LOCATION
Blantyre, Malawi

DATE
5 April 2019

CHAIR
Logistics Sector Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS
ADRA, Danish Red Cross, Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), Department of Housing, GOAL, South African National Defence Force (SANDF), Malawi Red Cross, Plan International, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, World Vision.

ACTION POINTS
• Partners to share updates on access constraints with the Logistics Sector as information becomes available.
• Organisations requesting transport, storage and/or passenger boat service are requested to submit required documentation 48 hours in advance.
• Logistics Sector to disseminate a survey to determine a time for the next coordination meeting.
• UNICEF, DODMA, and SANDF to share specific updates on access constraints discussed during the meeting via email with the Logistics Sector.
• Partners to discuss storage requirements with district counterparts over the coming days and inform the Logistics Sector if there are any gaps.

AGENDA
1. Situation Update
2. Common Logistics Services
3. Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks
4. AOB

1. Situation Update

• The chair provided a situation update on the overall response based on a report published earlier this week from the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM). According to the assessment, primary needs are food and shelter. The full report is available here.
• A coordination hub for the Logistics Sector has been established in Blantyre. A dedicated Logistics Sector Coordinator and Information Management Officer will be based in Blantyre to support the response.
• Participants were reminded that a dedicated Logistics Sector webpage for the Malawi response has been published online. 16 information updates have been shared over the past week.
• An overview was provided on the latest access constraints, the most up to date map can be found here. Partners were reminded to share any situation updates, information on road conditions, and GPS coordinates with the Logistics Sector which will be used to keep the Access Constraints map as up to date and accurate as possible. This will allow for a more effective and coordinated logistics response.
• New information on access constraints:
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- East Bank Road is now reported to be accessible with 4x4 vehicles up to Ruo River (coordinates: -16.484, 35.178), however road conditions remain challenging. The road south of the Ruo River remains inaccessible.
- Access challenges have been reported to reach Sekeni school and Matsukambiya camp in Chikwawa district. Challenges have also been reported in accessing Pansuwo in Nsanje district.
- Partners also indicated that some areas within Zomba and Phalombe districts may remain inaccessible. It was asked that information be provided on exact locations to the Logistics Sector Information Management Officer (jemma.pietrus@wfp.org) to assist with mapping.

- A new access constraints map will be developed based on information received from partners.
- UNICEF, DODMA, and SANDF will share specific updates on access constraints discussed during the meeting via email as soon as possible to be incorporated into the Access Constraints map.

2. Common logistics services

- A Concept of Operations (ConOps) was published this week. The document details the Logistics Sector strategy and services that will be facilitated as part of the response. Services include:
  - Storage: Warehouse capacity in Blantyre and Lilongwe; Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) in Chikwawa and Nsanje districts.
  - Road transport: Commercial trucks and 4x4 vehicles for movement of relief items between Lilongwe, Blantyre and affected areas.
  - River transport: Cargo and passenger boat service have been made available. Boats are currently positioned in Chikwawa and Bangula. Additional river transport will be considered based on partner requirements.

- Organisations are requested to complete a Service Request Form (SRF) for cargo transport and storage services. Organisations who wish to utilise the passenger boat service are requested to complete this booking form.

- It is kindly requested that organisations submit completed documentation to malawi.clustercargo@wfp.org 48 hours in advance for any service requests facilitated by the Logistics Sector.

- If an urgent logistics service is required, please contact the Logistics Sector Coordinator directly, who will advise on feasibility (phone: +265 999984790; email: julie.vanderwiel@wfp.org)

- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for transport, storage and passenger movement services are available on the Logistics Sector webpage.
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- The chair reminded organisations utilising transport services that the Logistics Sector does not facilitate loading and offloading capacity. This is the responsibility of the requesting organisation. Offloading capacity will only be given if the pick-up/drop-off location is a storage facility provided through the Logistics Sector.
- There is currently no fixed schedule for the passenger and cargo boat service; services are provided based on requests received. Should there be a need due to an increased number of partners’ requests received, a timetable will be developed.

3. Logistics gaps and bottlenecks

- Limited road access remains a challenge for some of the affected areas in southern Malawi.
- In relation to storage, several organisations advised that they will be discussing requirements with district counterparts over the coming days. Partners will update the Logistics Sector accordingly with any requests.
- Information sharing and coordination remains a noted challenge. The Logistics Sector will continue to host regular coordination meetings and disseminate logistics information online, and via the mailing list and WhatsApp group.
- No challenges were reported by partners in relation to customs.

3. AOB

- Air transport for the flood response is being coordinated through DoDMA. DoDMA and SANDF presented the tentative transport plan for 8-14 April. Please note that the following plan is tentative and is subject to change. DoDMA will inform the Logistics Sector of any changes which will subsequently be shared with all partners.
- Humanitarian organisations who are providing assistance in the following locations and require transport support can contact DoDMA, at least 48 hours in advance, to request space on the scheduled transport movements.
  - 8 April
    - Mbumbudzi (Chiladzulo district), road transport
    - Ngwindimba (Balaka district), air transport
    - Mtemanyama (Phalombe District), air transport
  - 9 April
    - Namikombe (Balaka district), air transport
    - Mandozi/Pim (Chiladzulu district), road transport
    - Chilala (Mangochi District), air transport
  - 10 April
    - Ndanga (Mulanje district), air transport
    - Mileme (Phalombe district), air transport
    - Pasani School/TA Nkanda (Mulanje district), road transport
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- **11 April**
  - Balamanja (Zomba district), road transport
  - Mongata (Zomba district), air transport
  - Chilongoma (Chikwawa district), air transport

- **12 April**
  - Nyachikadza School (Nsanje district), air transport
  - Thukuta (Thyolo district), air transport
  - Changata (Thyolo district), air transport

- **13-14 April**: TBC

- The Logistics Sector will continue to share the transport plan with partners on a weekly basis.
- Partners were reminded by one organisation to consider reverse logistics and sustainable logistics practices as part of their distribution plans.
- The Logistics Sector has received information in relation to NFIs and infrastructure requirements across shelter, protection and education sectors. The Logistics Sector Coordinator will share this information with the respective sector focal points to assist with operational planning.
- Partners are reminded to circulate Logistics Sector information and activities with their colleagues at district level to ensure an effective and coordinated logistics response.
- Requests for joining the mailing list and WhatsApp group can be sent to Jemma Pietrus (jemma.pietrus@wfp.org).
- The group agreed to meet for coordination meetings on a weekly basis. A survey will be sent to partners to determine the best time for next week’s meeting.

**Contacts**

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