LOCATION  Khartoum, Sudan – Online

DATE  25 June 2020

CHAIR  Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS  American Refugee Committee, Catholic International Development Charity (CAFOD), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), EMERGENCY, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Muslim Aid, Plan International, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Global Logistics Cluster (GLC)

ACTION POINTS

- Partners are requested to share with Pamela Onyango (pamela.onyango@wfp.org) and Mohamed Wedian (wedian.mohamed@wfp.org) the names of focal points to be trained on the use of WFP-developed tracking tool for COVID-19 related supplies entering the country.
- Partners are asked to share with Pamela Onyango (pamela.onyango@wfp.org) and Mohamed Wedian (wedian.mohamed@wfp.org) information of COVID-19 supplies coming into the country so that it can be effectively captured in and processed through the tracking tool.

AGENDA

1. COVID-19 – Operations and Logistics
2. Key Findings from the Gaps and Needs Analysis Exercise
3. WFP Fuel Access
4. AOB

1. COVID-19 – Operations and Logistics

- The COVID-19 working group continues to meet every week.
- COVID-19 coordination meetings with State focal points and pillar leads are held on a biweekly basis. Critical information is effectively shared and circulated through these meetings while issues faced at state level can be directly raised to relevant national pillar leads.
- The tracking tool developed by WFP for COVID-19-related supplies is now ready for use after approval by the Ministry of Health. It will allow to capture all supplies upon their arrival in the country, including donations from private donors and entities, and monitor their last mile distribution. This platform is
different from the procurement tool that was developed by WHO and was presented at the previous coordination meeting.

- It is important that partners submit to pamela.onyango@wfp.org and wedian.mohamed@wfp.org information related to supplies coming in the country that the aforementioned tracking tool aims to capture and process. All agencies are therefore encouraged to do so by using the dedicated form that has been circulated.
- Training sessions for the use of the tracking tool are tentatively scheduled on 28 and 30 June as well as 1 July. The Sudan Logistics Cluster is requesting partners to submit to pamela.onyango@wfp.org and wedian.mohamed@wfp.org names of relevant procurement, logistics or programme focal points to be trained during the planned sessions. An email related to this request has already been sent and will be circulated again.

2. Key Findings from the Gaps and Needs Analysis Exercise

- The finalised report of the Gaps and Needs Analysis (GNA) exercise will be shared with WFP country office by the end of next week. Once cleared by WFP, key findings and recommendations from the report will be reviewed at a next coordination meeting.
- The main gap identified through the GNA is the shortage of subsidised fuel which affects both transporters and partners. Administrative constraints such as the access to custom regulations is another challenge raised by partners and which negatively weighs on their ability to import goods.
- Partners have also expressed the need for reinforced coordination at both national and local levels. This aspect will require further analysis by the Logistics Cluster coordinator once deployed in country.
- The Darfur and the Kordofan are the regions with the greatest operational needs.
- Cargo storage and transport are available in sufficient capacity, including in remote areas. The GNA has also revealed that consulted partners have adequate logistics and planning strategies in place.

3. WFP Fuel Access

- Needs in fuel are increasing day by day but WFP confirms that it has enough fuel storage capacity countrywide with a total of around four million litres currently available at different locations.
- Partners are requested to plan and submit well ahead of time and on a monthly basis their fuel requests to WFP. This will in turn allow WFP to be more reactive to partners needs and accommodate the requests placed in a time-sensitive manner.
- Partners who can are also encouraged to set up their own fuel storage capacity of 5,000 – 10,000 litres. This will allow for the provision of greater volumes of fuel at each serving and consequently ease the related workload for WFP by spacing out fuel provisions.
- The price of the fuel sold by WFP is based on the initial cost of purchase, the cost of transportation and the recovery fee added by WFP in order to cover the additional costs incurred by this service. As such, WFP fuel’s price is not tied to the local market’s price and varies depending on where and when the fuel is procured. Prices for the new stock of fuel recently purchased by WFP will be soon circulated.

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- OCHA reported that advocacy work is underway to potentially assign gas stations in Khartoum and some States to the service of the humanitarian community. An official decision by the Government on this matter has not been made yet.
- In the light of UNAMID’s upcoming withdrawal from North Darfur scheduled for October, OCHA has compiled fuel requirements among operating organisations in the region. WFP is looking at increasing its fuel capacity in order to try to meet the monthly cumulated need of 30,000 litres as calculated by OCHA.
- Discussions on the provision of fuel for the generators of UN international staff residences have taken place during the last meeting of the Operation Management Team. WFP will inquire about any conclusions reached on this matter during the meeting.

4. AOB

- Key documents and information products are being consolidated and will be made available on the soon-to-be launched operation webpage of the Logistics Cluster website. Road access constraint maps will also be produced and shared on the website as well as through the mailing list.
- With the approach of the flood and rainy season, the prepositioning of both regular and COVID 19-related response material needs to be soon planned and carried out, especially for hard-to-reach areas.

Contacts

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