

Date: 19 June 2020, 11:00 – 12:00

Participants

1. Aniruddha Chhetri, WFP
2. Balaram Kc,
3. Basanta Shrestha,
4. Bimal Chapagain, Oxfam
5. Bishnu Prasad Ghimire, IOM
6. Bindi Borg, USAID
7. Binod Awale. UMN
8. Bishal Newar, ACF
9. Charles Callanan, UNOPS
10. Dil Gurung, Care Nepal
11. Deepak Bhatt, Mercy Corps
12. Firoj KC, NRCS
13. Genevieve Lefebvre-Thomas, UNOPS
14. Harimohan Shrestha, NRCS
15. Jagadiswor Ghimire, UNFPA
16. Jennifer Bottrell, MountainChild
17. Jurgen Hulst, WFP
18. Manoj Upreti, WFP
19. Menuka Rajaure, LWF
20. Murari Wasti, MoHA
21. Niraj Shrestha, UNDP
22. Purna Kumar Yonjan, UNICEF
23. Prabin Acharya, IPAS Nepal
24. Prahlad Dahal, WHO
25. Prashant Khadka, IFRC
26. Prashant Upadhyay, Plan International
27. Rajesh Kumar Halwai, WHO
28. Ram Bahadur Ale, Oxfam
29. Ratindra Khatri, WFP
30. Salim Rana Magar, PIN
31. Samjana Singh GC, MSIN
32. Santosh Gyawali, USAID
33. Shivani Dixit, Care Nepal
34. Shobha Shrestha, IOM
35. Steven Wells, WFP
36. Uma Karki, UNFPA
37. Umesh Gupta, WFP

Meeting Chaired by: Mr. Murari Wasti, Chief of NEOC, MOHA

General Highlights:

- The minutes of the last National Logistics Cluster meeting (05 June) were reviewed and endorsed.

Agendas:

1. Nepal National Logistics Cluster services
2. Health logistics update
3. Monsoon preparedness
4. Gaps or issues and AOB

Action Points:

- WFP to follow-up with Ministry of Finance (MoF) to clarify the current customs duty exemption directive.
- USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program and USAID to share the source of information and locations where there is still a gap in transport capacity to transport medical supplies from district medical stores to health facilities.

- Partners to share a forecast of medical items in the pipeline and destinations they plan to transport the supplies to, with the National Logistics Cluster, to enable planning of storage capacity and establishing transport rates for new destinations.
- Mountain Child to share information on possible domestic air charters.
- WFP to follow up with United Nations Resident Coordinator Office (UNRCO) about the staff movement to the field.
- WFP to follow up with Tribhuvan Airport authorities and the cargo handling company about the damage on the cargo received on the June 3rd flight from Malaysia.

1. Nepal Logistics Cluster services

The following updates were shared regarding the National Logistics Cluster services:

- Shared flight information of 12 flights on different dates from 22nd May to 17th of June.
- The second air passenger flight, for outbound passengers, landed in TIA, Kathmandu on Wednesday, 17th of June. The flight brought 2.6 MT medical supplies for UNICEF and 8 passengers from humanitarian agencies, boarded the flight to Kuala Lumpur on the same day.
- Verbal approval for inbound passengers on WFP flights has been received from Nepal Government. The approval is for staff from eligible organizations and deemed important in the current situation .
- The National Logistics Cluster's common services for transportation and storage have been extended until the end of July.
- Contracts are being prepared for transport from Provincial headquarters of Province 1, Province 2, Bagmati Province, Gandaki Province and Province 5.
- Dispatching monsoon preparedness items of Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) in stock at the HSA, Kathmandu to flood prone areas.
- A meeting is planned with the Management Division (MD), the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and the Nepali Army to discuss about the Logistics planning, procurement and collaboration.
- Till date transported approximately 113.2 MT (1132 cbm) of cargo of medical items.
- The National Logistics Cluster provided a standby pickup truck to the Health Service Directorate, Karnali Province for 1 month, for ad hoc dispatch of critical COVID-19 health supplies to districts stores.
- A flyer was shared with the National Logistics Cluster members outlining the services offered by National Logistics cluster.

2. Health Logistics Update

USAID on behalf of the External Development Partner, Supply Chain Management group, shared the update below on Health Logistics:

- COVID-19 weekly updates can be accessed through the MD, MoHP.
- The donations/contributions of medical supplies are no longer being recorded in the donor coordination sheet, that used to be sent around once to twice a week. Any donations/contributions should now be directly recorded in the eLMIS. Most of the Provincial health facilities and hospitals have eLMIS. If the health facilities do not have eLMIS, the

donations can be filled out in the paper-based format and later entered in eLMIS. The format and procedure have been shared on June 3rd.

- The procurement of automated testing machines and large number of test kits to go along with those machines and other existing machines is underway.
- MoHP has put out a minimum standard package for donation. Minimum standard in terms of certification, completeness and minimum value. Any donations/contributions should adhere to those minimum standards. (Contact bborg@usaid.gov for minimum standard).
- There is stock out of maternal and newborn health commodities at local level. EDP/SCM group is trying to look into and address the matter.
- Transportation of family planning products from district health office to service delivery points and sometime from local level to service delivery points has been challenging. Discussion is underway with WFP about transport and PSM will share more information on this to WFP in few days.
- A partial consignment of HIV drugs (ARV) is scheduled to arrive this week.

3. Monsoon Preparedness

Mr. Ratindra Khatri from WFP shared the following update on monsoon preparedness on behalf of Murari Wasti, Chief of National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC), MoHA:

- Received stockpile information from 14 agencies for monsoon preparedness.
- MoHA will mobilize 17 OBM motor boat, received from WFP, to the flood prone districts.
- Monsoon preparedness plan received from UNRCS. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) has prepared a comprehensive plan for monsoon preparedness.

Update by agencies on monsoon preparedness;

- UNICEF is moving its supplies for monsoon preparedness and COVID-19 response from its central warehouse in Kathmandu to districts as per the plan. Procurement is underway to replenish the used items.
- NRCS is in the process of procuring medical items (hand sanitizer, N95 mask, protective goggles and gum boots). An EOI has been published for procurement of these medical items. NRCS monsoon preparedness plan has been integrated with COVID-19 response plan. NRCS has requested IFRC to procure and replenish the stock used in COVID-19. NFIS are being transported from central warehouse to regional and sub-regional warehouses for monsoon preparedness. Stocks are maintained at warehouses in districts for monsoon preparedness.
- IFRC regional office is in the process of procuring blankets and tarpaulins from China. Surgical masks, N95 masks and other items for COVID-19 expected to arrive on 20th of June.

4. Gaps or issues and AOB

- UNOPS has locally procured fabricated cloth masks that are washable and reusable and comes with filters. There are no health standards or design standards published by MoHP in terms of cloths mask. USAID mentioned that it's difficult to get International standardization and certification for cloth masks.

- Care Nepal is having difficulties in implementing their response plan due to COVID-19 related protocols to enter and exit Kathmandu. WFP explained that staff travel has been raised in the CMT/ UNCT and by the UNRCO with the MoFA. MoFA has said they will look into it.
- ACF asked if WFP is planning to charter domestic flights for staff movement. WFP responded that currently the organization has no such plan to charter flights for staff movement. MountainChild informed that Tara air, Yeti airlines and Simrik airlines have been able to get permit for domestic charter flights (both fixed wings and helicopters) for humanitarian purpose.
- UNICEF's and WFP's cargo brought on June 3rd flight was found broken and that some items were missing. WFP will follow up on this matter with Tribhuvan Airport authorities and the cargo handling company.
- The MoHA requested to provide monthly update of activities carried out by the National Logistics cluster members during the COVID-19 response.
- The next Logistics cluster will be conducted tentatively on 3rd of July.

In case of other gaps, questions or issues, please do not hesitate to contact the National Logistics Cluster:

Aniruddha Chhetri, (Information Management), ph: 9841355565, aniruddha.chhetri@wfp.org
Ratindra Khatri, (Logistic cluster coordinator), ph: 9801 083546, ratindra.khatri@wfp.org
Steve Wells, (Logistics cluster coordinator), ph: 9818726684, steven.wells@wfp.org