
Meeting Minutes, 12 November 2020

Khartoum, Sudan



LOCATION	Khartoum, Sudan – Online
DATE	12 November 2020
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	American Refugee Committee, Catholic International Development Charity (CAFOD), Concern World Wide, GOAL, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Muslim Aid, Plan International, Practical Action, Première Urgence Internationale (PUI), Shelter Box, United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Vision International (WVI).
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Close coordination required for partners responding to the refugee crisis.• The deadline to complete the survey for October is 15 November.
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Operational updates2. Updates from Partners3. AOB

1. Operational updates:

COVID-19

- By 2 November, 13,905 persons had been reported to have contracted COVID-19 with 837 deaths.
- Confirmed COVID-19 cases in week 45 showed a 12 percent increase as compared to week 44.
- On 3 November, the Ministry of Health (MoH) organized a workshop on safe return to the workplace, participants included staff from different various business establishments.
- Malaria sensitization messages have been integrated with COVID-19 messages.

LOGISTICS SUPPORT:

- This week, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transport of 27 mt of medicines to Nyala and El Fasher on behalf of National Medical Supply Fund (NMSF). This brings the total of medicines transported to 104 mt to six states.
- The Logistics Cluster has facilitated also facilitated the transport and storage of about 5 million bed-nets on behalf of UNICEF to various states. Distribution to the localities will be supported by the Logistics Cluster.

Humanitarian response Plan (HRP) 2021

- Two consultation meeting have been held with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). Sector draft response strategies are in process.

UNHAS

- UNHAS operating window in the Darfur has thus reduced. From 15 November onwards, Nyala and Fasher Airport authorities have informed UNHAS that they will be closing the airports from 12:30 in Nyala and 15:00 in Fasher every day due to generator fuel constraints.
- UNHAS flights operate in hours of day light and on the principle of 'Hub and spoke', where passengers travel from the main hubs (Khartoum, El Obeid, Fasher, Nyala and Genina) to deep field locations and back daily. When operating window reduces, it becomes extremely challenging to fully address all user community needs. UNHAS will monitor the impact of these challenges in the coming week with a view to ensure operational impact is limited.
- During the first week of November, UNHAS experienced technical routing challenges to Abujebeha. Even though the new routing is longer, flights to and from Abujebeha have been reinstated as per the current UNHAS schedule and user community encouraged to book for flights in the usual manner.
- Due to the ongoing blockage of the main bridge connecting the airport and the town by protesters, UNHAS cancelled flights to Zalangie on 11 and 12 November respectively. UNHAS is working closely with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security and WFP Security teams to resume operations as soon as feasible.

ACCESS

- A new monitoring and reporting tool developed through access surveys, to be agency-based and not individual.
- Survey will be circulated every month. The deadline to complete the survey for October is 15 November. Links have been shared.

2. Update from Partners

AMERICAN REFUGEE COMMITTEE (ARC)

- Operating in Darfur, focussing in WASH and Nutrition, in partnership with UN agencies.
- Currently also responding to the refugee crisis in Kassala.
- Supply chain break down affected the programming during COVID-19.
- Currently facing transportation challenges.
- Seeking support in 2021 in shipping cargo to the field.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE

- Supporting WHO with the Polio campaign, providing vehicles.
- Will be receiving Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits and other supplies, will approach WFP for storage facilities.

NEAR EAST FOUNDATION

- Have activities in the areas for peace building and development, in Sudan, engaged programmes in WASH, Rehabilitation and livelihood sectors.
- In Jebel Mara, Gola, Um dukan south and North Kordofan.
- Engaged in food distribution for refugees and Internally Displaced People IDPs as a partner with WFP.
- Around 2,000 water points in Kadugli and Zalingie.

PRACTICAL ACTION

- Practical Action is an international development organization registered in Sudan since 1992, working in 3 states, Blue Nile, Kassala and North Darfur (Fasher & Kabkabiea) and aims to reduce poverty by helping people find solutions to some of the world's toughest problems.
- The agency is involved in areas of Food Security and Livelihoods, WASH, Sanitation.
- The agency work with communities to develop ingenious, lasting and locally owned solutions for agriculture, water and waste management, climate resilience and clean energy. Bringing people together in bold collaborations, combining knowledge with innovation to change the systems that keep people poor and vulnerable.
- Challenges currently being experienced include sharp increase of contractors pay/rates due to inflation and transportation issues due to fuel shortage.

PREMIERE URGENGE INTERNATIONAL (PUI)

- Returned to Sudan some months ago and have opened offices in North Kordofan, would like to know agencies working over there.

UNHCR

- The developing refugee crisis in Kassala: Need for coordination for this response, in all aspects of logistics in order to know who is doing what in the response.
- Enquiring if WFP have adequate stocks of High Energy Biscuits for refugees arriving, up-to 11,000 persons reported so far.
- Ten buses and two water tankers already deployed to the field.
- Need for close coordination to avoid duplication of activities in the response.

3. AOB

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- WFP is in the process of increasing storage capacity in Kassala and increasing fuel storage in the same place. This is in preparation of the developing refugee crisis.

Contacts

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