

LOCATION: Syria Relief, Antakya

DATE: 16 January 2017

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS: OCHA, Syria Relief, WFP, BIG HEART, Handicap International, Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), GOAL, IRC, UNMM

ACTION POINTS:

- The Logistics Cluster to share before the end of January a list of humanitarian cargo prohibited from being exported from Turkey into Syria.
- OCHA to get clarification from Government of Turkey about registration processes for new INGOs and tax exemption processes.
- The Logistics Cluster to request partners to share their list of participants for the Warehouse Management Training and Procurement Training. Logistics Cluster to also check with partners if they want to have these two trainings back-to-back in the same week (these trainings are dependent on interest).
- OCHA to follow up with authorities regarding the suspension of scanning of loaded Syrian trucks.
- Partners will share contact information of their logistics focal points with the Logistics Cluster, and once completed, the information will be circulated among partners.
- When transporting less than a full truck load of cargo, partners should request their transporters to provide smaller trucks equivalent to the shipment from both Turkish and Syrian sides.

AGENDA:

1. General Updates
2. Regional access
3. Update on Logistics Cluster activities
4. Trainings
5. Customs
6. A.O.B.

1. General Updates

- OCHA had a meeting with the new Deputy Governor of Hatay two weeks ago. According to OCHA, the suspension of scanning loaded Syrian trucks is only temporary, initially for one month, due to the increase of humanitarian cargo.
- OCHA have applied for an extension of the fuel export waiver for 2017. Fuel transshipment requires the supplier/transporter to have a fuel export certificate, as required by the authorities.
- OCHA is working with the Turkish authorities to create a list of approved humanitarian cargo for cross-border operations.

2. Regional Access

- UN Resolution 2332 (2016) gives UN organizations approval to continue with cross-border operations through Bab al-Salam, Bab al-Hawa, Al Yarubiyah (Faysh Khabur) and Al-Ramtha crossing points.

- In Turkey, both Bab Al-Salam (BAS) and Bab Al-Hawa (BAH) crossings are open and operational for commercial and UN cargo crossing.
- Airlifts from Damascus to Qamishly continue as Nusaybin border from Turkey is still closed. However, due to funding constraints, as of 14 January rotations have been reduced from 3 to 2 flights a day, and the second aircraft previously brought in to increase capacity will be released by 19 January. As of Monday 16 January, 281 flights to Qamishli have been conducted on behalf of 9 organizations.
- A new request has been submitted by the HCT in Syria to the Syrian government for the reopening of the Nusaybin border crossing. This will allow partners to access Al Hassakeh governorate on a large scale and at reasonable cost.
- Humanitarian organizations are now able to provide assistance to affected populations in Eastern Aleppo City through normal operations.
- Only one inter-agency convoy was conducted in December to Khan El Shih, and one has been conducted so far in January to Moadamyeh in Rural Damascus.

3. Update on Logistics Cluster activities in Turkey

- A total of 9,702 Syrian and 9,663 Turkish trucks have been transhipped through Bab al Hawa and Bab al Salam from 2014-2016.
- A Logistics Capacity Assessment focused on South-Eastern Turkey is ongoing. Partners are asked and encouraged to continue sharing valuable information with the Logistics Cluster as part of the Assessment.

4. Training

- The Logistics Cluster plans to organize a Warehouse Management Training in Arabic in Antakya during early March. Partners have agreed that this gives them sufficient time to organize the approval and movement of participants for this training. The Logistics Cluster also plans to include a session on setting up and dismantling MSUs.
- The Logistics Cluster is also planning to conduct a 2-day Procurement Training either in Gaziantep or Antakya during March. Depending on the feedback from partners, this training could be organized either in English or Arabic.
- For those who are interested in doing an advanced training in Procurement, CIPS (Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply) training is an internationally accredited training and can be found at the following link: <http://www.training.undp.dk/>

5. Customs

- Documents on Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) cross-border operations, importation/exportation processes, and tax exemption processes have been shared with partners. TRC has indicated that at this moment it would be preferable if organizations applied for the tax exemption directly to the Ministry of Finance, and not through TRC.
- OCHA is working with TRC and AFAD on creating a list of allowed humanitarian cargo.

A.O.B

- A one-page flow chart on the transshipment operation for BAH was shared with partners.
- The Emergency Preparedness Document is being finalized. The document will be shared with partners soon.
- It was suggested that representatives from TRC should also be invited to future meetings.
- When transporting less than a full truck load of cargo, partners should request their transporters to provide smaller trucks equivalent to the shipment from both Turkish and Syrian sides

The next Antakya Logistics Cluster meeting will be mid-February at the IRC office. An exact date and time will be shared nearer the time.

Contacts:

Eva Gandrus	<i>Gaziantep Logistics Cluster Officer</i>	eva.gandrus@wfp.org
Myron Kamensa	<i>Hatay Logistics Cluster Officer</i>	myron.kamensa@wfp.org
Finne Lucey	<i>Whole of Syria Logistics Cluster Coordinator</i>	finne.lucey@wfp.org
Samuel Terefe	<i>Whole of Syria Deputy Logistics Cluster Coordinator</i>	samuel.terefe@wfp.org
Alessandra Piccolo	<i>Information Management Officer</i>	alessandra.piccolo@wfp.org