

LOCATION: Damascus, Syria

DATE: 10 September 2014

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS: Action Contre la Faim (ACF), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), GOPA Worldwide Consultants (GOPA), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Medical Corps (IMC), UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Oxfam, Premiere Urgence, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO).

ACTION POINTS:

- The Logistics Cluster to share the August physical inventory reports with relevant partners for signature.
- Participants to submit their Service Request Forms (SRFs) for upcoming convoys once confirmed by OCHA.
- The Logistics Cluster will share a schedule for planned meetings in Tartous.
- The Logistics Cluster to share the translated customs bill of 2006 as part of the information brief to partners.

AGENDA:

1. Humanitarian Update
2. Common Services Update
3. Joint Humanitarian Convoys
4. Qamishly Airlifts
5. Organizations' Updates and Any other Business (AOB)

Humanitarian Update

Syria

- Inaccessible areas at present include Deir Ezzour and Raqqa.

Neighbouring Countries

Jordan

- Some agencies (UNHCR and UNICEF) continue to use the Jaber/Naseeb border crossing for regular cargo transport into Syria. Trucks complete customs at the Naseeb crossing and then proceed to onward destinations via Sweida city.
- Overland joint humanitarian convoys are continuing from Jordan to Syria via the Ramtha crossing. The next convoy is scheduled for 11 September.

Lebanon

- In case of disruptions from Beirut to the Lebanon/Syria Al Arida Border Crossing via Tripoli, potential alternative routes have been proposed (by-passing Tripoli).

The alternative routes are:

- Albahsas Tripoli - Dahr Alain – Zgartha – Majdlaya – Almah – Bedawi - Deir Ammar - Abdaih - Arida Border.
- Chekka-Bechmezeen - Chaneen-Zgharta - Majdlaya-Almah - Bedawi-Deir Ammar- Abdaih - Arida Border.
- Please see the following map link for easier reference: <http://goo.gl/maps/eZbZF>
- **NOTE: Partners are to consult with their respective security units before travelling to the Al Arida border.**

Turkey

- The Nusaybin border post will possibly be opened in the short term. Agencies need to be aware, and notify the cluster if they want to be involved in any convoy operations.

Common Services Update

Transport

- The Logistics Cluster continues to provide free transport of humanitarian relief items inside Syria.
- The Cluster continues to offer free overland transport (not including custom clearance) from Lebanon/Jordan to Syria.
- During August, the Logistics Cluster transported 9,017 m³ of humanitarian relief items to different areas in Damascus, rural Damascus, Qamishli, Tartous, Idlib, and Homs on behalf of ACF, FAO, ICRC, IMC, IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP and WHO.

Storage

- Over 4,669 m³ of inter-agency cargo has been stored at the Cluster's common warehouse during August.
- Partners were advised that some cargo has been stored in the warehouse for a period exceeding three months and some cargo up to nine months. It has been requested that partners provide an action plan regarding the movement of this cargo. Some partners already responded and made arrangements with the Cluster.
- The August physical inventory exercise has been completed and inventory reports are to be shared with partners for signature. Partners were reminded that this is a mandatory exercise to ensure greater accountability and to ensure that stock is managed more effectively.
- In order to facilitate the movement of relief items into locations previously not reached/served, participants were encouraged to share their requirements and the Cluster will advise on the possibility of fulfilling additional storage requests/needs.

Joint Humanitarian Convoys**Accomplished Convoys:**

- The Kah Convoy (Idlib governorate) has been completed and with over 1,300 m³ of relief cargo transported on behalf of UNICEF, IOM, UNFPA, WFP and WHO.

Upcoming Convoys:

- Two upcoming inter-agency humanitarian convoys are in the preparation stages. Convoys to Adra (rural Damascus) & Eksem (rural Idlib) from Tartous and Lattakia are planned to take place on 18 September pending OCHA negotiations.
- Two overland convoys are planned from Amman and one from Turkey targeting 20,000 beneficiaries. A cross border convoy from Jordan is planned to take place on 11 September.
- Logistics staff in Syria and Jordan are coordinating which locations are being reached (especially in southern Syria) to avoid overlap between overland and cross-line deliveries.

Qamishly Airlifts

- 32 Airlifts took place between July and August with 2,753m³ of food and non-food items (NFIs) transported (including WFP, UNICEF, ICRC and ACF).
- Partners were asked to notify the Cluster if there are further requirements for transports from Damascus to Qamishli, to ascertain the need for future airlifts.

Organizations' Update and Any Other Business (AOB)

- A participant indicated continuing delays in the processing of facilitation letters, and indicated that the Lattakia Governorate focal point currently requests the start/end dates of facilitation letters left blank, which is not in line with the current process.
- OCHA advised all participants that security escorts should not be accepted as indicated by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

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Lebanon

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Jordan

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