Introduction

- The chair welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction. The purpose of the meeting was outlined as:
  - To share the experience of the group on the logistical challenges and to share information collectively to resolve those issues.
  - The forum consists of logisticians working in the humanitarian sector to achieve a common goal of providing a coherent response to the El Nino related effects in the country.
  - Activities can be harmonized and challenges from other partners can be considered as information for the working group to organise and respond collectively to the logistically challenges arising due to different factors on the ground.
  - Operational updates from organisations were requested. Any information gaps/Issues will be taken into consideration.

Matter arising from the previous minutes

- Matters related to previous meetings were circulated and any amendments/corrections to be documented were requested. Minutes of the June 2016 meeting were agreed upon to be a correct record of what transpired.

Introduction to Dashboard, Newsletter and Infographics

- WFP presented a dashboard, infographics and newsletter to the group for presentation, the information will highlight achievements. Infographics in the area of operations will assist the group in better understanding the collective work of the LSWG.
El Nino Related Issues

- WFP has activated a Level 3 (Corporate) Emergency Response for the impact of the El Nino-induced drought in the Southern Africa region.
- Countries covered include Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- No Logistics Cluster has been activated and WFP, as the lead agency, is providing logistics sector support including logistics coordination, information sharing and context-specific preparedness measures. A webpage has been set up on the Logistics Cluster website and logistics updates are shared at the following link: [www.logcluster.org/preparedness/elnino16](http://www.logcluster.org/preparedness/elnino16).
- WFP updated the Zimbabwe Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) report, which is being finalised and once ready will be published online.

Discussion on Priority Areas (based on any logistics activities (operational/preparedness) that organisations have already implemented or are planning to implement).

**WORLD FOOD PROGRAM**

- WFP is working on the LSA (Lean Season Assistance) and PAC.
- In July, WFP has a total of five humanitarian assistance programmes and recently started the school feeding programme. WFP will be working on the health and nutrition section and with the intervention with refugees.
- WFP is facing challenges from Zambia. New changes introduced by the Government of Zambia targeting maize grain, requiring export document processing along with the schedule of all truck details have to be submitted prior to processing of export customs clearing documents at the border. Major delays have not yet been witnessed but WFP continues to monitor the situation.
- Coordination between the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture for pre-shipment clearance is unclear and more information is needed from both ministries to ascertain and agree on the number of inspectors from each Government department to be involved in the inspection trips.
- For commodity inspection at point of origin, previously the Government used to bear the cost of the inspections but now the cost is on the importer. WFP suggested a common mechanism to organise the shipments for the logistics group so that a combined pre-shipment clearance can be obtained.
- Information regarding the minimum number of inspectors from each Government department required for pre-shipment inspection was discussed. Information would be requested from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health for clearance procedures.
- WFP has transported more than 9000 mt of food commodities, maize, sorghum/millet, pulses, etc., this year.
- WFP is planning to procure MSUs for Zimbabwe to add storage capacity.

**CARITAS**

- Caritas will start school feeding in September Matebeleland North and South, Hwange, Gokwe and Mudzi. Caritas has CSB ready for distribution to schools since last week but the authorities requested to start the programme in September.
- No challenges faced.

**AMALIMA**

- AMALIMA is expecting shipments of 2000 mt of sorghum, 610 mt of pulses and 170 mt of oil.
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- Shipments are expected in the middle of August. Then for lentils, 30 of July.
- Pre-shipment and permits for CSB and inspections are proceeding.
- No challenges faced.

ICRC

- ICRC are working with prison authorities to provide food to the prisoners since the Government cannot meet the requirements.
- ICRC is providing sugar beans, ground nuts and CSB.
- ICRC is facing problems with suppliers since the current market situation in Southern Africa cannot cater for the demand due to El Nino-related effects.
- Like WFP, ICRC can only find small scale suppliers who cannot cater for larger demand. For instance, ICRC requires 30 tonnes of ground nuts but would have to coordinate with different vendors supplying smaller quantities to aggregate their demand.
- ICRC is also providing rehabilitation for prison water and sanitation systems, which is more on the construction side.
- Currently ICRC is undertaking a market survey for warehouses in Harare. 1000 m2 of warehouse space will be sufficient for their needs.
- WFP has sent out an RFP for warehouses and to look into the possibility of providing warehouse space to ICRC.
- ICRC also provided 10,000 jerseys for the prisoners. And also provided knitting machines to the prison services.

PLAN INTERNATIONAL

- PLAN is implementing LSA in the Chirumhanzu district from July to December targeting 39,000 beneficiaries in a total of 21 wards.
- PLAN is also working on PAC (Productive Asset Creation) in Chiredzi, a project funded by ECHO.
- Plan is also implementing Cash Based Transfers.
- Plan’s under way to do LSA in Chiredzi, Mutasa and Mutare Districts from September to December 2016.

UMCOR

- UMCOR implemented an LSA project in Kariba and Binga, funding is from a UNDP Consortium which includes ActionAid.
- UMCOR is also working on a US funded project in Binga until June 2019.
- Will implement a ZRB (resilience) programme in Binga and Kariba from July to December.

UNFPA

- Doing assessments to gather information related to maternity but already provide assistance with food in some circumstances.
- UNFPA requested information for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs process for clearances related to commodities which is no longer available.
- There are prospects for feeding expectant mothers and will request WFP expertise in logistics for assistance related to the importation of food commodities.
CARE

- CARE is scaling up programmes.
- Has a warehouse (formerly from National Foods) in Masvingo. CARE is logistically positioned in Masvingo to cover the district operations in Zaka and Chivi, starting from 1 August 2016.
- Consolidating contracts with truck companies to augment their logistics capacity.
- WFP pointed out the reduced number of transporters based in Masvingo can lead to a hindrance when the demand for logistics increase and requested the need to plan accordingly so that programmes are not affected by the unavailability of transporters in Masvingo and to share information on the costs related to transporters in an effort to standardize for partners.

SAVE THE CHILDREN

- Save the Children is working on Cash Based Transfers in Binga and Kariba.
- Save the Children is not doing any logistics activities for the time being but since last month is assessing capacity in districts in order to respond to El Nino which is predicated on funding.
- Save the Children has two MSUs in Binga and plan to move one MSU to Kariba.

A.O.B

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs was supposed to be invited to make a presentation but had provided feedback to UNDP, which is being looked into.
- Representative for the pre-clearance of shipments could be invited in the next meetings to enlighten the participants on the processes and the stakeholders that are involved.

Next Logistics Sector Working Group Meeting will be held
in the Zambezi Room, WFP Office Harare, on Thursday 25th August at 15.00.

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