Meeting Minutes, 18 April 2019
Malawi

LOCATION Blantyre, Malawi

DATE 18 April 2019

CHAIR Ministry of Transport and Logistics Sector Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS CARE, Danish Red Cross, Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DoDMA), Ministry of Transport and Public Works (MOTPW), Oxfam, Project Concern International (PCI), South African National Defence Force (SANDF), UNICEF, WFP.

ACTION POINTS
- Partners to share pipeline information with the Logistics Sector. A template will be circulated by the Logistics Sector with the meeting minutes.
- Partners to share any situation updates, information on road conditions, and GPS coordinates with the Logistics Sector for further distribution.
- Logistics Sector to follow up with organisations on outlined gaps and request for storage/transport support.
- Logistics Sector to share information regarding location of WFP Mobile Storage Units (MSUs), which may be available to partners on an on-loan basis.

AGENDA
1. Situation Update
2. Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks
3. Common Logistics Services
4. DoDMA Transport Schedule

1. Situation Update

- The chair provided an overview of key points regarding coordination and information sharing from the Inter-Agency Flood Response Coordination Meeting which took place on 15 April. Partners were reminded to complete the Malawi pipeline template for incoming cargo, in order for the Logistics Sector to understand partner needs and strengthen operational planning. The template will be circulated with the meeting minutes.
- An overview was provided on the Logistics Sector activities and highlights for the period 12 - 18 April:
  - Nine information updates, including five new maps have been published online.
  - 93.4 mt of cargo was transported by road (73% shelter; 25% food security; 2% WASH).
  - 26 organisations have been supported across coordination, information sharing and common services.

2. Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks

- As rehabilitation work continues, and water levels recede more routes are becoming passable.
- An overview of the latest access constraints was provided. 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.

New information on access constraints:
- Partners were advised that recent rainfall has led to more challenging conditions on East Bank road, however the route remains passable with 4x4 (5 mt capacity).
- Access challenges for larger vehicles were reported in Tengani (Nsanje district). The Logistics Sector to follow-up for more information on tonnage capacity with partners working in the area.

Several organisations noted that transport capacity remains a gap at district level for last-mile delivery (road and river transport).

Danish Red Cross advised that they are anticipating a scale-up in operations over the coming weeks, with the arrival of incoming cargo over the next 7 - 10 days. Support with transport may be required to reach affected areas.

PCI provided an overview of the organisation’s incoming pipeline, advising that storage support may be required in Blantyre and Zomba.

The gaps and requests have been noted by the Logistics Sector Coordinator, who will follow-up with organisations bilaterally.

3. Common Logistics Services

- The Chair reminded attending organisations on the services currently facilitated by the Logistics Sector: storage, road transport and river transport (cargo and passenger). This information is included in the Concept of Operation Map, published online.
- An overview was provided on the road transport routes that have been facilitated through the Logistics Sector. As of 18 April, the Logistics Sector has supported transport movements across Phalombe, Nsanje, Chikwawa and Mulanje districts. For further information please contact the Information Management Officer, Jemma Pietrus.
- One organisation asked if any further discussion had taken place on return loads of undistributed stock. It was advised that if pipeline information is submitted from across responding partner organisations, it may be possible to regroup undistributed stock, however at this point not enough information has been received to confirm.
- WFP advised that they have Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) currently erected in Balaka, Machinga, Mangochi, Nsanje and Zomba districts, which may be available to partners responding to the floods on an on-loan basis. A spreadsheet outlining exact locations will be shared with the meeting minutes. Partners are advised to contact the Logistics Sector Coordinator Julie Vanderwiel for further information.
4. DoDMA transport schedule

- Air transport for the flood response is being coordinated through DoDMA.
- A newly published map (available online here) outlining the DoDMA transport schedule for the period 15 - 25 April was distributed at the meeting. Partners were reminded that the plan is tentative and subject to change. DoDMA will inform the Logistics Sector of any changes, which will subsequently be shared with partners.
- Organisations providing assistance in the outlined locations and require transport support should contact the DoDMA at least 48 hours in advance to request space on the scheduled transport movement.

The next Logistics Sector Coordination Meeting in Blantyre will take place on Friday 26 April, 11:00.

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