LIBYA LOGISTICS CLUSTER MEETING MINUTES

Cairo, Egypt
13 April 2011

Chair: WFP

Participants: OCHA, IRD, Mercy Corps, ACTED, UNICEF, USAID/OFDA, IOM, WFP

Action Point: IMC to share the list of documents it used to clear customs into Libya and contact details of WHO staff in Salloum. WFP to contact WHO for information on their experience with customs documentation.

Action Point: WFP to check if OCHA document on deconfliction posted on the website is the most current.

Action Point: WFP to develop a concept of operations for the Logistics Cluster in consultation with participants.

1. Introduction

- The Logistics Cluster for Libya has now been formally activated.
- It was agreed to continue to hold Logistics Cluster meetings once a week on Wednesdays, as previously scheduled. It was agreed to use the agenda for the current meeting as a 'standard agenda' for future meetings.

2. Review of Action Points from Last Week

- **Sharing names of service providers:** No additional suppliers' names were received in the past week. Participants were invited to continue sharing any names they may have.
- **Pipeline updates:** WFP circulated a template for collection of pipeline information. Inputs are requested by 18 April.
- **Update on WFP Benghazi storage space:** Updates will be provided in weekly meetings. See storage below.
- **Organisations to share with WFP specific bottlenecks/problems with customs:** No new problems have been reported. Organisations to continue sharing any specific problem cases that may come up.

3. Transport and Storage

Transport

- WFP is currently drafting standard operating procedures for its services.
- WFP dispatched relief items to Benghazi by road for International Medical Corps (IMC) and International Relief & Development (IRD) on 10 April. The cargo crossed the Egypt/Libya border without any problems.
- WFP dispatched ACTED cargo from Cairo on 13 April. It is en route to Benghazi.
- IMC reported that WHO staff at Salloum facilitated their customs clearance.
- IRD is expecting to receive two shipments early next week and would like to consolidate with other organisations to share the cost of transport to Benghazi if possible.
- A WFP-chartered vessel carrying life-saving relief items docked in Misurata on 7 April.
- WFP is preparing a plan to potentially launch an UNHAS air service for passengers for use by the humanitarian community in Libya

Storage

- IMC, IRD and UNICEF cargo has been received at the WFP warehouse in Benghazi.
- WFP has identified a warehouse at Tobruq port, which it will use to serve eastern Libya.

- None of the organisations at the meeting, apart from WFP, currently have any need for storage space in Tobruq.
- WFP stated that currently there is sufficient space in the Benghazi warehouse to receive more items. WFP always checks the availability of space in the warehouse prior to responding to an SRF.
- To release stock from the WFP warehouse, the current procedure is to send an email to northafrica.cargo@logcluster.org. Please include in the email the contact details of the person to whom the items will be released.

Action Point

- IMC to share the list of documents it used to clear customs into Libya and contact details of WHO staff in Salloum. WFP to contact WHO for information on customs documentation.

4. Customs

- WFP informed participants that the Humanitarian Coordinator and WFP Regional Director are requesting the government of Egypt to ease customs restrictions on humanitarian cargo.
- Organisations should continue to share with WFP any specific problems experienced with Egyptian customs, in order to help identify issues which can be raised with the Egyptian Customs Authority.
- The organisations attending the meeting did not experience any problems with Egyptian customs during the past two weeks.

5. Civil-Military Coordination

- OCHA announced that civil-military coordination issues will be addressed at an inter-agency coordination meeting scheduled for Sunday, 17 April.
- OCHA has issued guidance documents on the use of military assets in support of evacuations and humanitarian operations as well as a message to NGOs on deconfliction in Libya. These documents have been posted on the Logistics Cluster website and circulated on the mailing list.
- The OCHA deconfliction message describes the voluntary system in place for NGOs to notify NATO on humanitarian personnel locations and movement as well as humanitarian facilities in Libya, in order to avoid being affected by military targeting.
- WFP has a civil-military coordinator embedded with the NATO SHAPE headquarters in Belgium to facilitate information sharing on WFP movements. NATO is notified of all WFP transport movements and facilities operated inside Libya, including those carrying cargo from other organisations.

Action point:

- WFP to check if OCHA document on deconfliction posted on the website is the most current.

6. New Information Products Produced During the Week

- **Corridor map:** WFP presented an updated Cairo - Benghazi corridor map. Copies were distributed.
- **Logistics Cluster Sitrep:** As the Logistics Cluster has now been officially activated, the first Libya Logistics Cluster sitrep was shared with the meeting participants. It was agreed that the sitrep would be issued on a weekly basis. Participants agreed that this frequency was appropriate.
- During the past week, the following products were posted at http://www.logcluster.org/ops/northafrica:
    - Minutes of Cairo 6 April logistics coordination meeting
    - Minutes of Zarzis, Tunisia 6 April logistics sector meeting
    - Tunisia customs overview update – includes importation of medicines
    - OCHA guidance documents (as described under civ-mil coordination above)
    - Sitrep

6. AOB

Logistics Cluster TOR/ConOps

- ACTED enquired whether terms of reference would be compiled for the Libya Logistics Cluster now that it has been activated. WFP responded that rather than a TOR, a Concept of Operations (ConOps) is being developed and will be shared.

Action point:

- WFP to develop a concept of operations for the Logistics Cluster in consultation with participants.

Malta Update

- A WFP logistics officer has been sent to Malta, to assess the possible need for logistics support to humanitarian organisations.
- Several organisations are using Malta as a base for deliveries to Libya. A number of vessels have reached Misurata from Malta during the past week.
- A logistics coordination meeting is scheduled for 14 April in Malta. The meeting will be organised by SOS Malta and chaired by WFP.

Benghazi Update

- WFP has undertaken a logistics assessment in eastern Libya. Some preliminary findings were shared, including the following. This information can also be found in the Logistics Cluster Sitrep.

Ports

- The ports of Tobruq, Derna and Benghazi are in working order and operating 24/7.
- Tobruq: There has been no damage to any of the infrastructure. Offloading and handling equipment is available.
- Derna: The port appears to be in good condition, but is small and has limited potential for large scale humanitarian cargo deliveries.
- Benghazi: The port is fully functional. There is no damage to the port equipment or infrastructure. Labour is readily available. There are some ships using the port, however commercial liners have not yet resumed operations.
- It is urgent for commercial liners to resume operations to Benghazi, as this will facilitate commercial imports as well as humanitarian relief items.

Airports

- Tobruq: The airport is functioning, but no commercial airlines are operating. Some cargo handling equipment has been looted/destroyed, but efforts are being made to replace it.
- Benghazi: The airport is fully operational. The Transitional National Council (TNC) has advised that organisations wishing to bring in relief flights should contact the Humanitarian Committee of the TNC in Benghazi for advice and clearance.

Road Transport

- Benghazi remains accessible by road from Egypt. The Salloum – Benghazi road is in good condition. There are checkpoints but the situation is calm and humanitarian aid is being allowed through.
- Currently there is sufficient commercial transporter capacity available in Benghazi and Tobruq.

Fuel

- Fuel shortages are continuing to affect Libya. In the east, only two refineries are operating and the gas supply from Brega to Benghazi has been cut off.

The time and date of the next meeting will be communicated by e-mail.