
Meeting Minutes, 6 November 2020

Pacific Regional Logistics Cluster, Fiji



LOCATION	Remote meeting
DATE	6 November 2020
CHAIR	Pacific Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), Save the Children, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), World Food Programme (WFP), and World Health Organization (WHO)
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pacific Logistics Cluster (PLC) to prepare a discussion guide on cyclone season preparedness for the next coordination meeting on 27 November.• PLC to follow-up Pacific COVID-19 Joint Incident Management Training (JIMT) planning around COVAX for possible link with similar initiatives by the US Government.
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. COVID-19 regional situation2. Updates from partners3. Pacific Logistics Cluster updates

1. COVID-19 Situation in the Pacific

- The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) reported its first two COVID-19 cases. These cases were imported. There may be impacts on repatriation activities as well as on commercial passenger and cargo services.

2. Updates from partners

UNICEF

- UNICEF continues moving routine vaccines and other supplies around the Pacific and following up with partners on the arrival of these items. 20 ventilators with included consumables are expected to arrive in Brisbane by 30 November. 41 autoclaves have been ordered and are now en route. 500,000 bars of soap are reportedly received by Ministries of Health and/or Ministries of Education in seven destination countries.

- UNICEF is discussing with the Pacific Community (SPC) the procurement of additional personal protective equipment (PPE) and other biomedical equipment.
- UNICEF is prepositioning stocks for the coming cyclone season in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Australia (Brisbane).
- UNICEF is sending standard vaccines along with syringes, safety boxes and toners on the WFP flight to Kiribati on 8 November.
- UNICEF's 80 cubic metre expanded cold storage in Namaka, Fiji is now fully commissioned and operational.

WHO

- WHO is moving 40 MT of medical devices (oxygen concentrators, patient monitors, and PPE) for the Pacific Region. The majority of the devices come from Singapore which is also a hub receiving orders from China and Europe. WHO is utilizing Fiji Airways Nadi (NAN)-Singapore (SIN)-Nadi (NAN) cargo flights on 22 October (10 MT), 5 November (12.5 MT) and 19 November (10MT). These are stored in the PLC transit warehouse in Nadi before onward transport.
- WHO's distribution of GeneXpert cartridges in the Pacific is now 70-80% completed. WHO has agreed with Cepheid that WHO will place another significant order if the current order is fulfilled by the end of 2020.
- WHO is providing a container laboratory for Niue. It is being built in New Zealand and will be delivered in early to the middle of January 2021.

DFAT

- DFAT continues to deliver GeneXpert cartridges from WHO.
- DFAT is sending 600 kilograms of pharmaceuticals in WFP flight to Kiribati on 8 November.

BHA

- Inter-island travel by sea and air in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is currently difficult due to necessary maintenance, some untoward incidents and further complications due to the pandemic.
- The US Government is organising a large desk top planning activity addressing the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccines provided by the US Center for Disease Control (CDC) for FSM, RMI and Palau. The PLC is invited to a table-top exercise being organised.

MFAT

- Preparedness and response activities related to the coming cyclone season are expected to be complicated by the current realities of the pandemic.

Save the Children

- A regional logistics focal point is on-boarding and will be introduced soon.

3. Pacific Logistics Cluster update

Coordination

- On the next PLC coordination meeting on 27 November, cyclone season preparedness will be added to the agenda points and a discussion guide will be prepared.

Common Services

- PLC is preparing cargo for the following WFP flights:
 - Cargo flight to Kiribati and Nauru confirmed for 8 November. Flight is already fully subscribed.
 - Passenger flight from Kuala Lumpur to Port Moresby to Nadi on 11 November and back on 12 November 2020 (cargo for Papua New Guinea). This is the second in a series of two flights.
- PLC has finalised the details for two WFP flights now available in the [WFP Humanitarian Booking Hub](#):
 - Sydney to Nadi 18 November
 - Nadi to Brisbane 19 November
- PLC is still organising a flight for FSM and RMI mainly for the UNICEF cargo which are bound for those countries. PLC has reached out to coordination teams in both countries to determine if potential cargo or passenger flights will be accepted.
- PLC received additional cargo into Nadi transit warehouse from WHO on 6 November 2020.
- The WFP global cargo service (via the ESM) has ceased accepting bookings. The Pacific Humanitarian Air Service however will still continue depending on partners requirements. Monitoring of the commercial sector will also continue to inform the services that are required.

Commercial Transport Services

- Fiji Airways have extended the cancellation of regular international flights until the end of 2020. However, they have made available some repatriation flights for Australia and Fiji citizens this month. They have an allocation of 35 passengers for those flights. More details on their [travel alerts page](#).
- Air New Zealand flights from Fiji to Australia even with transit through New Zealand seem to be no longer available. PLC and MFAT will continue to monitor this situation.

PALM

- The cluster's Pacific Logistics Mapping (PALM) tool is available for agencies to update their information on their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as in preparation for the coming cyclone season. Guidance on the use of the system is available upon request. Please contact the PLC team directly.

Contacts

Meaghan Barry

Logistics Cluster Coordinator

meaghan.barry@wfp.org

Mark Maulit

Information Management Officer

mark.maulit@wfp.org