Meeting Minutes, 10 April 2020
Pacific Regional Logistics Cluster, Fiji

LOCATION
Remote meeting

DATE
10 April 2020

CHAIR
Pacific Logistics Cluster (WFP)

PARTICIPANTS
IFRC, UNICEF, UNFPA, Pacific Disabilities Group, The Pacific Community (SPC), Oxfam, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), UNOPS, Save the Children, UNRCO, World Vision, CARE, UNFPA, WFP

ACTION POINTS
• Logistics Cluster and UNICEF to discuss budget availability for air charter
• Logistics Cluster to share WFP Common Services document and provide updates
• UNRCO to share outcomes of Council of Ministers meeting in Vanuatu
• Logistics Cluster to share details for exceptional Virgin flight from Brisbane to Port Vila
• Partners to complete the Cargo Tracking template.

AGENDA
1. Update from partners – regional COVID-19 response
2. Pacific Regional Logistics Cluster TOR
3. Concept of Operations
4. Charter flights – coordination
5. Cargo tracking
6. Tropical Cyclone Harold

1. Update from partners – regional COVID-19 response

Logistics Cluster
• The Logistics Cluster is working with WFP Aviation to provide air transport services for the uplift of humanitarian cargo:
  o The process is moving forward with a service-provider, undergoing the contracting process.
  o Coordination for this service will be done by the Logistics Cluster.
  o WHO and the UN Country Team will assist in prioritising relief items to be transported by this service if required.
• Information on air and ad hoc services is being disseminated by the Logistics Cluster.
• The Logistics Cluster continues to provide support to national logistics coordination mechanisms.
• A Logistics Officer has been appointed to focus on shipping, who will be starting soon.

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IFRC
- IFRC is sending supplies on Sunday bound for Kiribati, Cook Islands and Marshall Islands. Small quantities are being sent, which may in some cases not meet the minimum required amount. Therefore, IFRC requested that if other organisations had supplies they wished to add, please to contact IFRC.
- IFRC have two logisticians starting remotely to support both the Tropical Cyclone Harold and COVID-19 responses.

UNICEF
- UNICEF have several orders pending.
- There is USD 1.9m of supplies in the pipeline, which UNICEF is looking to send via alternative routes.
- UNICEF is currently considering shifting goods to Brisbane.

UNFPA
- Some items in shipment before the COVID-19 outbreak are now stuck in Singapore.
- A shipment to Kiribati, Marshall Islands and Samoa has arrived in Kiribati.
- UNFPA stated that they were open to collaborating with other organisations to ship goods.

CARE
- CARE currently has a flight to Honiara with 150 hygiene kits.

Save the Children
- Save the Children noted that their priority was Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) procurement.

SPC
- SPC is looking into shipping companies moving in the Pacific.
- A ship was delayed into Tarawa due to closure at Lautoka. There are challenges with the 14 day on-water quarantine period for some shipping routes.

UNOPS
- UNOPS is looking at a request from Palau to supply medical items and PPE. It is a small consignment and therefore UNOPS stated they could look to collaborate with other organisations on freight if required.

UNRICO
- UNRICO is representing 10 countries across the Pacific under the RCO.
- UNRICO is supporting on information gathering and dissemination, and provides feedback to UN Joint Presence Officers.

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NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT)
- MFAT stated that they were awaiting the joint UN plan for the COVID-19 response in the region.
- They are working with the Pacific Island Forum regarding the Pacific Humanitarian Pathway.
- MFAT stated that they had focused on Tropical Cyclone Harold in the past week.
- MFAT is continuing to monitor supply chain issues within the Pacific.

2. Pacific Regional Logistics Cluster TOR
- Given the unusual nature of the response, and that all staff are working remotely, the Logistics Cluster is aiming to keep the number of participants on the meeting calls manageable. It is requested that one representative per agency joins the call, and that representative then forwards the information to their relevant colleagues. Other colleagues are welcome to join the meeting call for specific or pertinent updates, and the Logistics Cluster is open to further discussions on this if this will not work for specific agencies.
- There is a broader Logistics Cluster mailing list where information is shared, which all partner organisation staff can access.

3. Concept of Operations
- A Concept of Operations (ConOps) will be shared as soon as services are in place.
- Cargo consolidation points are being looked at in Guam and Nadi.
- There are still flights operating in the North Pacific and there are opportunities for cargo flights in the South Pacific, but this is very ad hoc.
- These services will not be a replacement for commercial flights. The Logistics Cluster will continue to utilise and promote other charter or scheduled flights, which should be considered the primary way of transporting cargo. The air service to be provided by WFP Aviation and the Logistics Cluster should be considered as a last resort.
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be completed and shared to enable humanitarian partners to access the services.
- WFP COVID-19 Response Common Services Plan will have a number of strategic coordination hubs and regional staging areas. This service will hopefully link into the Pacific plan. Details on how to access this service will be provided when it is open.

4. Charter flights – coordination
- Some coordination has been provided by Logistics Cluster in order to access chartered flights being managed by donors. If support for this is requested by the donors, Logistics Cluster will send out a spreadsheet to be completed for access to a specific flight. This will be submitted to the donor for consideration.
5. Cargo tracking

- A template for cargo tracking was shared prior to the meeting. This is to track humanitarian partners’ procurement pipeline and items for distribution, and thus to enable the Logistics Cluster to ensure that it facilitates the appropriate service provision.

6. Tropical Cyclone Harold

**Logistics Cluster**
- Potential bottlenecks have been identified with international cargo coming in.
- The Pacific Logistics Cluster is working through the national Logistics Cluster (NDMO) to work out how to best support the efforts of the national government and NDMO.
- The Logistics Cluster is reaching out to several organisations in-country for the latest information.
- The OCHA 3W Vanuatu high-level report is being completed today.

**IFRC**
- The Vanuatu Red Cross has been mobilising volunteers doing assessments.
- NFIs are in Pentecost and Ambrym. There is limited stock in-country.
- IFRC has been trying to get supplies onto one of the three Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) flights via the Australian Red Cross.
- Directive 35 – Procedures and formalities for international cargo flight arriving in Vanuatu is affecting / delaying goods arriving.
- At least 4,000 households have been identified as requiring shelter.
- IFRC is looking at local procurement for some items.
- Santo Airport is not fully operational. The DFAT flight may need to fly into Port Vila.
- IFRC stated it was interested in any opportunities to combine shipments from Port Vila.
- Ports are functional for small domestic vessels, as reported by the Vanuatu Red Cross.

**World Vision**
- Currently trying to get on an Australia Defence Force (ADF) cargo flight from Brisbane but not confirmed.
- World Vision will send hygiene kits, tarpaulins and other NFIs.
- World Vision Vanuatu has pre-positioned supplies and is now looking at ways to distribute the stocks around the islands.

**Save the Children**
- Save the Children is planning to support North Vanuatu.
- Trying to secure space on the DFAT cargo flight.

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UN RCO
- The Council of Ministers meeting took place today at 13:00. The meeting was discussing directly biosecurity and aid supply.

UNFPA
- UNFPA has a supply of tents in Brisbane and is working with Palladium to move them.
- UNFPA also has stocks in Suva, but because of lockdown the warehouse in Lami is inaccessible.

UNICEF
- CDP, the local courier service, also has special permissions to move across the Suva lockdown zone.
- The government is organising a vessel to send UNICEF wash kits to Kadavu next week.
- Pacific Direct Line Shipping Company (PDL) has a ship that runs to Vanuatu on a regular schedule.

CARE
- CARE is in discussions with DFAT and Palladium to move all their stocks on the first available DFAT flight, though awaiting confirmation and it is likely to be the second flight.

Pacific Disabilities Group
- The Pacific Disabilities Group is not a service-provider or responder. It support Disabled Persons’ Organisations (DPOs) in country. Organisations that need support in connecting with DPOs in country can contact the Pacific Disabilities Group.
- When procuring items, it should be borne in mind that assistance devices for disabled persons may have been damaged by the cyclone.

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