to six regions: Bay, Gedo, Hiraan, Galagduud, Sool and Lower Shabelle.

Sea and Road Transportation

- On behalf of humanitarian partners, the Logistics Cluster through lead agency WFP is facilitating access to sea and road transportation for humanitarian aid cargo.

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- Humanitarian supplies are being transported by sea on a monthly basis from the Port of Mombasa to Mogadishu, Berbera, Bossaso and Kismayo, ensuring a more predictable and regular delivery to functional Somali Ports.

- Since February, more than 444MT of critical supplies have been transported on behalf of FAO, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNICEF and the GoS by road and sea into and throughout Somalia.

**Common Storage**

- The Logistics Cluster continues to work in support of humanitarian partners involved in the response to ensure more efficient prepositioning of emergency items. Throughout the country, storage facilities have been made available on a cost recovery basis through WFP as lead agency.

- Two refrigerated units were made available in the WFP complex inside of the Mogadishu International Airport (MIA) on behalf of Save the Children and UNICEF for the storage of heat-sensitive relief items.

- Plans are also underway to install an additional storage facility for heat-sensitive items in Mogadishu, to be made available through WFP as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, to meet the needs for storage of heat-sensitive relief items for all members of the humanitarian community responding to the drought emergency.

**Ongoing Logistics Constraints and Mitigating Activities**

- Due to road access limitations and deteriorating infrastructure and airstrips, a number of key operational areas remain only accessible by air while others are completely inaccessible.

- The Logistics Cluster is currently working closely with members of the humanitarian community to identify logistics solutions in order to address these logistics gaps.

- For the latest Logistics Cluster Access Constraints map, please see the dedicated Logistics Cluster Somalia Operations page: [http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som14a](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/som14a)

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