LOCATION  Juba, online

DATE       11 August 2020

CHAIR  Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS  Action Against Hunger (ACF), American Refugee Committee (ARC), Children Organization for Peace Outreach and Development (COPOD), Community Hope Agency for Rural Development, Community Initiative for Sustainable Development Agency (CISDA), Emergency Response and Development Initiative (ERDI), GOAL, Humane-Aid for Community Organization (HACO), Johanniter International (JOIN), Medair, Médecins Sans Frontières Holland, Médecins Sans Frontières Spain, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Peace Winds Japan (PWJ), Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), Tearfund, United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), USAID/OFDA, World Concern

ACTION POINTS

• Organisations to share any physical road accessibility updates with the Logistics Cluster.

• Organisations that have received cargo that does not belong to them on any Sobat river location are requested to contact the Logistics Cluster.

• Logistics Cluster to present further results of Mid-Year Survey at upcoming coordination meeting.

• Organisations facing difficulty in obtaining RRC and JBVMM clearances to inform the Logistics Cluster.

• Organisations interested in small airfreight services from Nairobi to Juba to contact Mission Aviation Fellowship.

AGENDA

1. Air Operations Updates
2. Road Operations Updates
3. River Operations Updates
4. Mid-year survey results
5. AOB/Discussion

1. Air Operations Updates

• In view of the COVID-19 response, COVID-19 related cargo is prioritised and the Logistics Cluster remains flexible to facilitate the movement by air, even if the final destination is reachable by road or river. Partners needing to transport COVID-19 related cargo should contact the Logistics Cluster team at southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.

• Current list of the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) priority locations:
  o Reachable by air:
    ▪ Ayod County: entire county;
    ▪ Greater Pibor area, especially Pibor town;
    ▪ Nyriol County: Lankien and Walgak;

https://logcluster.org/ops/ssid11a
Meeting Minutes, 11 August 2020
Juba, South Sudan

- Uror County: Motot, Pathai, Pieri and Yuai.
  - Reachable by road:
    - Tonj East and South Counties: multiple locations.
- Partners were reminded that non-priority cargo is served, but as per the Logistics Cluster mandate, priority locations are served first.
- Organisations that have submitted Service Request Forms (SRFs) for Toch and Nyadin in Fangak county (priority locations until 4 August) and that have not received their cargo yet will be served as priority.
- Organisations were reminded of the importance to submit accurate weather and other clearances, especially during the rainy season, to ensure efficient air operations. The weather and other updates must be shared with the UNHAS radio room before 7:30 on the day when a flight is scheduled. Lack of contact from focal points will result in flight cancellation. The Logistics Cluster team (southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org) should be copied in all emails regarding air operations. A detailed explanation of the procedures for receiving cargo to ensure efficient air operations was shared in the latest meeting minutes.
- The Logistics Cluster informed partners that the use of the fixed wing aircraft, located in Juba, depends on airstrips conditions. As Jonglei state is affected by heavy rains throughout the rainy season, cargo destined for Lankien is usually sent using helicopters ex-Bor.

2. Road Operations Update

- Organisations were reminded to share any physical road accessibility updates with the Logistics Cluster. The Access Constraints Map is published weekly and the latest version is available here.
- The Western Corridor Convoy (WCC) that departed Juba on 1 August is en route. With the start of rainy season, the road to Bentiu has become impassable and the convoy route, passable for 20 mt trucks only, is ending in Abiemnhom. WCC are organised every two weeks and the next ones are scheduled for 14 and 27 August. Interested organisations should submit their Logistics Cluster Convoy Request Form to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.
- Equatoria convoys (Kaptoeta, Kajo Keji, Yambio and Yei) are organised once every two months with the next ones scheduled for mid-September. Organisations interested in joining upcoming Logistics Cluster convoys are encouraged to submit their request forms, respecting registration deadlines indicated in the recently published Convoy Schedule August-September 2020.
- Organisations interested in transporting cargo to deep field locations in Unity, Northern and Western Bahr El Ghazal through the Beyond Bentiu and Beyond Wau Responses are invited to consult the Weekly Transport Plan and submit their interest to the Logistics Cluster according to indicated deadlines. As roads are becoming impassable across South Sudan due to the rainy season, the Logistics Cluster Beyond Responses operation in Bentiu is gradually downscaling.

https://logcluster.org/ops/ssl1a
3. River Operations Update

- Organisations were reminded that the Logistics Cluster organises both barge and boat river movements ex-Bor and ex-Malakal serving locations along Bahr Az Zeraf, Bahr El Jebel, White Nile and Sobat rivers. The Logistics Cluster does not provide river transport services ex-Juba as there are shallow river sections preventing barge movements. Organisations are thus requested to pre-position their cargo in Bor or Malakal.
- Barge #9 has been loaded in Bor with 78 mt of humanitarian cargo and is awaiting final clearances to proceed with departure.
- Barge #10 is expected to depart from Bor to Renk on 28 August. Interested organisations are invited to submit their SRF to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org and need to pre-position their cargo at the Bor Logistics Cluster warehouse by 14 August. The next river movement from Bor to Renk is scheduled for 25 September.
- Boat convoy #10 from Bor to Sobat river locations via Menime has been loaded and is awaiting final clearances to proceed with departure. The next boat convoy on this route (#11) is scheduled for 27 August. Interested organisations are invited to submit their interest to the Logistics Cluster.
- The next boat departure from Bor to Menime, Haat and Old Fangak (#12) is scheduled for 26 August and interested partners are invited to submit their SRFs to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org.
- The Logistics Cluster informed partners that there was cargo (calcium hypochlorite/chlorine) unintentionally delivered to the wrong location with boat #7 serving Sobat locations ex-Malakal. If any organisation has received cargo that does not belong to them, they are kindly requested to contact the Logistics Cluster so it can be returned.
- Organisations were notified that river movement schedules are published for three-month periods to support early operational planning. The latest schedule is available here: August - October 2020.

4. Mid-year Survey Results

- Organisations were informed that the Logistics Cluster is currently analysing the results from the Mid-Year Survey shared with partners in July. A total of 39 participants from different locations across South Sudan took part in the survey. Further details, including areas of improvements, will be addressed in the coming meeting.

5. AOB/Discussion

- Partners shared their challenges in obtaining the necessary clearances to transport humanitarian cargo by road and sought for Logistics Cluster support. The Logistics Cluster acknowledged that such bureaucratic impediments have been recurrent since the COVID-19 outbreak in South Sudan. The Logistics Cluster and other humanitarian agencies are advocating at the highest levels to reinstate procedures from before COVID-19 and will keep partners informed. In the meantime, the WFP Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC) clearance has been successfully used for all the Logistics Cluster
movements by road and river. Moreover, for organisations unable to obtain a Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JBVMM) clearance, a blanket clearance obtained by OCHA covers all humanitarian cargo along all major routes. Organisations facing issues are encouraged to email their experience to southsudan.clustercargo@wfp.org as the Logistics Cluster compiles such challenges for better advocacy.

- Organisations were informed that the NGO Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) has relocated aircrafts to Nairobi and frequently operate movements from Nairobi to Juba since the COVID-19 outbreak. As they often have to fly the aircrafts empty, organisations interested in small airfreight services can benefit from reduced rates and are invited to contact ken.bookings@mafint.org or ssd.bookings@mafint.org.

- The NGO forum has been providing support to ease the process of obtaining COVID-19 certificates in a timely manner. Organisations facing difficulties are advised to contact ngo-states@southsudanngoforum.org.

- The Logistics Cluster reminded participants of the importance to include the release order in their SRF when cargo needs to be collected from any cluster’s pipeline. The Logistics Cluster also strongly suggested to produce separate SRFs for items coming from different pipelines (specifically for the WASH Cluster as both IOM and UNICEF have WASH items in their pipelines) to ensure easy cargo collection.

The next Logistics Cluster meeting is scheduled for 25 August at 12:00 and will be held online.

Contacts

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