LOCATION: Damascus, Syria

DATE: 11 November 2015

CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS: FAO, Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East (GOPA), German Red Cross (GRC), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC), IOM, UNICEF, UNFA, UNHCR, UNRWA, and WFP

ACTION POINTS:
• Organisations to provide feedback to the Logistics Cluster on items that have been stored for long periods of time, and rotate their items as needed.

AGENDA:
1. Access Constraints
2. Logistics Cluster Common Services
3. Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2016
4. AOB

1. Access Constraints

Syria

• Large parts of Deir-er-Zour Governorate remain inaccessible.

• In Raqqa only Tal Abiad was accessed once by WFP in the last five months.

• Hassakeh Governorate in north-eastern Syria is still inaccessible by road from Damascus. Parts are accessible from Qamishly city and through cross border operations.

• Ma’ar Shamsha (Idleb) is inaccessible, however the governorate of Idleb is accessible through cross-border operations.

• Other inaccessible locations are: Bustan Al Pasha (Rural Aleppo), Dara’a Al Balad (Dara’a), Palmyra (since June), and Al Zabadani (Rural Damascus). Zabadani was last reached on 18 October via a Joint Humanitarian Convoy.

• Many areas in Rural Damascus remain inaccessible, including Douma, Harasta, and Moudamiyeh.

Lebanon

• The Lebanon-Syria border crossings of Masnaa and Arida are fully operational.

• Beirut Port is operating normally at present.

Jordan

• The Ramtha crossing is operational at present.

• The Jaber-Naseeb crossing remains closed. Options for an alternative crossing are being sought, updates will be shared once confirmation is received.

Turkey

• Bab al-Salam, and Bab al-Hawa crossings are fully operational at present.

• Truck movements via Turkey crossings, especially via Bab Al Hawa have been increasing. The Logistics Cluster is exploring options to expand the Bab Al Hawa Hub in 2016 to deal with the increased load.
2. Logistics Cluster Common Services

Overland Transport:

- During October, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transport of 1,957 m³ of aid cargo, through 28 trucks, on behalf of UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO. Items transported included health, WASH, education, protection, shelter and food items.

Storage:

- 767³ of newly arrived cargo was stored at common warehousing facilities across the country on behalf of UNFPA, UNICEF, IOM, and WHO.
- The monthly physical inventory was completed last week, and reports were shared with organisations.
- The Logistics Cluster circulated lists of organisations’ old/expired items. Participants are requested to inform the Logistics Cluster about items that have been stored for long periods of time and to rotate them as needed.

Recent Joint Humanitarian Convoys

- Ceasefire operations are ongoing. The Logistics Cluster will update participants shortly on the next phase of ceasefire operations once confirmed.
- Overall, there is a significant decrease in Joint Humanitarian Convoys since June 2015 (only 10 convoys in the period since June).
- A total of four inter-agency convoys to hard-to-reach locations were organised by the Logistics Cluster in October (Zabadani, Madaya, Tarin, Kafir Laha).
- The planned convoy to Al Waer has been postponed for the time being (no approvals received).
- The second part of the planned convoy to Zabadani/Madaya, Foa and Kafraya is on standby (to be confirmed once negotiations are complete).

Airlift

- The Logistics Cluster remains on standby for Deir-ez-Zour airlifts. Currently the security situation does not allow for large aircraft to operate into the area.

Fuel

- The Logistics Cluster has received 100,000 litres of fuel in preparation for winterisation operations.
- Fuel prices have been steadily increasing over the last couple of weeks.
- The current official price of diesel is 135 Syrian Pounds (SYP), and 160 SYP for petrol (benzene). Market prices fluctuate and can be substantially higher. An updated fuel snapshot will be shared shortly.

3. Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2016

- The HRP process is currently being finalised. Under the Logistics Cluster, there have been two project submissions (WFP and IOM).
- An internal Budget Revision is underway for the Logistics Cluster’s project for 2016, in parallel to the HRP process. Current Logistics Cluster activities will continue in 2016. The activities to be expanded are: contingency fuel storage, expansion of cross-border hubs as required, and training & capacity building.
4. AOB

- Participants indicated that there have been some requests from authorities to register/certify warehouses where medical items are stored, which would also require a certification fee.

- Ceasefire route maps are available for interested participants bilaterally.

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