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# Meeting Minutes, 30 June 2020

Syria Operation, Gaziantep



*This is an unofficial UN meeting record and should not be considered as a verbatim account of the UN meeting or position.*

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<b>LOCATION</b>	Gaziantep, Turkey
<b>DATE</b>	30 June 2020
<b>CHAIR</b>	Logistics Cluster
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED), Big Heart, Cooperative Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Food For Peace, Global Communities, GOAL, Hand in Hand for Aid and Development (HIHFAD), Hand in Hand for Aid and Development (HIHFAD), Ihsan for Relief and Development (IHSAN), International Medical Corps, Malteser International, Maram Foundation, People In Need (PIN), Relief International (RI), Save The Children, Syria International Regional Forum, Turkish Red Crescent (TRC), Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations (UOSSM), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Vision (WVI).
<b>ACTION POINTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Partners to provide final feedback to the Logistics Cluster by noon 3 July regarding the advocacy note on logistics needs.</li><li>• Finalised advocacy note to be shared with OCHA by Friday 3 July..</li><li>• The mid-year user satisfaction survey link will be shared via the mailing list.</li><li>• The Terms of Reference for a cluster co-facilitator position will be shared via the mailing list for organisations' feedback.</li></ul>
<b>AGENDA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. COVID-19 updates</li><li>2. Cross-border updates</li><li>3. Gaps and Needs</li><li>4. AOB</li></ol>

## 1. COVID-19 updates

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- Travel restrictions in Turkey have been lifted and we expect the staff movement for humanitarian operations to return to normal for the foreseeable future.
- The Deputy Regional Humanitarian Coordinator has designated Dr. Vinod Varma from WHO as Supply Chain Coordinator, who will be responsible for validating all COVID-19 related requests for international procurement made by organisations on the [WHO Supply Portal](#) for the northwest Syria response.
- The cluster reminded partners that any humanitarian organisation may sign up to WFP's [COVID-19 Emergency Service Marketplace](#). All services are provided on a free-to-user basis.

- Partners are invited to consult the Logistics Cluster website which has a dedicated page for COVID-19: <https://logcluster.org/COVID-19>

## 2. Cross-border updates

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- In June to date, the Logistics Cluster has coordinated the transshipment of 1,579 Syrian trucks, facilitating the delivery of 33,390mt of assistance. For further info, please see [here](#) (MTs) and [here](#) (number of trucks)
- Humanitarian transshipment figures have remained high throughout June because of UN agencies' prepositioning efforts.
- This is due to the fact that most UN agencies are planning to preposition two months' worth of stock inside Syria before 10 July.
- According to agency reports, 376 trucks are to be transhipped before 10 July.
- All Syrian trucks required for the UN transshipment operations have been insured for Turkish roads.

## 3. Gaps and Needs

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- Partners confirmed there are two major logistics gaps and needs:
  - Capacity of the zero-points of the border crossings;
  - Procurement.

### Transshipment

- Partners confirmed that the zero-points of the border crossings at Reyhanli and Kilis are at maximum capacity.
- Partners requested that the UN transshipment hubs need to be made available to I/NGOs.
- For the above, a transition period would be required to handover the management of the transshipment hubs to an I/NGO.
- Further discussion on the transition period would be required to map out details.

### Procurement

- The Logistics Cluster has already been in bilateral discussions with UN agencies, I/NGOs, the NGO Forum and OCHA regarding the establishment of a Procurement Working Group that would be co-led by one I/NGO and one UN agency.
- Partners have also separately requested OCHA for the Procurement Working Group to be established as it would allow members to identify issues and map a way forward for scale-up.

### Coordination and Information Management (IM)

- Coordination and IM continue to be considered essential to ensure an effective humanitarian logistics response.

### I/NGO Advocacy note

- The NGO Forum based in Gaziantep has written to the Logistics Cluster with a list of issues that would need to be addressed including the two abovementioned points and others.

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- Partners broadly agreed with the message on the advocacy note on supply chain issues, nonetheless a copy of the note will be shared via the mailing list for final feedback and validation by Friday 3 July noon.
- Once feedback is consolidated, the note will be shared with OCHA on Friday, 3 July.

## 4. Operational Updates

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- Partners advised that despite the economic situation in Syria, changes in storage and transportation costs have not yet been noted.
- There are however concerns that maintenance for trucks may result in future price increases in transportation, as spare parts for trucks are imported. It is estimated that maintenance makes up 30 percent of the total transportation cost.

## 4. AOB

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- Partners requested that the Logistics Cluster to explore possible options for co-facilitation of the cluster.
- Regarding the above, a Terms of Reference will be shared with partners before the next cluster meeting for feedback before further consultation.
- A mid-year Logistics Cluster User Satisfaction survey will be circulated via the mailing list. This will give partners the opportunity to voice their views on the cluster's performance so far this year, and a space to provide feedback and/or suggestions on ways to improve performance.
- Partners are encouraged to voice any concerns, challenges or areas that require advocacy to resolve humanitarian logistics challenges with the Logistics Cluster.

## Contacts

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