

Date: 7th May 2021, 11:00 – 12:00

Participants

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| 1. Covid-19 Crisis Management Center (CCMC) | 11. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) |
| 2. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) | 12. UN Women |
| 3. IPAS Nepal | 13. United States Agency for International Development (USAID) |
| 4. Islamic Relief Nepal | 14. Welthungerhilfe (WHH) |
| 5. Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) | 15. World Food Programme (WFP) |
| 6. Mountain Child | 16. World Health Organization (WHO) |
| 7. National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Authority (NDRRMA) | 17. World Vision International Nepal (WVI) |
| 8. Plan International Nepal | |
| 9. Save the Children | |
| 10. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) | |

Meeting chaired by: Mr. Ganesh Gaire, Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA).

Agenda:

1. Nepal National Logistics Cluster update
2. Health logistics update
3. Logistics gaps and issues
4. Lesson Learned Report
5. AOB

1. Nepal National Logistics Cluster update

The following updates were shared regarding the National Logistics Cluster services:

- The National Logistics Cluster continues to provide common services to the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and Provincial Health Directorate (PHD).
- The National Logistics Cluster has received requests in Dhangadi for transport of oxygen cylinders.
- To date no constraints of import and export of cargo at the Nepal-India border.
- The COVID-19 restrictions have been extended in most of the districts with new transport restrictions between districts.
- The Government has suspended domestic and international flights from 4th and 6th May. However, there will be two flights per week from Delhi as per the air bubble agreement, from May 6 midnight till May 14.
- Special charter for evacuation and medical supplies will be allowed on case by case basis.
- There may be a need to reactivate common transport and storage services.
- WFP is formulating a notice that will be sent out through the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office (UNRCO) to all development partners and humanitarian organizations to gauge their interest and see if there is a donor willing to provide funding to reactivate the air service.

2. Health Logistics Update

WHO shared following updates on health logistics:

- WHO informed that the Provincial Health Logistics Management Center (PHLMC), Province 2 has sent a letter to UN agencies to provide 42 health items.
- WHO has been supporting MoHP and Management Division with quantification and costing of health supplies plus warehousing, with support from WFP.
- MoHP has asked WHO to work on quantification and costing of oxygen cylinders, as there is a need for oxygen cylinders in the country.

USAID as chair of the External Development Partners (EDP), Supply Chain Management working group (EDP-SCM) shared the following updates on health logistics:

- EDP-SCM has put together mapping of oxygen therapy devices, use and needs. Oxygen production is not an issue, but the issue is delivering the oxygen to the patients due to lack of oxygen cylinders. 18 oxygen plants are functioning well at the hospitals.
- EDP-SCM has been working on quantification of PPEs and other supplies. USAID is preparing an emergency request of PPE for Nepal from their international stockpile at WHO. Many of the PPEs supplies are expected to stock out in the next few months. Global fund consignments are scheduled to arrive in August. Requested to channel health supply updates through EPD-SCM as single point of access.

3. Logistics Gaps and issues

- UNICEF informed there is a challenge to bring 20,000 oxygen cylinders from China to Nepal. To bring these cylinders, it would require almost 125 trucks/50 planes. Need to confirm if the Nepal-China border can be used to bring these cylinders, as it's not feasible to bring these cylinders by plane. UNICEF also informed that they have procured 800 cylinders but again there is a challenge to bring these cylinders to Nepal due to suspension of international flights. Similarly, the arrival of 155,000 Rapid Diagnostics Test (RDT) kits from Korea, initially expected to arrive in Nepal on 10 May, might be delayed due to suspension of international flights. UNICEF inquired if the National Logistics cluster, MoHA and CCMC could support bringing these RDT kits to Nepal.
- WFP highlighted some of the logistics gaps identified- i) setup of holding areas for returnees at the border points. ii) International supply of critical health supplies to Nepal.
- CCMC informed that as of 5 May, there is no stock of dead body bags at the central store. They've requested Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) for 200 body bags and are waiting for the bags to be delivered.

4. Lesson Learned Report

- WFP presented the findings of the Lesson Learned workshop with the National Logistics Cluster members. The draft report will be shared with cluster members for their review and feedback after the meeting before publishing the final report on the National Logistics Cluster website.

5. AOB

- WFP requested agencies planning to bring medical supplies to Nepal to share their cargo information with the National Logistics Cluster and EDP-SCM of USAID, then the National Logistics Cluster will see if it's possible to consolidate the shipments.
- UNICEF inquired about the National Logistics Cluster plan to make the supply chain functioning since the border entry points have been closed and flights have been suspended. WFP informed that if the Government is unable to fill the gaps, then the National Logistics Cluster, as a last resort, will step in and try to fill the gaps.
- WFP informed that there are no restrictions for movement of vehicles carrying food, milk, water, gasoline, and medical supplies.
- Save the Children informed that the procurement of medical items is ongoing and they don't have a dispatch plan yet.
- WFP informed that Karnali Province government has requested the National Logistics Cluster to activate the provincial Logistics cluster.
- MoHA informed the cluster members to inform MoHA or related government agencies if there are any difficulties in delivering medical supplies to the provinces.

In case of any logistics gaps, questions, or issues, please do not hesitate to contact the National Logistics Cluster:

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