Meeting Minutes, 26 June 2020
Pacific Regional Logistics Cluster, Fiji

LOCATION  Remote meeting
DATE      26 June 2020
CHAIR     Pacific Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS
Australia 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), Save the Children, United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization (WHO), World Food Programme (WFP)

ACTION POINTS
• Pacific Logistics Cluster to follow up on US tariffs for Chinese manufactured goods.
• Pacific Logistics Cluster to assist in coordinating request to include cargo on the Australian ship sailing to Vanuatu by the end of July.
• Pacific Logistics Cluster to meet bilaterally with UNICEF to discuss vaccine transport to Pacific islands.

AGENDA
1. Update on WFP Emergency Service Marketplace
2. Update on Pacific Logistics Cluster service provision
3. Pacific Shipping update
4. Updates from partners

1. Update on WFP Emergency Services Marketplace

COVID-19
• The WFP Emergency Service Marketplace (ESM) allows any humanitarian organisation to request free-to-user transport of COVID-19 related items or other humanitarian cargo.
• Requests made in the system through agency-designated representatives are then consolidated and matched with available transport services.
• The system is managed globally by WFP.

2. Update on Pacific Logistics Cluster service provision

• The PLC service provision is meant to fill gaps in the transport of humanitarian goods and services in the Pacific.

https://logcluster.org/ops/pacific
3. Shipping industry update

- COVID-19 restrictions have been eased in all countries. Remaining restrictions particularly in the Solomon Islands, RMI, Tuvalu and Kiribati are not significantly interfering with cargo movement.
- Shipping industry is responding to decreased demand with reduced services and higher rates.
- Crew changes are still challenging due to quarantine measures still in place.

4. Updates from partners

- Procurement support to governments is continuing to be provided by some UN agencies.
- Restoring the movement of Cepheid (GenXpert) cartridges throughout the Pacific islands is also another WHO priority. Trans-shipment through Hawaii or Guam may be a viable option. Logistics Cluster to follow up on the challenges that were raised regarding tariffs on items manufactured in China that are trans-shipped through the US.
- Organisations continue to find it difficult to send cargo to Palau, FSM and Tuvalu due to lack of cargo flights within the Pacific.
- The Australian Defence Force will be sailing a ship from Australia to Vanuatu at the end of July. Partners needing to deliver cargo to the destination may request through DFAT.
- MFAT raised there there may be opportunities to ship cargo through the repatriation flights flown by the New Zealand Defence force between Auckland and other Pacific countries. Logistics Cluster will share details with partners and will assist with the coordination to access the flights.