Meeting Minutes, 31 January 2023

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

LOCATION	Addis Ababa, online
DATE	31 January 2023
CHAIR	• Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) Adviser • Pamela Onyango, Deputy Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	ACAPS, ACTED, Alight, Action Against Hunger (AAH), Alight, Action for Social Development and Environmental Protection Organization (ASDEPO),Care International, Christian-Aid, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Caritas Ethiopia, Concern Worldwide (CWW), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Food and Agriculture Organisation, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Handicap International, International Committee for the Development of People (CISP), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), International Medical Corps, International Organizations for Migration (IOM), Islamic Relief, Lutheran World, Medical Teams International, Oxfam, Plan International, Medicines du Monde, Save the Children, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), USAID, Welthungerhilfe, World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), World Vision Ethiopia, ZOA
ACTION POINTS	• Partners to share regular reports with the Logistics Cluster confirming the arrival of their cargo at the destination in Tigray by writing to ethiopia.humanitarianconvoys@wfp.org • The Logistics Cluster and EDRMC will host a workshop for the humanitarian partners and the Customs Commission on 8-9 February in Addis Ababa. Cluster coordinators are requested to appoint the representatives from their respective clusters that will be participating to the workshop. Cluster coordinators should send the names of the appointed representatives to pamela.onyango@wfp.org. • Despite the limited available capacity of the workshop with Customs, all partners are invited to send in any questions they may want to see addressed during the workshop by writing to: hannah.bamberger@wfp.org
AGENDA	• EDRMC Updates • Situation Updates • Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations • Partners Discussion and Any other Business (AoB)

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LOGISTICS CLUSTER

1. EDRMC Updates

- EDRMC informed partners that it has issued notification letters for the requests of different banks to move their staff to Tigray in the past week. Some additional banks are expected to reopen soon in Tigray according to EDRMC.
- Despite improvements in the transportation of food to Tigray, WASH, nutrition, and health supplies are still desperately required in the area. EDRMC urged partners to raise any challenges they may have delivering these supplies to Tigray.

2. Situation Updates

OCHA Updates

- **Tigray**: OCHA mentioned that access has improved significantly in the region, and partners have been able to access the main towns, including the areas along the Shire -Adigrat route, with no access issues.
- OCHA informed partners that there are some security concerns in certain areas of Central Tigray. OCHA continues to work on ensuring partners can deliver assistance to all areas of Tigray.
- There have been access challenges reported along Gondar – Shire routes.
- Partners were advised to move with caution along May Tsebri, as well as in Southern and Western Tigray.
- OCHA is planning to conduct several missions within Tigray and to a few boundary areas with Eritrea, including Zala Anbesa and Sheraro.
- OCHA emphasized that when partners are moving supplies to Tigray, they must make sure they have all the necessary letters to ensure smooth movement into Tigray.
- In some areas of Tigray, a letter of support from local authorities may be required, according to OCHA. Partners can reach out to the OCHA Access Working Group for further information: casafont@un.org
- Additionally, OCHA mentioned that the head of the suboffice in Tigray, UNDSS and partners on the ground are working on the access analysis and way forwards to access hard-to-reach areas.
- **Afar**: OCHA mentioned that it continues to support partners regarding access in some kebeles in Afar in Zone 2, including Megale.
- **Amhara**: OCHA highlighted that partners moving supplies to Tigray from the Amhara region must get the necessary support letters from the relevant authorities in Bahir Dar.
- OCHA also shared that the team in Amhara is working on access in Sekota to support partners in reaching communities in hard-to-reach areas, mainly in Abergele and Tsegebaji.
- **Oromia**: OCHA shared that there was an access mission to Western Oromia last week. The security situation along this area is volatile.

- Despite the security challenges, some improvements along the main towns and roads were noted.
- OCHA is working with partners, local authorities, and communities in Nekemete, Gimbi, and Benshangul to develop a new access analysis and a prompt response strategy, particularly in the health, nutrition, and protection sectors.
- For further inquiries, partners can reach out to: **casafont@un.org**

WFP Bilateral Service Provision (WFP-BSP)

- WFP-BSP shared the fuel allocation and released status with partners. Since November 2022, 904,209 Liters have been received in Mekelle and Shire, out of which 687,858 Liters of fuel have been released to partners. At the time of reporting, 216,351 Liters of fuel are available for distribution.
- WFP-BSP reminded partners to settle the outstanding payments that are pending on their side. WFP BSP emphasized that this is affecting their full cost recovery mechanism.
- Any questions about WFP Bilateral Service Provision can be addressed to: addisababa.serviceprovision@wfp.org

2. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations

Cargo Movement to Tigray Updates

- Between 15 November 2022 and 31 January 2023, the Logistics Cluster received confirmation from partners that a total of 142,455 mt of humanitarian cargo and 1,069,789 litres of fuel arrived in Tigray. Out of the arrived cargo, the majority (113,700 mt) was transported via the Semera corridor, followed by the Gondar corridor (19,100 mt) and the Kombolcha corridor (9,600 MT).
- Since 15 November, a total of 4,084 trucks have been submitted to EDRMC for Support letters, and 4,049 have received the required support letter.

Upcoming Customs workshop

- Logistics Cluster shared that an upcoming customs workshop will be held in Addis Ababa between 8-9 February 2023.
- Logistics Cluster shared that the aim of the workshop is to provide Customs and the humanitarian community an opportunity to interact, foster a better mutual understanding of the processes, and create greater cooperation in the importation of supplies and items that support humanitarian operations.

- Logistics Cluster informed that two to three representatives from each cluster sector can register for the workshop. Participants will be expected to have knowledge and understanding of the importation process and to share the workshop's outcomes with their respective sectoral partners.
- Participants will be appointed by Cluster leads, who should share the names by 1 February COB with pamela.onyango@wfp.org

Logistics Cluster available Training Material

- The Logistics Cluster shared with partners the online training resources that can be found on the Logistics Cluster e-learning platform here.
- Partners were encouraged to visit the Logistics Operational Guide (LOG), where they can find several logistics-related materials and guidance.

Storage Updates

- The Logistics Cluster informed partners on the storage capacity available: 95% of the storage capacity is available in Addis Ababa, 25% in Adama, 66% in Semera,63% in Mekelle,83% in Shire, 75% in Gondar and 50% in Kombolcha.

3. Partners Discussion and Any other Business (AoB)

Fuel stations in Tigray

- A partner asked if commercial fuel suppliers have started providing service in Tigray. One partner reportedly witnessed some fuel stations opened in Mekelle.

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 7 February at 11:00 EAT online

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