Situation Overview

- The overall security situation in the Eastern Conflict Area of Ukraine remains volatile during the reporting period of 29 February – 31 March 2016 (hereinafter – “reporting period”).

- As per WFP press release, conflict in eastern Ukraine has left around 1.5 million people hungry, including almost 300,000 people who are severely food insecure and in need of immediate food assistance.

- Access to Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCAs) remains challenging. Humanitarian actors are facing challenges when obtaining authorisation from the NGCAs de-facto authorities to transport goods and negotiations are ongoing to address this issue.

- The checkpoints are often closing for uncertain periods of time, lasting up to 3 days in some cases. Very often, closures of the checkpoints as well administrative procedures requested by the checkpoints personnel impede convoys’ arrangements.

- The Logistics Cluster Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been updated and is available at the following link: http://www.logcluster.org/document/sop-standard-operating-procedures-warehousing-transport-logistics-services-ukr.


Coordination

- Coordination meetings have been organised in Kiev bi-weekly.

- The Logistics Cluster has been assisting humanitarian actors by streamlining the complex procedures required for each transport by undertaking the administrative requirements on behalf of individual organisations, providing a UN umbrella to facilitate access for NGO cargo, and promoting recognition of convoys at checkpoints.

Road Transport and Access

- Since its activation in March 2015, the Logistics Cluster facilitated transportation of 6,786 m3 (3,812 mt) in of humanitarian cargo to the Non-Government Controlled Areas (NGCAs) during the reporting period.

- From 29 February till 31 March 2016, the Logistics Cluster facilitated transportation of approximately 274 m3 (172 mt) of humanitarian cargo to NGCAs in Eastern Ukraine.

- Transport services of humanitarian cargo to NGCAs are ongoing, with more than 260 mt (1,200 m3) of relief items in the pipeline.

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As per recent OCHA update, on 31 March the Government of Ukraine opened Zolote checkpoint, a new transport route in Luhanska Oblast connecting Lysychansk, Hirske (both GCAs) and Pervomaisk (NGCA). The Government’s projected capacity of the Zolote checkpoint is 5,000 individuals and 1,500 cars per day. However, shortly after its opening the Luhansk Governor announced the closure of the checkpoint.

Storage

- The warehouse in Dnipropetrovsk is used for consolidation of cargo before forwarding humanitarian goods to the Eastern Conflict Area.
- From 29 February to 31 March 2016, 105 mt (189 m³) of humanitarian cargo from UNHCR and DRC have been accepted to the Logistics Cluster facilitated warehouse in Dnipropetrovsk.

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