Meeting Minutes, 22 December 2022

Syria Cross Border Operation, Türkiye Gaziantep

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LOCATION	Gaziantep (In-person and online)
DATE	22 December 2022
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	CARE International, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Global Communities, Hand in Hand, Horan Foundation, Human Appeal, Insani Yadımlaşma Derneği (IYD), Malteser International. Muzun for Humanitarian & Development, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Save the Children, Syrian Expatriate Medical Association (SEMA), Turkish Red Crescent (TRC), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Welthungerhilfe, World Health Organization (WHO), World Vision International (WVI)
ACTION POINTS	• The Logistics Cluster to follow up with the procurement working group on their activities. • The Logistics Cluster to explore the customs process of shipping restricted/prohibited medical items and equipment to North West Syria (NWS) and follow up with the Health Cluster on a potential solution. • The Logistics Cluster to explore customs processes and other options in case of non-renewal of the UNSCR and the consequent absence of the UN transhipment hub
AGENDA	1. Logistics Cluster Update 2. Partners Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks 3. AOB

Logistics Cluster Updates

CROSS BORDER OPERATIONS

Cross-border operations from the Bab al-Hawa (BAH) border crossing into Northwest Syria:

- In November, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transhipment of 812 trucks (18,142 MT) in Reyhanli transhipment hub, on behalf of WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA with health supplies, IOM with Shelter items, and WFP with food assistance. 67% of the shipments were transported to Idleb governorate, and around 33% percent to Aleppo governorate.
- The Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transhipment of 7,365 trucks since January 2022.

- The Turkish Red Crescent has transhipped around 500 trucks in November and expecting to tranship a total of 7,000 this year from 200 partners at eight (8) border crossing points.
- All details of the transhipment operations can be found on the Logistics Cluster infographic, regularly updated.
- United Nations Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM) emphasized the future planning of the transshipment, so they have an idea about the required staffing.
- In case of non-renewal of the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR), the Logistics Cluster will not have a legal framework to continue the facilitation of the Reyhanli transhipment hub (Bab al-Hawa). In this scenario, it is expected a transition period of 3-4 months. The Logistics Cluster would conduct a gaps and needs analysis with partners to provide support. The Logistics Cluster would continue with its coordination activities and plan a slow handover to INGO/NGO partner.

CROSSLINE MISSIONS TO NORTHWEST SYRIA

- Preparations are ongoing for Sarmada 10 Inter-Agency convoy, a cross-line convoy from Aleppo to WFP WH in Sarmada/Idleb. The convoy is planned for the last few days of December 2022.
- On 30 November, a 16-truck inter-agency crossline convoy (Sarmada 9) took place with the facilitation of the Logistics Cluster, including Food, nutrition, NFI, and Health items on behalf of 4 UN agencies (UNHCR, WHO, UNICEF, and WFP).

COMMON SERVICES

- In November 2022, 127.5 m^3 health items were released from the Qamishly warehouse on behalf of one partner.
- To request free storage services contact syria.clustercargo@wfp.org. Storage services SOPs can be accessed here.
- **Note**: In line with the current Logistics Cluster Strategy for 2023, the Logistcs Cluster has discontinued free-to-user common storage services in Aleppo. WFP could assist humanitarian partners with various logistics services on cost-recovery basis (contact SYR BSP Logistics unit for further information: co_syr_bsp_logistics@wfp.org)

Partners Logistics Gaps and Bottlenecks

- Partners have identified the shipping of anaesthetic and psychotropic medications to NWS as a key challenge. UNFPA will share the process they follow with the Logistics cluster to be circulated with partners.
- Access Working Group cited that the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 2664) had been approved on 9 December. This resolution will facilitate the timely delivery of aid in some of the biggest humanitarian emergencies. In NWS in particular, it should facilitate the local procurement and signing of supply contracts by humanitarian partners. It should also ease direct interactions between

these partners and local civilian authorities and the handover of assets after the completion of projects. The details will be shared by the Logistics Cluster.

- Turkish Red Crescent TRC) mentioned that their transshipment activities would continue even if there is a non-renewal of the UNSCR 2642.
- An NGO partner shared that it is currently prohibited to export medical drugs from Turkiye to Syria due to the shortage of them.

Any other Business

- Seven partners have already shared their supplier list, and the Logistics Cluster will consolidate and share it with all partners.
- Each agency partner is encouraged to have a contingency plan in place in the event that the UN Security Council Resolution 2642 is not renewed. The Logistics Cluster will assist in guiding partners, especially on the customs procedures.
- The end-of-year performance survey will be shared by the Logistics Cluster to capture feedback from partners regarding its strengths and opportunities for improvement. All partners are encouraged to complete the survey.
- The Logistics Cluster will disseminate a training needs assessment questionnaire to ascertain training requirements of its partners.

Contacts

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