Chair: Head of Logistics - WFP Zimbabwe
Participants: PLAN INTERNATIONAL, CNFA, WFP, SAVE THE CHILDREN, ICRC, UMCOR, CARE INTERNATIONAL, USAID

Action Points:
- Invite Ministry of Health and/or Ministry of Agriculture clarify on pre-shipment inspection process, personnel involved and related information.
- WFP, AMALIMA and ENSURE to come up with a list of expected consignments where pre-shipment inspections may be required so as to coordinate.
- LSWG participants to provide inputs for the Newsletter.
- Engage with Ministry of Industries and Commerce on the validity for the Veg Oil licences.

Agenda:
- Welcome and Introductions
- Matters arising from the previous minutes
- Dashboard and Newsletter issues
- Operational updates from the various organizations
- A.O.B

Introduction

- The chair welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction. The purpose of the meeting was outlined as:
  o To share experiences on the logistical challenges and to share information collectively to resolve those issues
  o The forum consists of Logisticians working in the Humanitarian sector to achieve a common goal of providing a coherent response to the El Nino related effects in the country.
  o Activities can be harmonized and challenges from other partners can be considered as information for the working group to organise and respond collectively to the logistics challenges arising due to different factors on the ground.
  o Operational updates from organisations requested. Any information gaps/issues to be taken into consideration.

Matters arising from the previous minutes

- Matters related to previous meetings were circulated and requested any amendments/corrections to be documented. Minutes of the July 2016 Meeting were agreed upon to be a correct record of what transpired, with the amendment on ICRC activities.

Dashboard, Newsletter and Infographics

- WFP requested information from the partners for the Logistics Newsletter relating to the various activities that they are currently involved in. Partners to respond and provide information to be included in the newsletter.

Discussion on Priority Areas (based on any logistics activities (operational/preparedness) that organisations have already implemented or are planning to implement)
WORLD FOOD PROGRAM

- Warehouse and transport capacity is sufficient.
- Shortfall of commodities being experienced for maize and pulses coming from due to Zambian Government stringent measures for maize exports with schedules required that have to be signed by the Government Officials before movement of any trucks.
- From Durban, volume of in-coming commodities has increased and sometimes delays have been experienced especially for sorghum trucks due to the nature of the commodity which requires physical examination.
- Since the Statutory 64 of 2016 was introduced, WFP has been issued veg oil licences of one month instead of the previous three months validity period. This will affect shipments of large quantities which may not be moved within one month. To engage with Ministry of Industry and Commerce to revert to three months period for Veg Oil import licences.

UMCOR

- Nothing to report

PLAN INTERNATIONAL

- Could not start PAC distribution due to the pipeline break of commodities.
- Distributions will be for a full basket.

CARE INTERNATIONAL

- Food Distribution LSA (Pulses, Veg Oil, Sorghum) in Chivi, Zaka, Bikita
- Facing challenges with processing of import documentation for vehicles and motor bikes. Referred to WFP Admin and Procurement to share how import documents processing for equipment for humanitarian response is being done after the use of the report order was discontinued.
- Working on a new Commodity Tracking System and looking for input from other organisations that have tracking systems in use.
- Partner would like to hire vehicles and in need of information on rates and services that are provided by service providers who hire vehicles.

ICRC

- Looking for a warehouse with a capacity of 1,000 square metres. WFP to share information on some of the warehouses that responded to the Expression of Interest with their declared capacities, which fit into this category.
- Supports prisons by providing farming inputs to assist with production at the prisons farms, produce which is then utilised at the prisons to complement their food requirements.
- Starting Agro Farms from September and October 2016 by providing farming inputs.
- Purchasing sugar beans from South Africa for their programmes and used to purchase ground nuts from Zambia, but the Zambian type not very favourable with the locals in Zimbabwe.
- Facing challenges to get suppliers for ground nuts and sugar beans locally. USAID pointed out that ENSURE has Food for Assets (FFA) programme that it doing and ICRC can link with ENSURE on the possibility of buying the produce from the FFA Programme.
CNFA

- Distributions have been going on smoothly.
- Have a consignment of Veg Oil and Lentils waiting for inspection in Durban
- Starting protective rations in August.
- Expecting Sorghum from Guinea. No arrival dates in Durban as yet.

USAID

- Pointed out that people need to understand legislation related to importations of commodities and involvement of different Ministries and their respective mandate related to importation.
- There is need for a coordinated approach on pre-shipment inspection visits, to reduce the cost on importation of commodities by coming up with a plan and master time table of the expected commodities, so that one team for inspection can be organised for the various organisations with consignments requiring inspection.
- Requested partners to share with each other contact information of the Government offices dealing with import documents processing which may assist to know the offices to deal with.
- Important to understand the current capacity and challenges being faced in terms transportation of commodities and resultant delays.
- Accumulate information from the group on areas where some partners are doing well and where improvement is required for some, eventually leading to a better coherent collective approach, learning from each other’s experiences and expertise.
- Pointed out that it is important to note that pre-shipments inspections of commodity also touch on storage facilities and conditions of storage. It is important for partners to comply with set storage regulations. WFP to assist by sharing information on warehouse inspections.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

- Save the Children is involved with Cash Based Transfers for some of its programmes.
- Facing challenges with access to cash.
- Cash challenges have impacted some of their suppliers, resulting in them failing to meet the lead times.

A.O.B

Representative for the pre-shipment inspections team (Ministry of Health / Ministry of Agriculture) could be invited in next meetings to enlighten the participants on the processes and the stakeholders that are involved.

*Next Logistics Sector Working Group Meeting will be held in Zambezi Room, WFP Office Harare, on Thursday 29th September at 15.00hrs*

**CONTACTS**

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