South Sudan – Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: OCHA, Juba
DATE: 16 September 2014
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator


ACTION POINTS:
- Logistics Cluster to share the WFP Prepositioning-Sites list.
- Logistics Cluster to circulate dangerous goods guidelines to avoid Partner’s cargo rejection.
- Logistics Cluster informed partners interested in next barge movements to notify Logistics Cluster once clearance had been obtained for.

AGENDA:
1. Update on Current Situation
2. Logistics Update – Gaps and Constraints
3. Briefing on Logistics Cluster activities
4. AoB

1. Update on Current Situation
- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator advised that the UN Security Management Team (SMT) has allowed fixed wing aircraft to go to Rubkona. The Logistics Cluster is in the final stages of securing a cargo contract for the delivery of supplies to Bentiu in the short term future. The runway still requires some drying out. A picture is available on the South Sudan Operations page:


- The MI26 helicopter needed repair and is being replaced late this week by another MI26 helicopter. It will be deployed to Rumbek. In the meantime, the Logistics Cluster will use one rotation per day from WFP and/or the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) to Bentiu. It is planned to start from Tuesday, 16 September.

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator informed that a fixed wing aircraft with a capacity of 5 MT will be contracted soon and do two daily rotations from Rumbek to Bentiu.

2. Logistics Update – Gaps and Constraints
- Logistics Cluster operations are constrained by inadequate fuel in Rumbek. Consequently, WFP has moved its aircraft to Bor to reduce reliance on fuel and UNHAS is currently providing fuel to Rumbek to support the operations.

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator also noted that as of today, 16 September 2014, Rumbek airport will stop air operations by 1600hrs. This will continue for the next 7-14 days thus limiting the Logistics cluster’s ability to do 2 rotations per day with the MI26 once it comes back into full operation at the end of the week.

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- It was also noted that the Juba-Rumbek road repair is underway. Partners will be informed on any progress during the next meetings. The current state of the road means the estimated transit time is 3 weeks.

3. Briefing on Logistics Cluster Activities

- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator informed that WFP is currently preparing their 2015 Prepositioning-site list which will be presented to and shared with partners. Partners should respond and indicate their interests to use the sites to determine if the Logistics Cluster should set up Mobile Storage Units (MSUs).

- Partners were also notified, in reference to the recent memo circulated, that the Cargo section at Juba Airport will not be closed. In the future, the Logistics Cluster will advocate for OCHA involvement to minimize disruptions when the planned works commence.

Barge Update

- The current barge route is from Juba to Malakal/Melut. If organizations are interested in reaching additional locations (i.e. Maban/Doro), they are advised to contract road transport from Malakal/Melut.

- Cargo requested to move via the barge must be cleared by each respective organization, through the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC). Cover letters (similar to tax exemption requests) are to be addressed to:
  
  - The Director General of NGO Affairs, Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), Republic of South Sudan.

- The Logistics Cluster advised all partners that all barge movements will be free to users.

Dry Season Planning

- The Logistics Cluster noted that dry season planning is currently underway. In preparation for the General Assembly Event in September, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) requested the Logistics Cluster to present a list of infrastructure projects that should be completed in the dry season. A preliminary list of possible infrastructure projects (roads, ports, airstrips) has been compiled and shared with participants. Further suggestions should be addressed to the Cluster Coordinator.

Dangerous Good Presentation

- A presentation about dangerous goods was provided for participants. A fact sheet for reference will be circulated to all organizations.

5. AoB

- Before closing, the Logistics Cluster Coordinator referred participants to the dedicated website for the South Sudan operation on which the most recent Access Constraints map has been uploaded: [http://www.logcluster.org/map/south-sudan-access-constraints-map-12-september-2014](http://www.logcluster.org/map/south-sudan-access-constraints-map-12-september-2014).

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