Meeting Minutes, 17 December 2020
Khartoum, Sudan

LOCATION
Khartoum, Sudan – Online

DATE
17 December 2020

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
American Refugee Committee (ARC), Concern World Wide, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (ICRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF-Spain), Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Plan International, Practical Action, Première Urgence Internationale (PUI), Shelter Box, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), World Food Programme (WFP), World Vision.

ACTION POINTS
• Any agencies facing challenges in clearances of shipments to contact OCHA

AGENDA
1. Logistics Needs and Gaps
2. Refugee Crisis in Kassala: updates from agencies

1. Logistics Needs and Gaps

• An access survey has been developed and it is covering most of the access constraints as prioritized by the Access Working Group and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT). OCHA shares the link to the access survey at the beginning of each month. In November there was no mention of problem related to shipments. The survey is per agency, each agency to submit one survey.

• Fuel shortage is still being experienced, long queues at the petrol stations. WFP continues to avail fuel to humanitarian agencies at full cost recovery. 57 agencies have valid fuel Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with the World Food Programme (WFP), more requests have been received.

• Storage needs have increased in Khartoum and Gedarif. WFP has increased capacity in Khartoum and Kassala and is in the process of completing the contract for a warehouse in Gedarif.

• WFP does not have temperature-controlled warehouses in Khartoum, Kassala, Gedarif or Hamdayet.

2. Refugee Crisis in Kassala: updates from agencies

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

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- UNICEF is still facing challenges in obtaining various approvals. This will be addressed with OCHA.
- UNICEF focused its intervention on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) supplies. 20mt of plastic tarpaulins and tents were sent to Gedarif, in addition 25mt of Non- Food Items (NFIs) was received from UNICEF hub Dubai and currently on dispatch plan to Gedarif and Kassala.
- UNHCR mentioned the gaps and needs in the current WASH response plan, UNICEF provided a list of supplies to be availed, this list will be reviewed by UNHCR.
- UNHCR and UNICEF discussed the limited water supply in Um Rakuba due to power cuts and limited ground water yield. To address the power outage problem, UNICEF will avail 50KVA to state water cooperation. To professionally asses the ground water potential in the site UNICEF hired a consultant firm. There will be a comprehensive water availability analysis. The consultant firm is also in the process of deploying a consultant.
- UNICEF will support with Oxfam tanks to IOM who are currently working on water and network.
- The meeting between UNICEF and UNHCR identified issues to be addressed by the technical committee. The main issues raised were: that all water points must have WASH committee and partners to engage the community, that there is a need for proper fixing of plastic sheets to ensure privacy and security, that there is a need for daily delivery of water and monitoring of quality.
- There is an urgent need for technical team (World Health Organization – WHO –, UNICEF and UNHCR) to ensure standard compliance by conducting routine water quality assessments.

Practical Action:
- Even though Practical Action is working in the field of development, it is currently leading a consortium which is responding to the refugee crisis.
- Will be involved in vaccination.
- Will also work in WASH to support water tank and bladder.
- Requesting other sister NGOs working in the health area for advice on the transportation of vaccination toolkits and their storage.
- Will also require storage space, currently no working figures.
- To discuss bilaterally with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) for support/partnership.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) – SPAIN
- Currently running screening in Hamadeyat in the market and reception centre.
- In WASH, carrying out water trucking about 30 to 50 cubic meters.
- Constructing latrines and showers in Hamdayet camp.
- Have main storage warehouse in Khartoum, use own freezers while transporting medications and use refrigerated trucks

Norwegian Church Aid
- In the process of opening an office in Gedarif.
- Transported dignity kits and NFIs to the camps, yet to be distributed.
- Expecting shipment for WASH items, and in the process of contracting an aircraft. Some challenges were faced getting exemptions from Government bodies.
- Has procured medical and lab items in Talodi and Abujebeha for COVID-19 and will plan to send before end of the year.

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- Challenges in procuring medicines locally as suppliers are reporting lack/shortages. Will plan to procure internationally next year.
- Will discuss bilaterally with OCHA on the challenges with exemptions.

**WFP**

- Interagency mission to Teneba the new proposed camp side, waiting for the results.
- Upon approval of the new camp side, WFP will plan the set-up of a Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) for the storage of NFIs in the location.
- 1454 mt of food commodities had been delivered to Um Rakuba and Village 8.

**American Refugee Committee (ARC)**

- The agency is in the process of changing its name to ALIGHT.

**United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)**

- Low numbers of passengers on the Kassala -Um Rakuba route, this is expected to increase.

Next meeting will be held on 7 January 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

**Contacts**

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