Due to its expertise in logistics, engineering and telecommunications, WFP has been requested to provide dedicated Common Services to the Ebola Response. All activities are being implemented under Special Operation 200773.

**Highlights**

- Following a request from WHO, the UNHRD Rapid Response Team (RRT) has rehabilitated a 40-bed holding centre in Kambia, northern Sierra Leone.
- The Logistics Cluster, through the Air Coordination Cell (ACC), will provide an additional free-to-user inter-agency flight on 27 January from the Europe Staging Area at Cologne Bonn Airport, to Freetown and Conakry, in order to facilitate the delivery of essential cargo to the affected countries.
- The ET Cluster is providing Internet connectivity in 43 locations across the three affected countries, ensuring reliable Internet access for 741 inter-agency and humanitarian staff.

**Numbers**

- Overall requirements: **US$ 178.5 million**
- Overall shortfall: **US$ 51 million**
- **5,602** passengers & **51.8mt** cargo transported by UNHAS
- **1,632mt** dispatched by UNHRD

*Logistics Cluster facilitated across Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia as of 18 January 2015 (since 4 September 2014):*

- the transportation of over **33,000m^3** of cargo on behalf of **46** organisations
- the storage of over **46,500m^3** of cargo on behalf of **33** organisations

*The Logistics Cluster aims to report the most accurate data possible, based on the information available at the time of reporting.*
Due to its expertise in logistics, engineering and telecommunications, WFP has been requested to provide dedicated services through the lead agency, WFP.

The Logistics Cluster is responsible for coordination, information management, and, where necessary, logistics service provision to ensure an effective and efficient logistics response takes place in each and every operation, through the lead agency, WFP.

STAGING AREA

- The Logistics Cluster, through the Air Coordination Cell (ACC), so far provided four flights from Cologne/Bonn to the affected countries, carrying a total of 379,3mt of cargo on behalf of 27 agencies. One additional free-to-user inter-agency flight will depart on 27 January from Europe Staging Area at Cologne Bonn Airport, to Freetown and Conakry, in order to facilitate the delivery of essential cargo to the affected countries. This additional flight has been made available due to the high demand for space on the two inter-agency flights scheduled for 21 January (to Freetown) and 24 January (to Monrovia).
- Partners are still reporting air transport needs, 10 partners have so far asked for support beyond the flight on the 27th. Some partners have informed that their air requirements will continue until April.
- The Logistics Cluster, via the two C-160 aircraft whose services were provided free of charge by the Government of Germany, has been coordinating airlifts of essential items and logistics equipment from Accra to, and between, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. During the reporting period, 61 motorbikes, 12mt of food, 3mt of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and other medical items, 12mt of operations support equipment (including 1 forklift, 12 generators and ICT equipment) were airlifted from Accra.
- Maersk has generously provided donations in the form of services. So far 43 shipments have been approved – amounting to a total of 256 x 20’ ft containers and 128 x 40’ ft containers. The shipments, which contain medical supplies, WASH and sanitation items, vehicles, food, protective gear and support equipment, originate from all over the world (20 countries in 20 locations in the US, Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East) and are destined to the three Ebola affected countries.

GUINEA

- Since 04 September, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of 8,371m³ of cargo on behalf of 22 organisations and facilitated the storage of 18,386m³ on behalf of 10 organisations.
- The Logistics Cluster has purchased five mobile refrigerated containers to be installed on the Pick Ups. Three containers will remain in Conakry, one will be sent to Kissidougou and one to Nzérékoré.
- The Logistics Cluster is facilitating the transport of 81 motorbikes to Conakry, via the German C-160 aircraft; 45 motorbikes have so far been received.

SIERRA LEONE

- Since 04 September, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of 6,737m³ of cargo on behalf of 20 organisations and the storage of 6,241m³ on behalf of 13 organisations.
- Following the extension of the Western Area Surge, and the continued need for storage capacity at the Port Loko main logistics hub, storage space has been augmented to 3,000m³, with further extension ongoing. An inventory check of items, including weight and volume, has also been conducted at Port Loko with DFID, followed by a reconciliation of released and loaded items.

LIBERIA

- Since 04 September, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of 18,190m³ of cargo on behalf of 31 organisations and has facilitated the storage of 22,134m³ on behalf of 20 organisations.
- A new vessel for national sea transport has been identified. The Navio Nossa Senhore Da Graca vessel departs every first and third Sunday of the month to Harper with (possible) stopovers in Buchanan and Greenville. The vessel takes three days to reach Harper and can transport up to 560 passengers and 1300mt of cargo. This vessel could be used if the rotation of the MV Catarina does not match urgent requests.

Some delays were experienced with customs clearance at Lungi airport due to a demand for additional documents. The National Ebola Response Centre (NERC) has informed operating partners it will issue a facilitation letter, listing those organisations flying in freight in direct support of the fight against Ebola.

- The Logistics Cluster, through WFP, is facilitating a THW donation of 16 generators of varying capacity to the humanitarian community in Sierra Leone. One generator has already been allocated to WHO. Partner organisations operating in Sierra Leone have been encouraged to provide their requirements to the Logistics Cluster.
- The 15 8-10mt trucks, which were awaiting customs clearance at the Port in Freetown, have been cleared and will be stationed at various Forward Logistics Bases (FLBs) to provide last-mile transport to partners engaged in the Ebola response.

Various updated maps and information products are available on www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14
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**GUINEA**

- Following Government approval, WFP is augmenting storage capacities of the Regional Health Directorates of Kankan, Mamou, Labe and Boke, not covered by WFP’s FLBs. These regions will be provided with Pick Ups, drivers and fuel to support the distributions of Universal Protection Equipment to health care centres.
- WFP is currently finalising and testing the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the running of medical evacuations with UNHAS Bell 205 helicopter equipped with an isolation apparatus. The service will be available for trained humanitarian organisations. As of now, MSF Belgium and Alima have been trained. Training sessions with interested humanitarian organisations will soon be organised.
- On 14 January, the official inauguration of the Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) took place in Beyla.
- On 14 January, WFP delivered an incinerator as well as two prefabricated units to MSF France in KanKan.
- Two pieces of laboratory equipment for the testing of blood samples have been received in Conakry and will shortly be dispatched to relevant Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs).

**LIBERIA**

- Four out of the planned five fuel tanks have been delivered to the following FLBs: Harper, Voinjama, Gbarnga and Zwedru. The last tank destined for Buchanan FLB is in Monrovia undergoing preparation.
- WFP is supporting the Rapid Intervention and Treatment of Ebola (RITE) response initiative in Liberia for the movement of blood samples via air transport: the planned RITE test flight, as part of a mock exercise scheduled to take place last week, has been postponed due to poor visibility caused by dust clouds. The mock exercise will focus on a fictitious outbreak in Voinjama, Lofa County, whereby CDC would request a RITE mission to do a ground assessment and collect mock lab specimens (blood samples) from Voinjama and deliver them to the Gbarnga lab in Bong County.

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**Focus on: Restoring Storage Capacity at Conakry Main Hub**

On 19 December, a fire occurred at the Logistics Cluster WFP warehouse at the main hub in Conakry, Guinea, and destroyed the main building. Armand, a field support Logistics Officer, was one among the team of 35 dedicated WFP staff, who worked tirelessly to ensure that the lost storage capacity was restored as soon as possible, and that, despite the minor set back of this fire, WFP never stopped providing support to its operational partners: ‘For power we used generators that we had already purchased to make sure that we never stopped providing our services to the partners’.

The following morning even the cold chain storage for the transit of cold cargo was restored with the temporal loan of refrigerated containers by the French military. In the coming days, the Hub was fully operational again; the cold chain capacity was re-established for longer term via the setup of two refrigerated 40ft containers provided by Maersk through the Logistics Emergency Team (LET) partnership. Wi-Fi connection, due to damaged office facilities inside the main building, was restored via a satellite dish provided by UNMEER and the timely technical assistance of the Emergency Telecoms (ET) Cluster, which rapidly re-established the full connectivity of the Hub. Office facilities were restored using WFP prefab and large air conditioned tents part of a donation from Rio Tinto.

Activity at the base is currently back to normal, and Armand’s days are very busy with training new local staff; he sometimes remains on site until late in the evening, in order to oversee the efficient delivery and temporary storage of essential stock coming into the warehouses. Although he admits that his job can be, at times, a challenging one, it is clear from his smile that it’s a job that he loves. At the main hub in Conakry, WFP currently manages stock on behalf of WFP, UNICEF, Pharmacie Centrale Guinéenne, WHO, MSF Belgium and France, Save the Children’s Fund, UNDP, ChildFund, Catholic Relief Services, UNPF, UNMEER, Croix Rouge Française and Guinéenne, Plan International, ALIMA, Logistics Cluster, UNHCR, Government of France and IFRC.
Due to its expertise in logistics, engineering and telecommunications, WFP has been requested to provide dedicated Common Services to the Ebola Response. All activities are being implemented under Special Operation 200773.

**SIERRA LEONE**

- WFP is reinforcing its warehousing capacity throughout Sierra Leone: At Kissy and Kenema warehouse, the construction of reinforced concrete foundations has continued for the Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) already erected. Improvement works are also ongoing at the main hub in Port Loko and Forward Logistics Base (FLBs) at Makeni.

- WFP, under its mandate to provide Common Services to the humanitarian community, continues to support partners in the augmentation of storage capacity in Sierra Leone. In Freetown, an assessment is ongoing with UNICEF and WHO to identify suitable sites for additional warehouse setup. Work is ongoing to erect between one and three Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) at the Central Medical Store (CMS) located in Kingtom, Freetown.

- During the reporting period, WFP also provided two MSUs to Oxfam that will be installed in Kumala and Kabala. The MSUs were released from the FLB in Port Loko.

- WFP has deployed a dedicated Fleet Manager during the reporting week that will maintain the fleet of 25 DAF trucks and a further expected 13 Mercedes trucks. During the week, the new head of the Special Operation in Sierra Leone also received a warm welcome.

- A WFP-charted EVD medevac Bell 412 helicopter is scheduled to arrive in Freetown on 20 January and to be operational by 22 January. Plans are for the aircraft to be based in Freetown initially, and then in a field location such as Bo or Port Loko depending on identified needs.

**Focus on: Logistics Coordination in Sierra Leone**

Coordination and prioritisation of logistics support activities are ongoing in order to ensure an effective operational response. On 13 January, WFP held an internal Logistics Workshop in Freetown for its staff working in Forward Logistics Bases (FLBs) and Sub-Offices throughout Sierra Leone.

The forum provided a strategic opportunity to address current and potential gaps and challenges in key locations in Sierra Leone. Each FLB Manager and Sub-Office Manager gave a presentation on the overview of their team’s activities and critical challenges to the group. The Logistics Cluster gave a presentation on the Relief Item Tracking Application (RITA), its online cargo-tracking tool for charting the movement non-food items (NFIs) transported and stored by the Logistics Cluster as per partners’ requests.

On the same day, the Logistics Cluster held its weekly inter-agency coordination meeting with 12 organisations in attendance; discussions focused on partners’ storage requirements throughout Sierra Leone. The Logistics Cluster communicated to partners that it has the capacity to scale up and implement one more FLB should there be a significant need.
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### WFP COMMON SERVICES

**UNHAS**

UNHAS provides safe and reliable passenger and cargo air services to the humanitarian community, especially to remote locations where there are no commercial alternatives.

- Since 16 August 2014, UNHAS has performed 1,118 takeoffs, transporting 5,602 passengers and 51.8mt of cargo.
- During the reporting period, UNHAS transported 459 passengers and 1.7mt of cargo.
- The UNHAS West Africa fleet is currently composed of three fixed-wing aircraft, two helicopters (one specially equipped for the medical evacuation (medevac) of health and humanitarian personnel with EVD) and one ad-hoc aircraft.
- Over the past weeks, UNHAS WAC has reinforced staffing in Senegal and Liberia.
- Between 12 and 17 January, bad weather in Liberia affected domestic flights and resulted in cancellations of 59 passenger and one cargo bookings from 13 organisations to Freetown, Harper, Zwerdu, Tapita, Greenville, Voinjama and Foya.
- The runway at Dakar international airport is being upgraded by the Senegalese Government. The runway upgrade works are expected to last until the end of the month. UNHAS will conduct flights with minor changes to the schedule to enable take-offs and landings outside the closing hours of the runway.
- UNHAS continues to coordinate with UNMEER and UNMIL to optimise the use of resources and ensure greater operational efficiency. A joint flight schedule is published regularly and maintained with necessary flexibility. An updated version of the integrated flight schedule, effective as of 24 December 2014, has been shared with users.
- A Flight Status Overview of UNMEER, UNMIL, UNHAS and Commercial flights in West Africa is continuously updated.

### UNHRD

UNHRD is a network of depots around the world that procures, stores, manages and transports emergency supplies for the humanitarian community.

UNHRD response teams continue to provide technical assistance and training across the region:

- During the reporting period, 1.5mt of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was dispatched to Liberia on behalf of WHO.
- Following a request from the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Rapid Response Team (RRT) has rehabilitated a 40-bed holding center in Kambia, northern Sierra Leone. Visit [www.unhrd.org](http://www.unhrd.org) to read the full story.
- Since March, UNHRD has dispatched 1,632mt of relief items and support equipment to the region on behalf of WFP, WHO, UNHCR, UNDP, JICA, Irish Aid, UNICEF and the Swiss Red Cross.
- Weekly dispatches are ongoing.

Check also for updated flight schedules and procedures! Available on [www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14](http://www.logcluster.org/ops/ebola14)
The Emergency Telecommunications (ET) Cluster provides timely Information, Communications and Technology services to support humanitarian community in carrying out their work efficiently, effectively and safely.

- The ET Cluster is providing Internet connectivity in 43 locations across the three affected countries, ensuring reliable Internet access for 741 inter-agency and humanitarian staff.
- During the reporting period, the ET Cluster published a story depicting how exactly the Internet helps stop Ebola together with eight other ET Cluster members. In addition, 18 UN and NGO radio channels have been established enabling secure radio communications amongst staff.
- In response to the fire at the Liberia Country Office, the ET Cluster rapidly set up Internet connectivity at two guesthouse locations where staff were residing so they could continue to have Internet access.
- The NGO nation-wide radio channel was finalized in Buchanan and Monrovia so that all NGO staff with radios can communicate on the same channel.
- Internet has been installed at the Ebola Treatment Unit (ETU) in Beyla, Guinea.
- Radio equipment was installed in the city of Kissidougou so that both UN and NGO staff can safely communicate between one another.
- A radio base station was installed for UNHAS in Conakry to provide communications between air and ground staff.
- In Sierra Leone, Internet has been set up in Bo and is now available at nine inter-agency sites.
- ET Cluster has officially requested for extra security guards at the WFP Office in Kambia Offices to protect CDC generator and the internet connectivity serving multiple offices.

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