



LOCATION:	On-line meeting
DATE:	2 April 2020
LEADS:	WFP (DoCP unavailable)
PARTICIPANTS:	ACF, ADRA, Care, CBM, CRS, DIFID, EEAS, FAO, Finnish RC, Food Security Cluster, IRC, MSF OCB, Oxfam, Save the children, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, ZCC, ZRC(20agencies)

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Role of Pillar 8 COVID-19 Logistics Working Group (WG) Vs ZNLS
3. Global planning for COVID-19 response
4. COVID-19 impact on humanitarian operations
 - Procurement – UNICEF to lead
 - Import Clearance – UNFPA to lead
 - Transport and Fuel – WFP to lead
 - Warehousing
 - Information sharing

OUTCOMES

- Cargo entry updates and Global planning progress for COVID-19 are available at: <https://logcluster.org/COVID-19>.
- Sector to compile a list of COVID-19 supply needs and provide to Pillar 8. Consider doing a joint procurement through Copenhagen.
- Partners to share local suppliers of PPE and hand sanitisers.
- Partners to list service providers assisting with humanitarian work on letterhead with partner contact details to facilitate police check.
- Partners to consider use of Nostro accounts for fuel payments
- ZIMRA online submissions are accessible through this link: <https://www.zimra.co.zw/>. WFP to update on any issues with non-original document acceptance for clearances
- Quarantine for surge is 14 days self-isolation on arrival
- WFP to check weekly on airlines operating
- Meetings to be held weekly to share information



1. Welcome and Introduction – Patricia Thornhill

Patricia welcomed participants and acknowledged the time pressures and difficulties of working in this lockdown arrangement with significant numbers of overlapping online meetings. This will be discussed at the end of the meeting to find a good balance.

2. Role of Pillar 8 COVID-19 Logistics Working Group (WG) vs ZNLS - WFP

Patricia explained that the COVID-19 Logistics Working Group (WG) is lead by the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) and WHO (not WFP). Logistics planning and response for COVID-19 on the humanitarian side will be channelled through Pillar 8 so they have complete oversight.

There will be two focusses of discussion for today's ZNLS. One is the Humanitarian logistics supports needs for COVID-19 which will be sent onto Pillar 8, and then broader discussions on how the COVID-19 lockdown is affecting current humanitarian programs.

3. Global planning for COVID-19 response – WFP

The Logistics Cluster at country level remains dormant. The mandate of the Logistics Cluster is a last resort when there are gaps in logistics services that cannot be covered in country. At present there are no gaps:

- warehousing is available,
- trucks are still operating,
- there are no access constraints for cargo with land movements still occurring across Beira and Durbin.
- coordination can be covered by ZNLS at this stage, alongside Pillar 8.

Gaps and needs will be reviewed as supplies start arriving.

The Global Logistics Cluster COVID-19 website has updates on COVID planning. This is the link to access the page:

<https://logcluster.org/COVID-19>.

- Daily updates on COVID-19 Cargo Entry Points are posted.
- In addition, users can find the meeting minutes on planning progress. The latest GLC COVID-19 planning minutes will be sent out to ZNLS to be shared with relevant contacts.

At present, there are three international staging hubs planned for cargo consolidation, six regional hubs, one being Johannesburg which will be the likely point for road transport into Zimbabwe. Medivac, field hospitals and passenger flights are also being planned.

WHO is the lead on the Supply and Markets Working Group. Any procurement needs should be channelled through HQ or the Health Cluster for including in planning.



4. COVID-19 impact on humanitarian operations – WG leads

PROCUREMENT – UNICEF

COVID-19 procurement

- Constrained market with global shortage of PPE and medical equipment.
- Gaps and needs analysis has been conducted by the Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) under Pillar 8
- It is important that the WHO guidelines on appropriate PPE usage are shared again with the organisations. Masks and gloves are not recommended for everyday use nor for community use.
- The local market is also being assessed but the stocks are limited.
- Most local suppliers are failing to meet deadlines because of the lockdowns in the region, particularly in South Africa.
- Joint procurement and charter flights should be considered by the humanitarian sector in Zimbabwe.
- Two airlines are still operating. However, there needs to be a monitoring system of border closures.
- GLC is monitoring Cargo Entry Points and posting them daily on this website page: <https://logcluster.org/COVID-19>

Food

- Some organisations are moving to in-kind donations and enquiring on the constraints of international movements as well as local market availability. Procurement of cereals by WFP has not been a problem.
- WFP has been able to source locally and is combining this with international procurement to meet the Lean Season Assistance (LSA) needs.
- Import clearance has not been affected much with the lockdown and stock still moving.

IMPORT CLEARANCE - UNFPA

- Due to the lockdown, the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA) requires the submission of all clearance documentation electronically and not in hard copies. There are concerns this will slow down the process.
- UNFPA asked if there had been any issues in receiving rebate letters and whether they are being accepted, as originals are usually required. WFP advised that they have been able to submit and receive rebate letters from ZIMRA this week.
- WFP will share the ZIMRA contact details and advise on the outcome of the acceptance of the electronic copy versus and original in this lockdown situation.
- Agencies stated that there were delays in receiving exemption letters from the Ministry of International Trade before the lockdown. Care has been waiting for a vehicle exemption letter for 3 months. There are concerns that there are no on-line mechanisms for the Ministry in place.
- Any issues associated with the importation of medical supplies can be raised through Pillar 8

TRANSPORT AND FUEL – WFP

- According to WFP, the lockdown has not affected transport or fuel provision yet.
- WFP uses an exemption letter listing its contracted service partners like transporters and warehouse operators to move around. Fuel coupons have been pre-purchased to assist transporters who are having trouble getting cash for fuel. Partners could also use a similar coupon system
- The Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC) raised a challenge they had had with transporters requiring clearance to deliver the goods. WFP advised to write on letter head the names of their services providers who were supporting humanitarian services with a contact number for a high level ZCC person who could verify this.
- WFP advised of the current USD cash shortage in country and relaxation on transfer payment with USD. Partners were asked if they had Nostro accounts and if their transfers were accepted.
- Most partners replied that they had accounts.
- The sector will keep trying to get a list of the DFI fuel.

Meeting Minutes, 2 April 2020

Harare, Zimbabwe



INFORMATION SHARING -WFP

Acknowledging how busy everyone was with online meetings and email flow, partners were asked what information they needed to be shared, and how often they wanted the sector meeting.

- Weekly meetings in the interim
- Flight information
- Procurement updates
- Food and medical clearance

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