LOCATION: Damascus

DATE: 10 November 2016

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS: UNRWA, WHO, UNHCR, FAO, IOM, Premiere Urgence, UNICEF and WFP

ACTION POINTS:

- Logistics Cluster and partners to provide additional information on the Yaroubiya/Rabiaa crossing point from Iraq to Syria.
- Agencies requiring fuel for winterization purposes are reminded to submit SRFs to syria.clustercargo.org so that plans and permissions may be submitted.

AGENDA:

1. Regional access constraints
2. Cross-border operations
3. Inter-Agency Humanitarian convoys inside Syria
4. Air operations
5. Winterization
6. Contingency Planning: Ar Raqqa, Mosul, Eastern Aleppo
7. AOB

1. Regional access constraints

- Turkey
  - Both Bab Al Hawa (BAH) and Bab Al Salama (BAS) crossing points from Turkey to Northern and North-Western Syria are operational.
  - The Nusaybin – Qamishli crossing point continues to be inaccessible due to the ongoing security situation.

- Lebanon:
  - All official crossing-points from Lebanon to Syria are operational.

- Jordan:
  - Ramtha border crossing is operational.

- Syria:
  - Tartous and Lattakia ports are fully operational.

2. Cross-border operations

- The number of convoys from Jordan to southern Syria will need to be increased in light of the upcoming winterization activities. The Syria Logistics Cluster Coordinator will hold a meeting in Amman.

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during the third week of November. Organisations will be requested to provide information regarding the quantities they expect to send from Jordan to Syria over the next three months to allow proper planning from the Logistics Cluster.

- In Turkey, BAH hub is operating six days a week, transhipping 25 trucks per day. There is a potential to scale up this operation to 40 trucks a day. The number of trucks transhipped at BAS has also increased compared to past months due to the ongoing winterization activities.

- A Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) will be carried out in Turkey in the coming months.

3. Inter-Agency Humanitarian Convoys inside Syria

- Only eight interagency convoys were conducted during October.

- Due to access constraints the convoy to Wadi Burda (Rural Damascus) was cancelled on 9 November after loaded trucks had reached the last checkpoint.

- Based on a new circular from MOLA, facilitation letters of health supplies for convoys originating from Homs should now be signed by the Ministry of Health in Damascus. This means that after approval, original facilitation letters must be sent from Damascus to Homs before loading can begin.

4. Air operations

- Damascus-Qamishli airlift: as of 9 November, 161 flights to Qamishli have been conducted. Approval from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has been obtained to continue with the airlift operation up to the end of the year. 89 additional flights are expected to be carried out between now and the end of the year.

- Amman-Deir-Ez-Zor Airdrops: as of 9 November, WFP has conducted 153 airdrops. WHO, UNICEF, and ICRC have also been able to send critical life-saving items to Deir Ez-Zor through this operation.

5. Winterisation

- Agencies requiring fuel for winterization purposes are requested to submit SRFs to syria.clustercargo@wfp.org so that plans and permissions may be submitted. This WFP-procured fuel will be made available on full-cost recovery basis.
6. Contingency planning: Ar Raqqa, Al Baab, Eastern Aleppo

- Ar Raqqa: Different scenarios are being looked at by the different sectors jointly with OCHA to prepare a contingency plan. The Logistics Cluster will discuss with partners to address logistics gaps based on the contingency plan.

- Eastern Aleppo City: the request to conduct a humanitarian inter-agency convoy to Eastern Aleppo city has not been approved by MOFA for November. The main challenge at the moment in West Aleppo seems to be warehouse space. However, West Aleppo is still accessed by trucks and partners are prepositioning stock for a possible response for Eastern Aleppo from Homs, Latakia and Tartous.

- Mosul Refugee influx: a low number of refugees have crossed from Iraq into Syria, to Al Hasakeh Governorate. The only access at the moment to Hassakeh is through the Damascus-Qamishli airlift.

7. AOB

- Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP): reviews of the projects submitted for the logistics sector are being conducted. The Logistics Cluster Coordinator will travel to Amman on the third week of November to present and defend the projects.

- Training: a warehouse management training will be conducted in Gaziantep at the end of November. Over 45 participants are expected to participate in this training. Agencies are invited to inform the Logistics Cluster regarding the type of trainings they wish to have so that plans can be made for 2017.


- Quarterly infographics have been produced for Syria, Turkey and Jordan.

Contacts

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