Meeting Minutes, 11 March 2021
Khartoum, Sudan

LOCATION
Khartoum, Sudan – Online

DATE
11 March 2021

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
CARE International (CI), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), International Aid Services (IAS), Mercy Corps, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Medair, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), Welthungerhilfe (WHH), SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONAL (SI), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) and Médecins Sans Frontières -Spain (MSF).

ACTION POINTS
• Organisations having questions on visa applications to contact United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).
• Organisations to share status on current warehouse capacity, in preparation for the rainy season

AGENDA
1. Logistics Needs and Gaps - in preparation for the rainy season
2. Refugee Crisis in Eastern Sudan and Geneina Crisis: updates from agencies
3. AOB – Presentation by UNICEF on COVAX

1. Logistics Needs and Gaps – Preparedness for rainy season

• Fuel remains a key challenge for all transporters. WFP provides fuel to agencies on a full cost recovery basis and is currently supplying 67 organisations.

• Warehouse storage capacity is proving to be a challenge for all parties, including WFP. As the prepositioning for the rainy season progresses, coordination on warehousing between partners is increasingly important. The Logistics Cluster kindly asks organisations with storage facilities in country to share information on their capacity such as total storage space and current space available.

• The Logistics Cluster encouraged partners to consolidate their requirements and preposition stock now, as it is expected that physical road access will become increasingly difficult during the rainy season. The Logistics Cluster will share a Physical Access Constraints map presenting all areas that experienced flooding last year. The map can be accessed here.

https://logcluster.org/ops/sdn20a
UNICEF is currently working to consolidate the prepositioning efforts and expects to have the complete plan in place by the end of the month. This will inform transport requirements for dispatches in April.

WFP noted that dispatches in April might experience delays due to deteriorating road conditions.

2. Ethiopian refugee situation and the Geneina crisis

UNICEF

- UNICEF continues to deliver supplies to both locations Gedarif and Geneina.

UNHAS

- UNHAS reports that one of the large planes (50-seater) encountered a bird strike, which has resulted in decreased capacity. Other air resources have been mobilised to ensure consistent access to Darfur, however extended travel time and alternates routes are to be expected.

OCHA

- All organisations having questions on visa applications can reach out to OCHA directly for support.

3. AOB

- UNICEF presented an introduction to COVAX and an overview of COVID vaccines arriving in Sudan.

The next meeting will be held on 25 March 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Contacts

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