Operation Overview, August 2023

Somalia

Current Context

WFP Somalia, Mogadishu, 2022

- Somalia's current context is marked by a transition from severe drought to the rainy season. Forecasts of El Niño raise the likelihood of riverine and flash floods, which are expected to frequently affect communities along the Shabelle and Juba rivers, potentially worsening humanitarian needs (FAO July 2023). Additionally, above-average precipitation is anticipated
- Furthermore, conflict remains a primary driver of humanitarian needs, with 470,000 people displaced between January and May 2023 (OCHA June 2023). The impeding military operation against non-state armed forces further increases the likelihood of significant displacement and humanitarian needs.
- Both floods and conflict-related displacement overlap significantly in Galmudug, Southwest State and Jubaland, where there is a pressing need for common logistics services, particularly air transport capacity. The humanitarian community requires coordinated efforts and common services to effectively address the challenges posed by both drought and floods.

Operational Highlights

Coordination

- The Logistics Cluster convened two National Logistics Cluster Coordination meetings on 15 and 29 August 2023.
- The Logistics Cluster, in collaboration with IMPACCT, continues to lead the Import and Customs Clearance Technical Working Group. In August, the Logistics Cluster, in collaboration with IMPACCT, organized an Import and Customs Clearance Technical Working Group meeting on 31 August. Key topics discussed included:
    - The recently introduced Certificate of Conformity (CoC), which came into effect on 02 September. Bureau Veritas has been designated as the organization responsible for CoC issuance. With its extensive global presence, if the CoC is unavailable at the point of dispatch, it will be issued upon arrival at the port of entry in Somalia. its global presence, if it's not available at the point of dispatch, the CoC will be issued at the port of entry in Somalia. Anticipated processing time for CoC issuance is approximately 2 hours. For commodities exempted from CoC requirements, partners are requested to review the operations manual.
    - A new fee has been introduced at Mogadishu airport, requiring humanitarian partners to pay 1.05 USD per kilogram for cargo transported from the airport. Humanitarian organizations have not yet received the official communication necessary to apply for tax exemption.
- Between 15 August and 02 September, the Logistics Cluster facilitated a cross-border movement by road from Kenya to locations in southern Somalia, delivering 50mt on behalf of 1 partner. From 2021 to 2023, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated 7 cross-border movements, transporting 1342mt, resulting in savings of 1,5 million USD.

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Information Management

- Throughout August 2023, the Logistics Cluster published ten information products, including meeting minutes, maps and situation updates on the operational website. The key products were:
    - Meeting minutes from the Logistics Cluster National Coordination meetings, which were held on 15 August and 29 August.
    - The monthly operation overview for July 2023, providing an overview of key Logistics Cluster highlights under Coordination, Information Management and Common Services.
    - The monthly infographics summarising key achievements of the Logistics Cluster in July 2023 (metric tonnes transported, number of Information Management published, number of locations reached etc.)
    - The weekly joint market and supply chain updates covering the weeks from 20-26 August, 13-19 August, and 30 July – 05 August. This document, developed by WFP, monitors the market price variations among different products across different regions (42 locations), providing analytical insights to humanitarian logisticians.
    - The monthly fuel report for July 2023, a document that analyses the trends in fuel prices across the various regions and also provides an overview of the evolution of jet fuel prices.
- The sea transport schedule with the latest information regarding vessel arrivals and departures. These reports were published on 03 July.
- In addition to the regular weekly and monthly reports, the Logistics Cluster is presently engaged in revising the Concept Note of Operations (CONOPS). This CONOPS serves the purpose of a well-defined and all-encompassing strategy that outlines the Logistics Cluster's operational framework for the upcoming year. The preliminary draft in cooperation with the volunteer partners has been finalized and is now with the Global Logistics Cluster for final review before publishing it on the Logistics Cluster website operational website.
- Finally, the Logistics Cluster, in cooperation with its partners, has updated the data for the warehouse capacity map. The updated map will be shared on the Logistics Cluster website during the month of September.

Common Logistics Services

- In August 2023, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 172 mt by air of humanitarian cargo (Food Security, Health, Nutrition, and Wash) to 6 destinations (Baidoa, Baardhere, Diinsor, Wajid, Jowhar, and Huddur), supporting a total of 5 organisations .
- Since the mobilization of the helicopter in September 2022, the Logistics Cluster successfully facilitated the transport of 150 mt on behalf of 6 partners to 4 hard to reach locations: Burhakaba, Jalalaqsi, Mahas and Qansaxdhere**.** However, due to reduced funding resulting from the operation's downsizing, the Logistics Cluster is unable to sustain the helicopter operation on a common service basis. If there is a need, partners are requested to send a request for bilateral service provision.

Contacts

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