Vanuatu – Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: Vanuatu
DATE: 26 March 2015
CHAIR: NDMO Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS: Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Australian Defense Force (DFAT), Christian Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, Consulting Vanuatu, DFAT, DHL, HK Logistics, International Medical Force, Save the Children, Japan Disaster Relief, Oxfam, Salvation Army, Vanuatu Red Cross Society, WFP

ACTION POINTS: Logistics cluster to clarify fast-track customs clearance process

AGENDA:
1. Storage
2. Transport (by sea and air)
3. Information Management
4. Any other Business

1. Storage

- The Logistics Cluster has set up two mobile storage units (MSUs) at the airport in Port Vila and one at the airport in Tanna. These are available for common storage services. Should organisations wish to use the space for temporary storage (3-4 days), they need to submit a Service Request Form (SRF) to the Logistics Cluster at least one day in advance. The Logistics Cluster will notify requesting organisations within approximately two hours if there is space available.

- In order to release supplies from storage, a Release Order Form should be submitted. Forms are available at http://logcluster.org/ops/van15a and should be submitted to vanuatu.cargo@gmail.com

- The NDMO has a warehouse at the VMF grounds and is discussing shared use with the Vanuatu Red Cross Society.

- WFP is investigating temporary storage solutions, specifically 40x containers at Star Wharf in the Port Vila Port. Information will be shared once confirmed.

- UNICEF has a warehouse of 1500 sq.m. with forklift, close to the airport that they are offering to make available for the humanitarian community in addition to a truck with a capacity of 15 tonnes. If organisations would like to share this space with UNICEF, please contact the Logistics Cluster for UNICEF logistics contact details.

2.2. Transport (sea & air)

Sea Transport:

- Update about military vessels:
  - The Sarafenua went to Erromango, Futuna and Tanna;
  - The Canterbury went to Epi on Friday 27 March;
Vanuatu – Meeting Minutes

- The Tobruk is likely to be in Port Vila and ready to be loaded on 31 March; at the moment there are no requests to use this boat. If organisations would like to use the military assets, they need to submit a SRF to the Logistics Cluster including details of a contact person and cargo tonnage and volume;
  - Organisations are responsible for their own cargo and need to ensure someone will receive the cargo or organisation representative accompanies the vessel.
  - Organisations sending staff on the military assets need to ensure they have medical clearance and agree to the segregation of males and females.
  - The Logistics Cluster recommends organisations consider regular commercial transport options as alternative solutions for transportation.
  - DHL has “speed-ball bags” available, for airdrop use up to 30m, and where cargo contains no liquids.

Air Transport
- The UK military plane is no longer available following it using its maximum of 40 hours.
- DFAT: There is a C-17 coming from Brisbane on Saturday 28 that has possible available space for organisations’ supplies. This is expected to be the final C-17 flight available for humanitarian organisations. The Blackhawk helicopters are expected to stay here for another few weeks.
- The Vanuatu Red Cross requested coordination with the aviation authorities to plan the different incoming flights.
- DFAT advised that for the next four days they have a C130 in Port Vila with a 10-tonne capacity. This could be used to go to Tanna and Santo. At the moment there were no requests for this asset. If no requests are received, it will be withdrawn.

3. A.O.B.
- NDMO is working with OCHA to harmonize the data collection process and minimize the data requests from organisations.
- Organisations that use NDMO contracted vessels are requested to provide feedback to NDMO on the quantity and type of cargo dispatched on the vessel.

3. A.O.B.
- Organisations requesting to use common storage at Port Vila Airport are responsible for bringing cargo to the airport cargo-gate, close to the MSU. WFP has no authorisation and capacity to offload cargo from planes, or transport cargo from the apron to the MSU. Organisations are responsible to arrange this with their shipping agent or Vanuatu Terminal Services Ltd (Port Vila Airport ground services).
A regular international supply shipping-line, of 780 TEU capacity, services Brisbane to Port Vila twice a month with a journey time of 7-8 days. Due to the cyclone, this capacity is filling up quickly.

The Logistics Cluster is working on clarifying the current fast-track customs clearance process and will share information once confirmed.

The next Logistics Cluster Meeting will be held on Tuesday 31 March 2015 at 11:00am in the UNICEF tent, NDMO Office. Logistics Cluster meetings will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

_The next Logistics Cluster Meeting is scheduled for Monday 23 March 2015 at 11:00am in the UNICEF tent in front lawn of NDMO._

Contacts:

Submit stock, pipeline updates & NDMO approval 
vanuatu.stocks@gmail.com

Submit cargo transport & storage requests 
vanuatu.cargo@gmail.com

Submit passenger transport requests 
ndmo.passenger.request@gmail.com

Receive regular logistics cluster updates 
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