LOCATION: Office of Premiere Urgence, Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria

DATE: 12 November 2016

CHAIR: WFP


AGENDA

1. Summary
   - The need for common transit storage facilities was confirmed for outside Maiduguri.
   - All Working Group participants are therefore encouraged to share their pipeline information, in order to enable better planning of the overall Sector response.
   - There is a need to monitor transport rates for all humanitarian actors.
   - There is a need for clear customs procedures.
   - Airlifts could be added to the current Sector activities.
   - Continue the consolidation of cargo movement requests and escort requirements, in liaison with the OCHA Civil/Military focal point.
   - Increase the current Logistics Sector Team of two Internationals by adding a Civil/Military Liaison Officer to support the overall Civ/Mil coordination, which will become critical with newly accessible areas; and one local staff due to the general scale up of the response.

2. Discussion

WHO:
   - WHO, as Health Sector co-lead, initiated with the State Ministry of Health, a sub-sector working group on medical supply chain and pipeline. One of the needs identified is cold chain/cold storage.
   - Agrees to the need of a common storage facility.
   - Clear customs procedures need to be in place, waiver and quality certificate requirements.

DRC:
   - DRC expects a huge amount of Shelter kits and NFI kits.
   - Agrees to the need of a common transit storage facility, especially in Maiduguri and Mafa.
   - Enquiries about the possibility of airlifts to be added to the current Logistics Sector activities.

IOM:
- Availability of transporters is not an issue, however some trucks are in bad condition.
- There is a need to get fixed rates; one agency could lead this exercise to look into LTAs in order to shorten the process.

UNICEF:
- UNICEF (and ICRC) are operating out of Jos/Plateau State.
- Has fixed rates for all LGAs in place and can share it with the Working Group.
- Customs procedures are a concern, because the clearance of a container takes 10-12 days, even though they are working with a freight forwarder and a dedicated Shipping Assistant. Scale up of operations is planned, with approx. 20 containers per week to be received.

Action Against Hunger:
- ACF is planning to expand its activities from Maiduguri and Monguno to possibly other locations that have not yet been identified.
- Also raises concern about the inflation of transport rates.
- Enquiry about the Emergency Telecommunication Sector and radio in the hubs.

ALIMA:
- ALIMA is planning to scale up operations in Monguno and Dikwa, but details are not available yet; possible Biu and Mafa.
- A priority for the Logistics Sector should be to ensure transport and access to new areas.

OCHA:
- With the scale up of operations, the current Logistics Sector staffing of two Internationals could be increased with one Civil/Military Liaison Officer as well as one local staff.

INTERSOS:
- INTERSOS operates in host communities with a strong nutrition component.

WFP:
- WFP is scaling up operations to reach more beneficiaries. Cash-based transfer activities will be reduced and the focus will be more on in-kind deliveries.
- Customs issues remain a concern. 11 Mobile Storage Units are stuck for over 3 weeks; and 20 more will be ordered shortly.
- Flexibility of access needs to be ensured.

e-Health:
- Air cargo is easier to clear and less documentation is required, that’s why e-Health is using Kano airport as entry point for imports.

Solidarités International:
- Plan to expand to Monguno and Dikwa.

PUI:
• PUI’s activities are mainly related to shelter and cash for food.
• The Field Level Agreement with WFP about the management of the common transit storage facility will be finalised shortly.

3. Next steps

• The current WFP Special Operation and funding document for Logistics Sector activities in NE-Nigeria needs to be revised and undergo a budget revision before the end of the month.
• The 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan input needs to reflect the above recommendations.

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