Yemen – Meeting Minutes

LOCATION: WFP Office, Amman, Jordan
DATE: 13 April 2015
CHAIR: Logistic Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS: WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, SCI, USAID, ECHO, WFP, IOM, ACF, OCHA

ACTION POINTS:
- Partners to share information with the Logistics Cluster on the movement and arrangements of cargo and passengers by air and sea to Yemen.
- Partners to fill and submit the Service Request Form (SRF) for cargo airlift or transport by sea, land or for fuel requirements and storage requirements.
- Logistics Cluster to update contact details of organisations based in Amman for coordination and information sharing purposes.
- Partners to provide updates on capacity of warehousing, fuel storage, transportation, and logistics capacity in Yemen.
- Logistics Cluster to share information on organisations current fuel stocks.

AGENDA:
1. Introduction and Situation Update
2. Logistics Gaps
3. Logistics Cluster Current Activities
4. Logistics Cluster Planned Activities
5. AoB

1. Introduction and Situation Update
- After round table introductions, organisations were briefed about the current situation in Yemen, including the security escalation and conflict which has resulted in 18 out of 22 Governorates being affected by airstrikes and violence.
- More than 400 international humanitarian staff have been evacuated from Yemen by air and sea to Djibouti, Addis and Cairo since the end of March.
- The Logistics Cluster highlighted increasingly urgent needs of the population affected, and the access challenges which are creating difficulties for the delivery of humanitarian relief to affected areas.

2. Logistics Gaps

AIR TRANSPORT:
- The suspension of commercial flights to Yemen has limited access for international humanitarian staff in and out of the country.
- Currently, Yemen airspace remains closed and regional airspace is limited for air movements into Yemen, therefore air operations and airport ground operations remain challenging.

SEA TRANSPORT:
- Due to the high level of insecurity, sea and ports operations are restricted.

FUEL:
There is concern regarding the severely limited fuel supply and fuel price escalations. Currently, there is no fuel supply imported into the country, however the Yemen Petroleum Company (YPC) confirmed that one ship is pending arrival in Yemen and awaiting clearance.

INFORMATION AND COORDINATION:

- Limited availability of logistics information from Yemen continues to impact the humanitarian response. In addition, communication and coordination between military and humanitarian actors needs to be established to ensure safe access for humanitarian partners. There is also need for more information regarding operational capacity of national staff on the ground.

3. Logistics Cluster Current Activities

- The Logistics Cluster is currently continuing to facilitate fuel provision in the four locations of Sana’a, Aden, Haradh and Hodeidah. The available stock totals 200,000 liters, but has already been allocated to organisations who requested fuel supplies before the crisis.
- The Logistics Cluster has erected two MSUs (Mobile Storage Units) in Sana’a and Haradh with capacity 300 mt each, available for the storage of Non-Food Items (NFIs) on behalf of the humanitarian community.
- Two MSUs are available, including 1,000 plastics palettes, for the storage needs of the humanitarian community.
- The Logistics Cluster Coordination cell activities in Amman are ongoing. The first Logistics Cluster meeting took place on 13 April, and Logistics Coordination Meetings with the humanitarian community will continue on a regular basis.
- The first Global Logistics Cluster Teleconference took place on the 7 April. The next Global Teleconference will take place this week, and the details will be shared shortly with relevant organisations.
- The Yemen Logistics Cluster Yemen Operations page on the Logistics Cluster website is active and updated information is available at: [http://www.logcluster.org/ops/yem10a](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/yem10a)
- As with other humanitarian organisations, current Logistics Cluster activities in Yemen have been limited by the developing situation in Yemen and the recent evacuation of international staff.

4. Logistics Cluster Discussion for Potential Activities

- The Logistics Cluster and humanitarian partners agreed about the need to review the existing ConOps. In this regard, a revised ConOps is being developed and will be shared very soon with partners for their feedback and recommendations. This updated Conops will be based on identified logistics gaps and bottlenecks mentioned above.
- Additional logistics services and coordination set-up will be made available by the Logistics Cluster to the humanitarian community (funding, access and security permitting). This might include:
  - Temporary storage facilities in strategic locations, including port and airport.
  - Fuel provision and storage service.
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- Sea and air transport for passengers and cargo in locations where partners planned to have prepositioned humanitarian relief cargo.
- Additional Logistics Coordination cells in Yemen and neighboring countries.
- In coordination with OCHA, Civil-Military Coordination with dedicated staff.

5. AOB

- Following the announcement of airlifts provided by UNICEF, it has been highlighted that access to airspace into Yemen will be challenging, and some countries have not yet approved international organisations to use their air space.
- WHO advised they are currently attempting to transport medical supplies from Dubai with support of UNHRD, however clearance is still pending.

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