
Meeting Minutes, 28 July 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.

LOCATION	Gaziantep, Turkey
DATE	28 July 2020
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	Americares, Cooperative Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) Early Recovery Cluster (ERC) Global Communities, Hand in Hand for Aid and Development (HIHFAD) Horan Foundation, IHR, Ihsan for Relief and Development (IHSAN), Maram Foundation for Relief and Development (MFRD), Mercy Corps, People in Need (PIN), Shafak, Solidarités International (SI), Syria International Regional Forum (SIRF), Syria NGO Forum, United National Development Program (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), World Vision (WVI).
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partners requested to share available warehouse locations and capacities in northwest Syria with the Logistics Cluster• Partners are requested to share their commercial transshipment figures on a monthly basis• The Logistics Cluster will share Humanitarian Deconfliction Notification presentation and SOP• Partners are requested to participate in the mid-year user satisfaction survey link
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. New UNSCR2. Cross-Border operation3. Gaps and Needs4. AOB

1. New UNSCR

- The UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2533 was adopted on 11 July 2020, extending the period for the use of Bab al-Hawa (BAH) border crossing for UN transshipment activities until 10 July 2021. The Bab al-Salam (BAS) crossing has not been extended.
- The Concept of Operations has been updated accordingly and can be found [online](#).

- Due to the new UNSCR, the Logistics Cluster will not operate in Kilis and the ex-Logistics Cluster hub is now available for partners to rent. The Logistics Cluster can facilitate contact if any organisations have an interest for the BAS hub.
- OCHA's CivMil Officer made a presentation about deconfliction notification procedure. Contact details, SOP and presentation will be shared by the Logistics Cluster.

2. Cross-Border operation

- The Logistics Cluster confirmed that the BAH hub has the capacity to absorb BAS traffic.
- The current transshipment hub capacity at BAH is up to 3,000 trucks per month, although the highest number of transhipped trucks per month since 2014, the beginning of the transshipment operation, has been 1,800 trucks.
- The transshipment hub at BAH requires an increase in staffing. This in turn requires physical hub expansion to ensure the continued effective implementation of COVID-19 preventive measures and physical distancing.
- NGOs are requested to share their commercial truck figures on a monthly basis with the Logistics Cluster to analyse cross-border activities.

3. Gaps and Needs

- Due to the closure of the BAS hub, access conditions to Northern Aleppo and Afrin will have the following impact:
 - Delayed shipments
 - Increasingly complex logistics and related costs
 - Transport on roads in poor conditions
- The overuse of roads in already poor conditions and the use of additional trucks will cause conditions to deteriorate further.
- Partners identified physical access as the main future gap and a multi-sectoral issue.
- Advocacy on the current/emerging needs in terms of road rehabilitation needs vis-à-vis the donor community and the humanitarian leadership was also requested.
- Partners also stress the need for roads assessments and data collection.
- The Logistics Cluster, the OCHA Access Working Group, the OCHA Civil Military Coordination Unit and the Early Recovery Cluster are working together to monitor and assess physical accessibility of humanitarian supply routes in the northwest.
- Partners requested the Logistics Cluster to share the physical access constraints map.
- The border-crossing status map is accessible [online](#).
- Partners were requested to share information on warehouses for rent in North West Syria.

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4. AOB

- To ensure a broader information exchange, partners highlighted the need for a Strategy Advisory Group to provide:
 - Logistics Cluster strategy direction
 - Capacity-building needs
 - Potential scale-up
 - Logistics Cluster Co-facilitation ToR
- The NGO Forum Coordinator informed of an ongoing Procurement WG Expectations survey and encouraged partner to [participate](#).
- The Logistics Cluster reminded partners to complete the mid-year user satisfaction [survey](#).

Contacts

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