
Sudan Operation

Sudan – Coordination Meeting Minutes

8 August 2023



LOCATION	Khartoum (online)
DATE	8 August 2023
CHAIR	Regional Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	Africa Global Logistics (AGL), African Union (AU), American Refugees Council (ARC), CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Concern Worldwide (CWW), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), European Community Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO), Global Fund (GF), GOAL, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Logistics Working Group Chad (LWG-C), Medical Teams International (MTI), Médecins Sans Frontières Belgium (MSF-B), Medair, Norwegian Red Cross, Première Urgence Internationale (PUI), Relief International (RI), Save the Children International (SCI), Solidarites International (SI), United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations High Commission for Refugee (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Vision International (WVI).
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Revision of previous action points2. Humanitarian Convoy updates3. Entry points status4. Sudan Logistics Information Exchange (LogIE) update5. AoB
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ad-hoc IMPACCT technical discussions dedicated to the importation of pharmaceutical products to be held on 10 August.• The Logistics Cluster will follow up with the CMCoord on possible routes and destinations that humanitarian convoys could cover.• The Logistics Cluster to clarify through the IMPACCT working group the status of medical supplies crossing through the Ethiopian border.

1. Revision of previous action points

- IMPACCT technical discussions dedicated to the importation of pharmaceutical items have been postponed to this week to hold dedicated to the importation of relief items from Port-Sudan and challenges to import humanitarian aid from Chad.
-

- UNHAS Shared several important user documents to guide partners in using the services provided. UNHAS will regularly update the FAQs which can be accessed by this link: [FAQs - UNHAS Sudan Airbridge Operation.pdf](#). The FAQs together with other UNHAS forms and guides can be accessed on the [Humanitarian Booking Hub](#). The Logistics Cluster will follow up with UNHAS on the survey they intend to conduct and share results with partners.
- WFP successfully crossed through the Chad Adre/ El Geneina border on 3 August with 125 mt of supplies distributed in Adikong, Jarabi and Shukria located between the border and El Geneina.
- The Chad Logistics Working group coordinator and Information Management Officer have arrived, and they will engage closely with the team to give clear updates from the Chad border entry point.

2. Humanitarian convoys

- Partners should submit their requests to join the convoy using the standard [CMCoord link](#) every Saturday since the convoys take place on Tuesdays.
- The roles of the Logistics Cluster and CMCoord have been clearly defined in the convoy management: CMCoord is responsible for the identification of routes, negotiation of access and defining locations of layover, while the Logistics Cluster is responsible for the logistical movement, ensuring drivers have the necessary clearance from HAC, MI and/or GIS to dispatch the trucks.
- A total of 24 trucks from 4 partners were part of the inter-agency convoy that left on 3 August from Kosti to hard-to-reach locations of Kordufan and Darfur. Specific locations include Ed Dien, Al Fula, Nayala, Al Fasher and Abu Jubiyah. The convoy is moving slowly due to challenges being faced and only one truck reached the final destination in Abu Jubiyah.
- In order to avoid the delays experienced by the ongoing convoy, partners were reminded to:
 - Ensure truck drivers carry enough cash
 - The drivers follow the routes advised by the CMCoord.
 - Ensure proper maintenance of the trucks. The breakdown of any trucks will delay the whole convoy
 - Ensure drivers and transporters are aware of the non-escort rule.
- The team (Logistics Cluster, CMCoord and Access WG) recommended intensive sensitisation of truck drivers and transporters to follow the given instructions. All partners involved in the convoy are also required to brief their truck drivers to mitigate this problem and note the following for the success of the next convoys.
 - Partners should hand over the hard copy of clearances from HAC, MI and/or GIS to truck drivers.
 - Ensure all trucks will leave at the same time in the convoy. Any truck drivers not following this will be left out of the convoy.
 - Payment and bribes at different checkpoints are prohibited because the CMCoord have already discussed and agreed with the parties of the conflict of no payments to be made at

the checkpoints. Partners encountering this issue should inform the Logistics Cluster to take up the issue with CMCoord to resolve the problem.

- The truck drivers should be reliably informed that there will be no escorts during the convoy movement.
- Partners are advised to ask transporters to ensure drivers carry enough cash for the entire convoy movement duration to avoid delay and ensure all drivers comply with the movement instructions received from the Logistics Cluster, CMCoord and Access.
- WFP is currently providing fuel to partners on a cost-recovery basis at locations of Port Sudan, Kosti, Damazine, Gedaref and Kassala. Partners will be notified in case of any changes in the current locations.
- The Logistics Cluster is compiling the list of transporters in a vendor list that is available to share with partners. Partners can request this list by sending an email to sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org
- Partners facing difficulties securing trucks to join the convoy can reach out to WFP to request transport services under a Service Level Agreement (SLA) for a bilateral service provision arrangement. These services are provided on a cost-recovery basis, meaning partners would pay WFP for the service. In order to access these services, partners can send an email to Ali, ali.awan@wfp.org and copying Fiona, fiona.lithgow@wfp.org and Denis, denis.iga@wfp.org. Partners are advised to submit the request one week in advance to departure so that partner can receive clearance from HAC, GIS and/or MI on time
- A partner inquired if there exist other locations and destinations where this convoy will and can reach or cover. In response, the Logistics Cluster will follow up with the CMCoord since they are responsible for determining routes and destinations.

A partner asked for the possibility of conducting a market assessment in Sudan. However, the Logistics Cluster does not have the capacity for this activity but will liaise with the Cash working group to leverage information.

3. Entry points Status

- The Logistic Cluster had contact with OCHA Egypt to know the number of partners trying to cross into Sudan through the Egypt border with humanitarian supplies. Updates will be available in the next week. While noting that WFP successfully crossed the border with no challenges in mid-June. WFP experience was compiled in the IMPACCT working group guidelines available [on the website](#). IMPACCT working group is working together with partners to track the amount of time it takes for cargo to be cleared through the different entry points into Sudan,.
- Regarding the Ethiopian border (Metema-Galabat), 50 trucks from WFP are still on hold, awaiting Military Intelligence (MI) clearance from the Sudan side. The declaration of a state of emergency in the Amhara region on 6 August has caused additional delays due to the restrictions of movement within the region.
- Cross-border from South Sudan to Sudan is possible. WFP has a Memorandum of Understanding with Sudan and South Sudan to use the cross-border point to move food and NFIs by river through Renk (in

the North, movement by river is possible). Partners are encouraged to reach out to the South Sudan Logistics Cluster southsudan.rivertransport@wfp.org for more information.

- A partner asked if the measles outbreak between the Ethiopia and Sudan border has affected the entry point status. The Logistics Cluster will follow up with the IMPACCT working group if the medical cargo can now be transported through this entry point.
- On the Chad - Adre border, WFP has successfully crossed through the Chad Adre/ El Geneina border on 3 August with 125mt of supplies distributed in Adikong, Jarabi and Shukria located between the boarder and El Geneina.

4. LogIE (Logistics Information Exchange) updates

- The LogIE is available on the [Sudan webpage](#). A [short tutorial](#) has also been developed to explain the navigation through the tool and how to download the information in pdf.
- On the Physical Access Constraints layer, the Chad roads have been added and updated with the information provided by the WFP Chad Country Office team at the previous coordination meeting. Additionally, the entry point in Adre has improved as the Sudan government has agreed to allow humanitarian access. However, this excludes security and work arrangement of the customs officers. Partners are encouraged to provide information on the physical status of the roads or the status of the entry points via sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org
- In terms of partners storage capacity mapping, the Logistics Cluster has conducted a quick analysis with the findings of partners' available temperature controlled of 408 m2 and non-temperature controlled Storage of 25,913 m2, reported by only 9 partners. To enhance the mapping of warehouse capacity, partners are encouraged [to submit the data](#) on their warehouses in Sudan (they can also fill and share this [excel file](#)) to help understand the gaps and resources available.
- The Logistics Cluster will report on the temperature-controlled storage from Mearsk as well as the one through the commercial operator.

5. AOB

- The Logistics Cluster encourages partners to share items they would like to discuss so they are included in the next agenda meeting (sdn.response.logcoordination@wfp.org). The Logistics Cluster is open to providing organisation slots during the coordination meetings to share their experience, success stories, and challenges in delivering humanitarian assistance.
- Partners to contact the Logistics Cluster focal point in Port Sudan (ali.awan@wfp.org) regarding queries or requests on temperature-controlled services.
- A partner inquired if another partner has experience using commercial aircrafts apart from UNHAS. The Logistics Cluster does not hold a list of commercial air transporters but could liaise with UNHAS if the partner would like to engage in a bilateral service agreement.

Sudan Operation

Sudan – Coordination Meeting Minutes

8 August 2023



- The issue of congestion at Port Sudan was raised as a partner faced challenges since the ship with its supplies could not dock at the port. The Logistics Cluster is following up with focal points in Port Sudan to understand if this situation is due to challenges faced to clear goods out of the port, or due to many consignments received at the same time.

Contacts

Fiona Lithgow

Regional Logistics Coordinator

fiona.lithgow@wfp.org

Ali Awan

Logistics Cluster Coordinator

ali.awan@wfp.org

Iga Denis

Information Management

SDN.response.logcoordination@wfp.org