
Meeting Minutes, 22 August 2019

Sana'a, Yemen



LOCATION	Sana'a, Yemen, WFP Offices
DATE	22 August 2019
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	ACF, Bluemont International, CYF, DRC, IOM, IRY, MdM, MRF, MSF France, UNFPA, War Child UK, WHO.
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partners to contribute to the ongoing Gaps and Needs Exercise and provide the Logistics Cluster with their pipeline information• Partners to share the total number of containers that they currently have in Aden port and the number of these containers that are to be dispatched to the north.• The Logistics Cluster is to share a list of common temporary storage facilities• Partners to share both their storage needs and storage availability across Yemen with the Logistics Cluster, to ensure the consolidation of spaces and facilities amongst Partners
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Welcome and Introduction2. Logistical Gaps and Needs Exercise (GNE)3. Logistics Services Update4. AOB

1. Welcome and Introduction

- The Logistics Cluster introduced new colleagues. All updated names and contacts can be found on the [Yemen operation page](#).

2. Logistical Gaps and Needs Exercise (GNE)

- The Logistics Cluster is conducting a Gaps and Needs Exercise (GNE) to reassess potential logistical gaps, constraints and needs in Yemen. Information will be collected through the Logistics Cluster Coordination Meetings, bilateral meetings with partners and surveys. It aims to:
 - Ensuring no essential gaps and needs are overlooked, with regard to the Logistics Cluster core mandate
 - Cross checking the correspondence between logistical gaps and needs, and the mitigating services that are currently being provided
 - Supporting the identification of additional mitigating services that should be provided in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Partners' logistics responses

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- The information collated, alongside the results from the mid-year user survey conducted end of July, will allow the Logistics Cluster to adjust its operation and activities during the second semester of 2019

3. Logistics Services Update

Airlifts

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated four airlifts between 19-22 August on behalf of partners. Operational challenges were incurred that led to a backlog. Cargo that faced delays will be airlifted on the next rotation (to be confirmed).
- Organisations planning to send cargo via airlift are kindly reminded to review the Air Transport SOP available [here](#) to ensure that they comply with required processes.
- Partners were reminded that the Logistics Cluster ad hoc airlift service facilitation from Djibouti to Yemen, is strictly intended for the transport of urgent lifesaving items and commodities (in accordance with the priorities set by the Humanitarian Country Team) and should NOT be used as a regular corridor for general cargo and replenishment. This is to ensure the best use of the limited number of airlifts available.

Sea Transport

- The Security Management Team (SMT) has decided that the VOS Theia will be anchored in Aden on stand-by. Therefore, the vessel is not operational for sea cargo transport from Djibouti to Hodeidah until further notice.
- The Logistics Cluster is looking into the possibility of exploring alternative sea transport routes (potentially from Jeddah or Salalah). It is essential for partners to share the number of containers that they currently have in Aden port alongside their pipelines to contribute to effective and efficient planning.
- The sea cargo transport SOP can be found on the Yemen Logistics Cluster operations page [here](#) and the current schedule for sea cargo transport from Djibouti to Aden can be found [here](#).

Inland Transport

- Inland cargo transport from south to north continues to be severely affected and is also having consequences on local procurement availability.
- The Logistics Cluster has received confirmation from the WFP Operations Unit that inland transport from south to north may be undertaken as long as partners receive clearance from NAMCHA.
- The inland cargo challenges have led to a large backlog that impacts storage availability as cargo is stuck in warehousing and common storage facilities.
- It is strongly advised that cargo that has the north of Yemen as final destination should not be transported through Aden port.
- Partners raised the need for support and guidance concerning the clearance process to facilitate the entry of cargo in Yemen.

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- There is a need for stronger cooperation amongst Logistics Cluster partners to strengthen information sharing, and explore potential solutions and alternative routes (potentially via sea transport) to tackle the inland transport constraints.
- Partners are strongly encouraged to share the number of containers that they currently have in Aden port (total number of containers and the number of containers with the north as final destination), alongside their pipelines. This information is essential to ensure visibility for the Logistics Cluster and for Logistics Cluster partners to be able to analyse the information and develop potential solutions.

Storage

- New common storage space is now available in Aden with both temperature control and cold chain. The Logistics Cluster is to share a list of common temporary storage facilities.
- Partners that have space available within their own storage facilities, are invited to share the space with other partners and to share the storage space information with the Logistics Cluster.
- Storage facilities are also available through WFP Bilateral Service Provision (BSP) on a cost-recovery basis if needed.
- Partners are requested to share their storage needs across Yemen with the Logistics Cluster to ensure the consolidation of spaces and facilities amongst partners to the greatest extent possible.
- Partners expressed the need for temperature-controlled storage in Hodeidah city and Bajil.

4. AOB

- It has been decided to maintain the frequency of Logistics Cluster Coordination Meetings as every two weeks for the time being and for it to preferably not be held on a Thursday.

The next Logistics Cluster Coordination Meeting will be held 4 September, 11:00 at the WFP Office.

Contacts

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