Chad-Sudan- X-Border Logistics Coordination Group

Chad Sudan – Coordination Meeting Minutes

6 September 2023

LOCATION	N'Djamena, Chad (online)
DATE	6 September 2023
CHAIR	Chad-Sudan X-Border Logistics Coordination Group
PARTICIPANTS	ECHO Field, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) International Medical Corps (IMC), Handicap International (HI), HULO, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Première Urgence Internationale (PUI), United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), United Nations High Commission for Refugee (UNHCR), Relief International (RI), United Nations Childrens' Funds (UNICEF), World Food Program (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), SAHKAL
AGENDA	1. Action Points 2. X-Border Update 3. General Update 4. AOB 5. Tips for Multilingual meeting
ACTION POINTS	• UN and NGO partners to keep sharing their capacity with the Logistics Cluster • Partners interested in ECHO-HULO flights to submit their interest. • UNHAS is looking for focal points in Adré to secure a helicopter landing zone. Please, contact Raymond.shady@wfp.org for more information.

1. Action Points

- A few partners have already shared data on their data on logistics capacities. However, the Logistics cluster is still Collecting Logistics capacities information for UN and NGO partners.
- The maps for the logistics capacities will be produced and sent in a few days to partners. The group will be working on a constraint map and share with partners in the next few days.

2. X-Border Update

- Partners shared key elements and lessons learned about their experience on cross-border operations (experiences and recommendations).

- A partner shared their experience of successfully crossing through Adre without being required to offload all the cargo at the border. Still offloading is required at the Kulbuz border. However, there were several inspections conducted and additional documentation was required in the process. The partner requested working together with OCHA in negotiating with the authorities to facilitate this cross-border operation.
- Partners trucks' plate numbers are required to facilitate X-border customs procedures. Partners were encouraged to contact OCHA in case of an unexpected change in trucks.
- Custom procedures information will be shared by partners and consolidated by the Logistics Cluster and forwarded to the CMCoord for further advocacy.
- A partner recommends updating the existing procedures for partners cargo movement.
- Partner pointed out the need to have a OCHA staff permanently near the border to coordinate and manage all procedures with authorities.

- OCHA presented and emphasized the importance of all partners using the procedures for the notification system or Humanitarian Information Sharing Mechanism (HINS) for cross-border operation.
  - Partners interested should submit their request at least 2 days in advance online via the OCHA portal:
    - Partners to fill offline the form (Lettre de letter Consignment) a minimum of 48 before the supply movement and share it with OCHA and DHC as the advocacy focal point for all humanitarian partners' operations; partners can contact via: boudria@un.org / athanase.ndayisaba@un.org; shbib@un.org; toby.harward@un.org and christophe.vial@wfp.org
  - The supply and personnel movement which requires the 6 core details that should be provided through the notification system. This information is shared with the DHC Chad and OCHA to get the linkages with the government on partners' movement. However, this will only be on cross-border operations from Chad to Sudan.
- Two partners have engaged implementing partners at Adre and moved two trucks of about 20 mT of cargo to Genena while from Kulbuz where they moved cargo from N'djamena. These partners only did paperwork from the Chadian side as their implementing partners did the paperwork from the Sudan side. This was the first cross-border movement conducted by these partners and they continue to monitor the situation for future movement of cargo.
- The storage bottleneck is still reported in Farchana. operations, being it Chad refugee or the cross-border operation to Sudan.
- Organisations were reminded to inform OCHA of any challenges or security incidents.
- OCHA and the DHC are reviewing the SOP for cross-border humanitarian operations from Chad to Darfur (Sudan) will be shared with partners. OCHA will update partners on a weekly basis.
- Some partners requested the creation of a dedicated working group for Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for cross-border humanitarian operations from Chad to Darfur, in Sudan. Partners request the Chad-Sudan-X-border Logistic Coordination Group to collaborate with OCHA, and IMPACCT Working Group to develop proper cross-border SOPs which will include common logistic methodology and a clear understanding of the customs procedures to enhance partners' activities.

- Partners requested to have a list of Chadian and Sudanese trucks suppliers. The X-Border logistics coordination team will share a list of Chadian transporters already accessible on the Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs): Chad Transporters in the coming days.
- Regarding cold chain, some partners requested mapping the existing cold chain storage capacities available for X-border operations. Regarding cold chain, some partners requested mapping the existing cold chain storage capacities available for X-border operations. The Logistics Cluster will work on the mapping of existing facilities. Organizations that need cold chain storage can contact the coordination of the X-Border via christophe.vial@wfp.org to link with the partner on the needs and support on the temperature-controlled storage request.
- Atlas Logistics continues to offer free-to-user storage service in Adre to partners since the end of July. In one month, a total of 110 mt have been received for storage and 5 mt have been released. In addition to the storage services, Atlas also provides kitting services for storage. Atlas also provided an update on the storage utilisation of the Mobile Storage Units, currently at a occupancy rate of 75%. For any questions related to this Atlas storage services, please contact: Marvin Vidon, head of storage, m.vidon@hi.org, Telephone: 60 06 76 87 / 94 94 32 86 (WhatsApp) and Julie Saleless, Area Manager Adré, j.salelles@hi.org , Téléphone : 60 06 76 13 / 94 94 32 85.
- WFP is providing services through On Demand Services (ODS, formerly Bilateral Service Provision), offering storage service to partners in Chad on a cost recovery basis. For more information, partners can contact Christophe Vial at christophe.vial@wfp.org and salifou.mougniga@wfp.org

3. General Updates

- In term of transport, partners are possibly looking at air transportation options (strategic airlifts from Europe, Accra, Dubai) due to the difficulties in the West Africa corridor linked to seasonality.
- ECHO is considering a potential flight from Europe to Ndjamena. The consultation opened few weeks ago is re-opened until 14 September at 12:00. The criteria to be integrated to the flight would be:
    - Goods used/distributed immediately.
    - In response to the Sudan crisis and influx of refugees into easter Chad.
    - Items dedicated to the displaced population from eastern Chad and cross border movement to Darfur.
- For the time being, the EUHAB mechanism has not been activated for this flight but to further advocate on EUHAB activation. Partners are encourage to share their needs on the dedicated platform Transport.hulo
- During the meeting, Hulo presented the EUHAB – process in five phases:
    - Identify partner needs.
    - Suitability to allocate loads/needs to available capacities.
    - Preparation to get the goods to the airport of departure and prepare the documentation.
    - Flight to the destination country, followed by collection of good by partners in the field.
    - Lessons learned for the entire process, flight/operation closure and reporting.

- For the time being, the EUHAB mechanism has not been activated for this flight. To further advocate on the EUHAB activation, partners are encouraged to share their needs on the platform.
- UN agencies to express their needs to christophe.vial@wfp.org for consolidation.

4. AOB

- UNHAS route and planning was shared with participants.
- UNHAS is looking for focal points in Adré to secure a helicopter landing zone. Please, contact Raymond.shady@wfp.org for more information.
- All the Xborder products can be found in the Sudan Logistics Cluster webpage. Some of them are the General Logistics Planning map, Sudan-Chad border and the Sudan-Chad border assessment insights and maps.
- LogIE is a tool that allows to get relevant logistics information through an online interface. The tool is already online for Sudan and Chad and will help to share physical constraints in both countries.
- The Chad-Sudan X-Border Logistics Coordination team requests partners to share all information about road constraints to update LogIE and to print additional maps. Partners are encouraged to do so by sending an email to seraphin.mbusa@wfp.org and sdn.response.logcoordination@logcluster.org

5. Tips for Multilingual Meeting

- French people can use some features of Microsoft Teams to translate the slides or presentations of the presenter during the meeting. The presentation will be shared with partner.

The next Chad-Sudan-X-border Logistics Coordination Group meeting will be held on 13 September 2023 at 15:30 Chad local time.

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