UKRAINE – Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Kyiv, Ukraine
DATE: 10 December 2015
CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS: Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Caritas Ukraine, AIDS Alliance, All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (AUCECB), GOAL, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Ukrainian Orthodox Church, UNICEF, WHO, Rinat Akhmetov Foundation (RAF), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), WFP, Medecins du Monde (MDM).

ACTION POINTS:
• Logistics Cluster to share presentation used during the meeting
• Logistics Cluster to share contact details of Lessons Learned Mission participants
• Logistics Cluster to update SOP

AGENDA:
1. Operational update
2. Debrief of the Lessons Learned mission
3. AOB

1. Operational update

• The Logistics Cluster informed that cluster activities will continue until June 2016.

• In November 2015 the Logistics Cluster facilitated transportation of 1,278 mt (1,606 m³) of humanitarian cargo to Donetsk and Luhansk.

• The Logistics Cluster informed that transport is continuing without interruption.

• One NGO representative informed that they are experiencing several delays at the check-points of Zolote, Rubizhne, Lysychansk and Troitske, from 40 minutes to 4 hours; convoys have been stopped and asked to provide additional documents for the goods transported. In a number of cases the Civil-Military Coordination (CIMIC) representative has been contacted and assistance was provided with solving these issues. Another participant confirmed that they have experienced similar cases on NGCA check-points with their cargo.

• Procedures for crossing with the humanitarian cargo from government-controlled areas (GCAs) to non-government controlled areas (NGCAs) were provided during previous coordination meetings and remain unchanged.

• The Logistics Cluster reminded all organisations on the details of the paperwork required to have cargo transported from GCAs to NGCAs, namely:

  • Ukrainian MoSP permission (old procedure)
    ▪ Donor and Consignee – two different legal entities;
    ▪ Consignee has to be legally registered in GCA;
    ▪ Consignee has to be registered with MoSP;
    ▪ MoSP Decree on recognition of cargo as humanitarian aid.

  • Authorization from NGCA authorities:
    ▪ Logistics Cluster to provide truck driver details latest 48h prior to the convoy departure;

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The Requesting organisation to obtain Authorization Letter from NGCA authorities before the convoy departure date.

The Logistics Cluster reminded participants that meetings of the commission taking decisions on granting humanitarian aid status to the cargo as well as humanitarian receiver status to the organisations take place weekly on Fridays. Decrees approved at those meetings are published on Mondays. Therefore, it takes one week minimum, with all documents in order and duly submitted, to obtain the decree.

The Logistics Cluster asked organisations to ensure that they would be able to obtain permission for transit through DPR before submitting SRF for cargo transportation to Luhansk.

The Logistics Cluster reminded the details of the requirements for organisations included in the MoSP simplified procedure list, namely:

- **Authorization from GCA authorities:**
  - Organisation is to be in the list of the MoSP Decree No 975 as of 30 Sep 2015;
  - MoSP decree on recognition of cargo as humanitarian aid is not required;
  - Organisation can send the cargo to itself.

- **Authorization from NGCA authorities:**
  - Authorization from NGCA authorities is to be obtained following the same scheme mentioned above.

Participants were informed that the Access Constrains Map was updated and it is available on the Logistics Cluster website [http://www.logcluster.org/map/ukraine-access-constraints-map-25-november-2015](http://www.logcluster.org/map/ukraine-access-constraints-map-25-november-2015)

One of main updates concerned the road from Donetsk to Luhansk passing through Krasniy Luch. According to the information from the media, this road will be closed from 1 December due to bad and dangerous road conditions.

Since the situation changes very often the Access Constrains Map is to be constantly updated. Organisations were requested to kindly inform the Logistics Cluster on any updates which they may find useful to include in the map.

### 2. Debrief of the Lessons Learned Mission

Representatives of the Lessons Learned Mission (LLM) informed participants that some preliminary findings on Logistics Cluster performance in Ukraine have been collected already and can be summarised in the below:

- Operational gaps have been identified and an adequate strategy developed to address them.
- Participants and key stakeholders are generally satisfied with the work of the Logistics Cluster. The Logistics Cluster focus on facilitating and coordinating convoys from GCA to NGCA was commended and organisations acknowledged the importance of the Logistics Cluster in this regards and encouraged to continue with this
approach. Especially the Logistics Cluster work on documentation and procedures to clear items on both sides and facilitating movements across the contact line was acknowledge as key.

- The LLM identified a few points were the operation could be improved, namely:
  - Overall humanitarian coordination between centre and field.
  - Need to enhance internal coordination and discussions, among humanitarian actors, prior to strategic meetings with key authorities.
  - Clarification of the Logistics Cluster role and responsibility in the inter-cluster framework, more specifically in regards to access negotiations and convoys movements.

- Representatives of the Lessons Learned Mission shared their contacts with participants for any further feedback or comment on the Logistic Cluster operation in Ukraine.
- Mission report will be published on the Logistic Cluster website.

3. AOB

- Some participants asked if the Logistics Cluster could be registered as legal entity so that it would be able to registered with MoSP as humanitarian cargo recipient. Participants were reminded that the Logistics Cluster is always working under the umbrella of WFP and is never registered as a legal entity. This procedure has been approved be all UN executives as well as by humanitarian organisation.
- Some participants asked how they can be added to the MoSP simplified procedure list. The Logistics Cluster explained that to apply to be included in the list, organisation must have conducted several deliveries to the NGCA following the standard procedure. The Logistics Cluster can assist with the application form and share the list of documents to be submitted. The Logistic Cluster emphasised that there is no set criteria on the volume of cargo that can be sent to NGCA prior to application.
- The Logistics Cluster Coordinator will be out of the country from 18 December 2015 until 12 January 2016.

*The next Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will be held in January 2016*

**Contacts:**

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