

**Date: 7 April 2020, 10:00 – 11:00**

**Participants:**

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Amit Dhungel, UNFPA               | 21. Madan Gyawali, Save the Children      |
| 2. Andisheh Ghazieh, UNICEF          | 22. Manoj Upreti, WFP                     |
| 3. Aniruddha Chhetri, WFP            | 23. Max Kabalisa, GHSC-PSM                |
| 4. Akseli Emil Lamminmaki, UN Women  | 24. Mohan Bhatta, Humanity Inclusion      |
| 5. Basant Shrestha,                  | 25. Moti Thapa, WFP                       |
| 6. Bhawani Pandey, Save the Children | 26. Prahlad Dahal, WHO                    |
| 7. Bimala Chapagain, Oxfam           | 27. Prakash Rai, UNFPA                    |
| 8. Bindi Borg, USAID                 | 28. Prashant Khadka, IFRC                 |
| 9. Binod Awale, UMN                  | 29. Prashant Upadhyay, Plan International |
| 10. Bishal Newar, ACF                | 30. Purna Kumar Yonjan, UNICEF            |
| 11. Bivek Joshi, UN Women            | 31. Rajendra Rajbhandari, WHH             |
| 12. Charles Callanan, UNOPS          | 32. Ram Bahadur Ale, Oxfam                |
| 13. Chuda Mani Bhandari, MoHP        | 33. Ratindra Khatri, WFP                  |
| 14. Dil Gurung, Care Nepal           | 34. Rudra Subedi, NRCS                    |
| 15. Dipendra Shrestha,               | 35. Roshan Phuyal, CRS                    |
| 16. Dipina Sharma, IOM               | 36. Rahul Pradhan, WHO                    |
| 17. Harimohan Shrestha, NRCS         | 37. Shobha Shrestha, IOM                  |
| 18. Hema Shrestha, Action Aid        | 38. Stuti Singh Kunwar Thapa, Oxfam       |
| 19. Jagadiswor Ghimire, UNFPA        | 39. Upendra Bahadur Singh, World Vision   |
| 20. Jurgen Hulst, WFP                |   |

**Agenda:**

1. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations
2. Health Logistics Update
3. Air transport (consolidation)
4. Coordination (agency activities and procurement)
5. Other gaps or issues

**Action Points:**

- All participants: please share (local) suppliers contact details for PPE and health supplies. See: <http://zohrainternational.com/downloads.php> and <http://www.krishnaintl.net/> (Shared by World Vision International).
- All participants: if you're procuring PPE or health items, please share the items' details and estimated time of arrival with Ms. Bindi Borg ([bborg@usaid.org](mailto:bborg@usaid.org)), chair of the EDP-SCM sub group.
- Verify with Customs dept. the customs clearance process for paperwork (WFP).
- Discuss with Army on possibility to share assets for in-country transport (Ratindra).
- Contact AIN to know if other organisations can be part of the procurement group (WFP).
- Useful links:
  - [WHO Technical Guidance: Covid-19 critical items](#)
  - [CDC Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment:](#)
  - <https://www.ecri.org/covid-19-resources-supply-chain/>

## 1. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations

Mr. Jurgen Hulst, Head of Supply Chain and EPR, presented the Logistics Cluster Emergency response and Preparedness plan for Covid-19.

Mr. Jurgen Hulst also informed that the National Logistics Cluster is active for the Covid-19 response, led by MoHA and WFP as co-lead will support by providing Logistics Cluster services to the National Logistics Cluster. It is expected that it is not necessary to activate the IASC Logistics Cluster. During the response Logistics Cluster services will be limited to handling medical cargo which do not require cold chain or temperature-controlled storage.

## 2. Health Logistics Update

Ms. Bindi Borg from External Development Partner, Supply Chain Management shared the updates below on health logistics:

- DFID is working with MRH on transparent and fast track procurement and technical specifications for commodities being procured.
- World Bank is processing a loan that can support MRH with any commodities that they choose to purchase that are Covid-19 related.
- The drugs for HIV/AIDS will soon be out of stock in Nepal if the supplies which are stuck in Mumbai cannot be brought to the country soon.
- Donations of infant formula are not to be accepted. Using infant formula is against the WHO guidelines.

Mr. Chudamani Bhandari, Procurement Section Chief, Management Division shared the updates below on health logistics:

- An advertisement has been published in the national daily for procurement of 23 critical medical items for Covid-19.
- Currently, there are very few medicals items available for supply to hospitals in the provinces. The plan is to deliver two to three trucks with medical items to hospitals in the provinces tomorrow, 8 April 2020.

## 3. Air Transport (Consolidation)

Mr Jurgen Hulst shared updates below on air transport:

- The Logistics Cluster is coordinating with the MoFA and the Health Directorate, MoHP to try to consolidate shipments from China planned by GoN and development partners.
- A notice has been sent to the members regarding a private sector charter flight departing from Ghuanzhou, China (CAN) to Kathmandu on 9 April 2020, which has space for cargo available.
- The Logistics Cluster is assisting with flights, organised by embassies for repatriating their citizens, to utilise the cargo space by humanitarian agencies for transport of essential medical supplies to Nepal.

- Last weekend WHO successfully used a flight from Qatar to receive cargo (laboratory equipment).

#### 4. Coordination (agency activities and procurement)

Mr. Amit Dhungel, UNFPA informed that UNFPA Nepal is coordinating with their office in China to bring 1200 units of PPE in the flight on 9 April 2020.

Mr. Madan Gyawali, Save the Children, informed that PPE and medical items were procured and distributed in Bardibas of Province 2 and Surkhet of Karnali Province. Procurement of 2000 units of PPE is in the pipeline.

Mr. Max Kabalisa, GHSC-PSM informed that Procurement and Supply Unit of USAID is working closely with the Management Division, Department of Health Services, MoHP. They have been providing logistics support to deliver medical items to PHLMC and treatment centers when necessary. They also manage a Logistics management information system to track stock inventory.

Ms. Hema Shrestha, Action Aid, informed that Action Aid is planning to procure some hygiene kits locally and distribute it to the casual labors in their working areas namely: Godhavari, Badhikhel, Manohara and Shankarapur in Kathmandu.

Mr. Prashant, Plan International, informed that medical items (such as PPE, sanitisers, gloves) are in the pipeline for procurement. The items will be procured jointly with AIN. The medical items will be distributed in seven different areas where Plan International Nepal has its operation. Eight to nine organisations are part of the joint procurement group.

Mr. Purna Yonjan, UNICEF informed that UNICEF has provided the Department of Health Services in Teku with medical items like thermometer and hygiene kit sets. Similarly, field offices in Jankpur and Nepalgunj have also supported the provincial government with medical items related to Covid-19. Procurement of large number of medical items for Covid-19 is in the pipeline.

Ms. Shova, IOM informed that IOM is planning to procure 3,000 units of PPE, 8,000 pcs of surgical mask and thermometers through IOM global procurement supply. The plan is to distribute those items through MoHP in Province 1, Province 5 and Sudur Paschim Province.

Mr. Upendra, World Vision International, informed that 1,000 units of PPE will be delivered from China today. A team from World Vision will assemble the PPE, as they will be delivered in parts. Once assembled, the plan is to handover the PPE items to the provincial governments.

Mr. Prashant Khadka, IFRC informed that IFRC has procured 30,000 surgical mask, 1,000 sanitisers, 3,000 surgical gloves and 1,000 soaps locally with support from their regional office and health team from Geneva. These items have been distributed in the health facilities in all 77 districts. IFRC is also coordinating with their HQ to procure PPE items.

## 5. Gaps and issues

Participants were asked what they consider are currently the main Logistics gaps and issues, and if they consider the Logistics Cluster to be prepared for a Covid-19 outbreak, and if not, what is missing or needs to be done?

Logistics gaps or issues raised by participants and discussed were:

- A lack of international airfreight capacity to Nepal.
- Unavailability of PPE and Covid-19 health supplies on the global market.
- Increased risk of procuring low-quality supplies, due to limited availability and limited capacity to do quality check the specific items.
- Challenge with clearing items and paperwork for customs, due to closure of Customs dept.
- Contracting in-country transport during the lockdown: It was clarified that this is still possible, but agencies need to request transport permit from the CDO office, either at origin or destination. The enables private sector transporters to drive during the lockdown.

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

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