Meeting Minutes, 11 February 2020
South Sudan, Juba

LOCATION
Juba, OCHA Conference Room

DATE
11 February 2020

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
ACTED, African Humanitarian Corps (AHC), American Refugee Committee (ARC), Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD), Food for the Hungry (FH), Humane-Aid for Community Organization (HACO), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW), IsraAid, Medair, Médecins Sans Frontières Belgium, Mercy Corps International (MCI), Mobile Humanitarian Agency (MHA), Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA), Oxfam UK, Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), Rescue Life of Children (RLC), Solidarités International (SI), Tearfund, Touch Africa Development Organization (TADO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Universal Intervention and Development Organization (UNIDOR), Universal Network for Knowledge & Empowerment Agency (UNKEA), Water for South Sudan (WFSS), World Relief (WR), World Vision International (WVI)

ACTION POINTS
• Logistics Cluster to inform partners about road conditions in Jonglei state.
• Logistics Cluster to produce a road transport strategy document and share it with partners.
• Logistics Cluster to update training schedule.

AGENDA
1. River Transport Special Focus Coordination Meeting Recap
2. River Operations Updates
3. Road Operations Updates
4. Air Transport Operations Updates
5. Training Updates
6. AOB / Discussions

1. River Transport Special Focus Coordination Meeting Recap

• Partners were presented with the below table which summarises the responsibilities of river transport service users and the Logistics Cluster, presented during the river transport special focus coordination meeting:

https://logcluster.org.ops/ssf11a
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## Organisation Responsibilities

1. Submit accurate Service Request Forms (SRFs)
2. Pre-position cargo in Bor/Malakal;
3. Plan ahead – river operations have longer lead times compared to air and road;
4. Pre-position cargo for a minimum two-month intervention;
5. Organise and pay for cargo collection at destination (with exception of Bor and Malakal);
6. Deliver cargo to the riverside in locations where the Logistics Cluster does not have presence;
7. Provide Relief and Rehabilitation (RRC) clearance;
8. Fill in the receipt details on the waybill at the destination, sign, and stamp (indicate any cargo excess or losses). Give white copy to operator;
9. Insure cargo to be transported by river.

## Logistics Cluster Responsibilities

1. Announce schedules and register SRFs;
2. Provide estimated timeline for cargo delivery upon receipt of SRF;
3. Update organisations on schedules, dispatches, progress, and vessel arrivals;
4. Loading/offloading in Bor & Malakal;
5. Cargo transhipment in Malakal for items destined to locations along the Sobat river;
6. Contract barge/boats;
7. Issue signed and stamped waybills indicating dispatch details;
8. Provide Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JBVMM) clearance;
9. Provide access clearance prior to departure.

## Organisations interested in learning more about the discussions that took place during that meeting, including the existing challenges, are invited to read the Special Focus Coordination Meeting Minutes.

## Organisations interested in gaining a deeper understanding of Logistics Cluster river movements are also invited to consult the River Movement Strategy 2020.

## 2. River Operations Updates

- Partners were informed that the Bor-Melut barge (barge number 2) is en route. The cargo destined for Kodok and Renk has been offloaded in Malakal and will be transhipped into boats to be transported to their final destinations (boat convoy number 3).
- The third barge movement of 2020 (Malakal to Bor) is currently en route and is expected to arrive during the next week.
- The Bor – Renk barge (barge number 4) will be loaded in Bor as soon as the third barge arrives and is offloaded. Organisations interested in joining this river movement are requested to register their interest and deliver their cargo to the Logistics Cluster riverside warehouse in Bor as soon as possible.
- The second boat convoy of the year delivered cargo to multiple locations along the Sobat river and reached Jikmir, its final destination, on 31 January 2020.
- The Logistics Cluster is currently consolidating cargo for the fourth and fifth boat convoys to Sobat river locations and Old Fangak.
- Organisations interested in participating in future barge or boat movements are invited to consult the latest River Movement Schedule February to April and are reminded to submit SRFs to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.

https://logcluster.org/ops/ssd11a
Partners were reminded that when cargo needs to be delivered to any location on the rivers, the first step for any organisation is to submit an SRF and pre-position their cargo to the Bor or Malakal Logistics Cluster warehouses.

The Logistics Cluster River Transport Routes Map which shows the different locations accessible by river transport, is available on the website.

3. Road Operations Updates

Partners were informed that the Logistics Cluster will conduct a Special Focus Coordination Meeting on Road Transport in Juba on 25 February 2020.

Access Constraints

Partners were informed that the Western Corridor is still not accessible all the way to Bentiu as the road is still cut between Abiemnhom and Mayom. UNMISS began rehabilitation work on this road section on 27 January. As soon as this road becomes passable, the Logistics Cluster will inform partners and start organising convoys towards Bentiu.

The Western Corridor road is open to 40 mt trucks until Aweil. Organisations were advised that the road from Wau to Bentiu is open up to Abiemnhom for 20 mt trucks and are therefore encouraged to start pre-positioning cargo.

Médecins Sans Frontières Belgium informed partners that a commercial truck has managed to reach Pibor by road from Bor. The Logistics Cluster will follow up to confirm this information and advise partners accordingly.

Partners were informed that WFP is currently conducting road assessments on the roads leading from Bor into central Jonglei (including Twic East, Duk, Ayod, Uror, and Nyirol Counties). The Logistics Cluster will communicate further information with partners when available.

Partners were advised that roads leading to Koch, Leer, and northern Mayendit counties from Bentiu are now accessible for 40 mt trucks. Consequently, Beyond Bentiu Response (BBR) operations to these locations have resumed.

Organisations were reminded to share any other relevant road status updates with the Logistics Cluster to ensure that the access constraints map is kept up-to-date. The latest access constraints map is available on the website.

Convoy Schedule

Partners were advised that from 1 March 2020, the Road Convoy Schedule will be updated to reflect that road convoys in the Equatorias (Kajo Keji, Kapoeta, Yambio, and Yei) will have their frequency reduced to once every two months. Analysis of previous years shows that an average of five convoys per year were coordinated to these destinations. A reduction in frequency should ensure that there are sufficient trucks to organise a convoy.

Partners interested in joining convoys planned for February towards the Western Corridor, Kapoeta and Yambio are requested to consult the latest Road Convoy Schedule (February-March) and submit their interest via email to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org. Organisations must consult and respect
the submission deadlines in the schedules as the Logistics Cluster will be stricter regarding deadlines in 2020.

**Beyond Responses**

- The Logistics Cluster is currently working on a strategic document providing in-depth information and details of all locations reachable from Bentiu and Wau with the Beyond Responses. The document will include maps listing locations reachable through the Beyond Responses and will be shared with partners at the upcoming Special Focus Road Transport meeting, and via the mailing list shortly.
- Partners were reminded that the Logistics Cluster has Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) available for loan for organisations who require additional storage in locations where they wish to pre-position cargo, provided that they are offered as common storage on behalf of the humanitarian community. Organisations managing MSUs and partners wishing to store items in these MSUs must agree on responsibilities for items beforehand.
- Organisations are encouraged to contact the cluster at southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org if interested in borrowing an MSU for common storage in field locations.

**4. Air Transport Operation Updates**

- Partners were informed that the current Logistics Cluster fleet of air assets is composed of five aircraft: two fixed wing aircraft in Juba, two helicopters in Bor and one helicopter in Rumbek. The additional helicopter deployed to Bor to support the flood response will cease operating at the end of February.
- Organisations seeking information on when their cargo will be delivered to requested destinations were reminded to consult the Weekly Transport Plan available on the website.
- Partners were advised that as we are reaching the end of the flood response, the Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) prioritisation process for cargo delivery has returned to normal. Therefore, organisations must raise the need to prioritise locations to the relevant cluster who will then raise this at the Needs Analysis Working Group (NAWG) which will determine which locations will be prioritised.
- Organisations were informed that the process to deliver cargo to a new airstrip that hasn’t been served in the past can be lengthy. Once an organisation submits an SRF for a new airstrip and GPS coordinates are shared with the Logistics Cluster, UNHAS and the WFP Access and Security Units must conduct a series of assessments for the location to be cleared.

**5. Training Updates**

- In 2020, the Logistics Cluster will build on its 2019 achievements and continue offering trainings to the humanitarian community to strengthen national capacity. During the first quarter of 2020, the Logistics Cluster is planning to conduct the following training sessions: Logistics Cluster Induction, Service Request Form Completion, Airfield Focal Points (facilitated by UNHAS) and Fleet Management (facilitated by Fleet Forum). Invitations to these trainings will be shared via the mailing list.
Organisations were also advised to consult the Training Schedule on the website for information on upcoming trainings, which will be updated shortly by the Logistics Cluster.

- Partners were informed that 129 participants were trained on Advanced Humanitarian Logistics in Juba from 21-30 January 2020.
- The Logistics Cluster recently published the 2019 Training Overview, highlighting the main achievements of 2019.

## 5. AOB / Discussions

- Organisations were advised that a group of logisticians have organised a meeting to be held on 14 February 2020 at 10:00 at the Save the Children offices in Juba to address different topics and challenges related to logistics in South Sudan. The Logistics Cluster will attend the meeting as a participant and strongly encourages logistics colleagues to take part in this initiative.

The next Logistics Cluster meeting is scheduled for 10 March in the OCHA main conference room, Juba at 12:00.

The Logistics Cluster has scheduled a Special Focus Coordination Meeting on road transport on Tuesday 25 February 2020 at 12:00 in the OCHA main conference room.

### Contacts

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