LOCATION: Amman
DATE: 23 November 2016
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS: OCHA, UNICEF, IOM, WFP, UNFPA, NRC, UNMM, IFRC, ACTED, World Vision, CARE

ACTION POINTS:
- Number of weekly convoys through Ramtha to be increased in light of ongoing winterisation efforts.
- Organisations to communicate to the Logistics Cluster what type of logistical training they would be interested in receiving.

AGENDA:
1. Regional Access Constraints
2. Cross-Border Operations (Via Ramtha)
3. Inter-Agency Humanitarian Convoys inside Syria
4. Air Operations
5. Plans for the First Quarter of 2017
6. Winterization
7. Trainings
8. A.O.B

1. Regional Access Constraints

- **Turkey**
  - Bab Al Hawa and Bab Al Salama crossing points from Turkey to northern and western Syria are operational.
  - Nusaybin crossing point is closed due to the current insecurity.

- **Jordan**
  - The Ramtha crossing-point is operational.

- **Syria**
  - The Syrian ports of Tartous and Latakia are fully operational.

- **Lebanon**
  - Entry points from Lebanon are fully operational.

2. Cross-Border Operations (via Ramtha)

- In view of the upcoming winterization, the number of convoys from Jordan/Ramtha border crossing needs to be increased.

- An assessment of Fishkahbour-Semalka crossing-point from Iraq to al Hassekeh Governorate in Syria was carried out in July 2016 to ascertain the procedures and formalities required for transporting humanitarian supplies to Syria. The crossing has been used for small convoys, while larger relief convoys are not allowed passage, as the Government of Syria will not permit entrance to those without complete clearance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Information on Fishkabur crossing procedures will be validated and updated next week.

3. Inter-Agency Humanitarian Convoys inside Syria
• Eight Inter Agency Humanitarian Convoys were carried out in October 2016 and one so far in November. Delays with approvals and insecurity remain the main constraints.

4. Air Operations

• Since the commencement of the airlift operation in July 2016, 184 rotations have been carried out from Damascus to Qamishli. Currently, two rotations per day are conducted. The Logistics Cluster has requested additional funding to deploy a second aircraft into Syria and increase the number of daily airlifts from two to three per day. As per current funding, the airlift operation is expected to continue until mid-January 2017.

• Amman- Deir Ez-Zor airdrops: 154 rotations have been conducted so far. Airdrops are ongoing but dependent on weather conditions.

5. Plans for the First Quarter of 2017

• Sectors/lead agencies were requested to prepare plans for the first quarter of 2017. It was suggested that a three-month overview should initially be prepared with details on the expected number of trucks for that period. A one-month plan should be prepared once more definite plans are in place and the final plan submitted two weeks prior to the movements. This will have to be confirmed by the agency sending the cargo and the Logistics Cluster at the two week mark to ensure notifications are correct.

• One of the constraints foreseen is the capacity of the Government of Jordan to sustain an increase in the number of convoys from two to three per week. Although there have been instances in the past when three convoys per week were conducted, this load is not sustainable on a protracted period.

• It was observed that current load plans at Ramtha do not exceed the maximum number of trucks per convoy (21). The Logistics Cluster will therefore continue to support agencies on a first-come first-served basis. Should the plan exceeds the maximum numbers of trucks per convoy, the Logistics Cluster will inform OCHA and the sector leads, so that prioritisation can be discussed, or a third convoy added.

6. Winterisation

• Agencies were requested to prioritize deliveries of winter items, taking into consideration expected delays due to procurement process

• 60 trucks with winterization items are expected to be finalised the first week of December.

7. Trainings

• Training sessions in Warehouse and Commodity Management will be planned for Jordan.

• Agencies were asked to communicate to the Logistics Cluster the trainings they would be interested in receiving.

8. A.O.B

• The results of the Lessons Learned Exercise conducted for the Whole of Syria in July/August have been published and circulated. One of the main requests was to increase the number of IM products provided.
The report is available on the Logistics Cluster website at the following link: 

- UNSC Resolution 2258 is expected to be officially renewed on 7 January 17. A suggestion has been put forward that the wording should be clarified on the inclusion of NGOs. This will be submitted to the Cross-Border Task Force.

- Participants were reminded that SOPs, maps and operational information can be found on the Logistics Cluster website: http://www.logcluster.org/ops/syr12a

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