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<b>LOCATION</b>	Remote meeting
<b>DATE</b>	8 May 2020
<b>CHAIR</b>	Pacific Logistics Cluster
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Resident Coordinator Office (UNRCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Food Programme (WFP), World Vision
<b>ACTION POINTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pacific Logistics Cluster to send out link to WFP Emergency Services Marketplace.</li><li>• Pacific Logistics Cluster to send out link to Pacific Logistics Cluster Operations web page.</li><li>• Pacific Logistics Cluster to collect information regarding cargo for Tropical Cyclone Harold Response in Vanuatu.</li></ul>
<b>AGENDA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Updates from partners (COVID-19 and Tropical Cyclone Harold)</li><li>2. Commercial airlines operations</li><li>3. Shipping update</li><li>4. WFP Global Common Services Provision update</li></ol>

## 1. Updates from partners (COVID-19 and Tropical Cyclone Harold)

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### Logistics Cluster

- Air Vanuatu cargo flights to Port Vila have not been re-instated.
- There are still no publicised protocols for disinfection and quarantine for cargo going into Vanuatu at this stage.
- Pacific Logistics Cluster will collate a list of cargo that agencies still want to move into Port Vila. This can be shared with Vanuatu National Disaster Management Organisation (NDMO) to see if there is potential for cargo flights to be approved.

### WHO

- Currently coordinating the distribution of GeneXpert cartridges across the Pacific countries. The new cartridges will allow Pacific countries to undertake COVID-19 testing.

- Undertaking calculations to anticipate the requirements for Personal protective equipment (PPE) across the Pacific.
- Procurement of medical items is continuing.

## **World Vision**

- The team has distributed most of their stocks in Santo in response to Tropical Cyclone Harold.
- Currently still have jerry cans and hygiene kits in Brisbane for the response.
- Additional stocks are arriving in Vanuatu by ship, to Port Vila.
- Current gaps identified are hygiene kits, jerry cans and tarpaulins.
- For COVID-19 response, looking at prepositioning PPE for staff.

## **ADRA**

- Continuing to work with Fiji and Vanuatu NDMOs for the Tropical Cyclone Harold response.
- Supporting distributions in Lau and Kadavu (Fiji).
- Working with the Fiji Government on potential cash / voucher programme after the initial distributions.

## **UNICEF**

- Currently have PPE in Brisbane and in Shanghai.
- Health kits for Vanuatu are in Copenhagen. An air cargo request will be submitted via Emergency Services Marketplace.
- Additional purchase orders are being processed for swabs in the Pacific.

## **Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat**

- Through PIFS, high level discussions are underway regarding the Pacific Humanitarian Pathway.
- This pathway is to support the work across the Pacific for COVID-19 response.
- A recent meeting was held to review drafts of five separate protocols:
  - Customs
  - Diplomatic Clearances
  - Immigration
  - Repatriation
  - Technical Team Deployments
- A number of different agencies are part of the Taskforce Working Group including SPC, WHO and WFP.
- Currently looking at the distribution of a large amount of PPE donated via the Jack Ma foundation.

## **UNFPA**

- Currently procuring PPE for domestic violence workers.

## **DFAT**

- No significant updates from DFAT.
- Will continue to provide any relevant information through the Pacific Logistics Cluster.

## IFRC

- Still have some cargo in Brisbane for Tropical Cyclone Harold response in Vanuatu.
- Current gaps for the Tropical Cyclone Harold response in Vanuatu is mosquito nets, kitchen sets and shelter toolkits.
- Continuing to distribute personal protective equipment to Red Cross-National Societies in the Pacific – some difficulties with distributing to Palau and Federated States of Micronesia.
- Experiencing challenges in procuring masks.

## MFAT

- MFAT would consider a fourth flight into Vanuatu if necessary and possible.
- Looking at additional funding opportunities for COVID-19 response.

## 2. Commercial airlines operations

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- Commercial airlines are continuing to amend and update their schedules in the Pacific.
- Pacific Logistics Cluster will continue to monitor this. Really useful information is being shared by cluster members and others.
- There are a number of cargo flights flying regularly into the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs).
- Some of these routes are:
  - Nauru, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea (PNG) – connections with Brisbane
  - Cook Islands, Niue - connections with Auckland
  - Fiji – connections with Auckland, Sydney and Los Angeles
  - Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Palau, Northern Mariana Islands – connections through Guam, Hong Kong, Honolulu.
- It is important to consider these routes when undertaking procurements, considering the final destination of cargo.
- Freight forwarders know and understand these connections and can continue to advise individual agencies.
- Regular shipping scheduled within the Pacific continues to operate and should also continue to be considered for large non urgent consignments.

## 3. Shipping update

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- The Pacific Logistics Cluster has had a Shipping Officer on the team for a month monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 on shipping.

- There are non-standardised quarantine regulations across the region. During March and April, these regulations changed frequently making it difficult for shipping companies and customers to anticipate the impact to supply chain:
  - These regulations are now more standardised (with some exceptions).
  - Some routes have been altered to allow for varying quarantine periods for different countries.
- General reduction in demand, especially for non-essential goods. This has resulted in changes to services provided, such as:
  - Reduced frequency of sailing.
  - Use of smaller vessels.
- Solomon Islands is one of the countries experiencing the biggest impact:
  - Most routes have Papua New Guinea as the previous port with a short sailing time of two to four days. Solomon Islands have a 14-day quarantine period, with case-by-case reductions and exemptions. This is causing delays and knock-on costs.
  - Shipping companies are altering routes and considering implementing tariffs.
- Nauru is the other country experiencing the biggest impact:
  - Only one shipping line servicing Nauru, which has now introduced a COVID-19 tariff.
- Overall, commercial shipping companies are able to meet the shipping demand in the Pacific. The industry is adaptable and self-regulating enough to balance supply of services against decreased demand. Shipping is considered an essential service and is exempt from COVID-19 restrictions in many cases.
- Crew changes remains a complex issue.

#### 4. WFP Global Common Services Provision update

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- Most of the hubs are now operational and are receiving cargo.
- Individual agencies will manage who can have access to the [Emergency Services Marketplace](#) (ESM). Some agencies and organisations are managing this through a central point of contact, and others may allocate this down to a regional or country level.
- Access and management of this is not decided by WFP, so everyone should follow this up with their agencies and organisations to understand how it is going to be managed.
- The information required to make the ESM requests is effectively the same as a Service Request Form that most partners are familiar with.
- The ESM requests can be filled out and remain in draft if you are not ready to submit the request.
- Changes can be made by sending an email about your specific ESM request.
- The link will be sent to everyone again. It has all the documents, processes and FAQs available on the website. Individuals do not need to be registered in order to access these.

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# Meeting Minutes, 8 May 2020

Pacific Regional Logistics Cluster, Fiji



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## Contacts

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