
Meeting Minutes, 1 September 2021

Syria Operation, Aleppo



This is an unofficial UN meeting record and should not be considered as a verbatim account of the UN meeting or position.

LOCATION	Aleppo, Syria
DATE	1 September 2021
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC), Oxfam, Secours Islamique France (SIF), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO).
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Logistics Cluster to create an Aleppo Logistics Skype Group.• Logistics Cluster to host coordination meetings in Aleppo on a quarterly basis.• Logistics Cluster to collaborate with OCHA to find ways to address partner challenges regarding bureaucratic and administrative access impediments.• Partners to provide feedback to the market survey, which will be re-circulated via the mailing list.
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Logistics Cluster Updates2. Operational Updates3. Bureaucratic and Administrative Access Impediments4. AOB

1. Logistics Cluster Updates

Field-level coordination:

- Based on partner feedback, the Logistics Cluster is extending cluster coordination meetings to field-level locations.
- The participants voiced the importance of field-level coordination to strengthen partnership and collaboration.
- As such, partners agreed it would be beneficial to hold meetings in Aleppo every three months. The date for the next meeting in Aleppo will be shared closer to the time via the mailing list and on the Logistics Cluster Syria operational page
- In addition, the Logistics Cluster will create an Aleppo Logistics Skype Group for partners to be able to easily share updates, challenges and ideas quickly. To join the group, please send an email to peter.liddard@wfp.org.

Staffing

- The Logistics Cluster updated partners on staff movements over the next coming months.

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Logistics Services

- The Logistics Cluster facilitates access to free-to-user common storage facilities in key locations around Syria including Rural Damascus, Homs, Hassakeh, and Aleppo governorates.
- For more information on how to use this service, please refer to the Standard Operating Procedures or contact Dima Salloum at: dima.salloum@wfp.org.
- Organisations wishing to use cluster services should have a service level agreement signed with WFP.

2. Operational Updates

Dara'a

- As part of the emergency response for Dara'a, the humanitarian community has finalised preparations for a convoy to Dara'a al-Balad.
- The loading plan has been finalised.
- WFP, as lead agency of the Logistics Cluster, has finalised a tender for a dedicated fleet of 20 trucks per day for destination Dara'a.
- Trucks can be mobilised within 24 hours.
- Once all approvals to move ahead with the convoy have been obtained, the Logistics Cluster will mobilise the required number of trucks within the 24 hour timeframe.

Rukban

- As part of the response for Rukban, the Logistics Cluster will be donating 30,000 litres of diesel for the fleet of vehicles and a generator to be used for the response.
- The Logistics Cluster will also support with all ground-level logistics coordination during the mission.
- **Post-meeting addendum:** upon receipt of all guarantees, the Inter-Agency mission to al-Waha for the Rukban response will move on Monday 6 September.

Fuel

- WFP is procuring 64,000 litres of diesel in bulk to be stored in its depots in Tartous, Homs, and Rural Damascus.
- In addition, WFP purchased 45,000 litres of diesel from SADCOP through the government smart-card system.
- At the last inter-sector coordination meeting in Damascus, the Logistics Cluster raised the issue of the last-resort fuel provision service discussed in May 2021.
- As preparedness, OCHA and the DINGOs are to agree on a prioritisation system in the event of a serious fuel crisis.
- The Logistics Cluster will share an update by the next coordination meeting.

Diesel Prices

- On 11 July, the Government of Syria announced an increase in the price of subsidised diesel for transporters from SYP 200 to SYP 500.
- Only WFP reported an increase to transport prices (by approximately 5 percent) as a result of this.
- National Formal Market Average up to July 2021 stood at SYP 376 per Litre.

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- National Informal Market Average up to July 2021 stood at SYP 2,086 per Litre. This represents a 29% increase over June 2021.
- For a full breakdown, please refer to the WFP Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) data [here](#).

3. Bureaucratic and Administrative Access Impediments

- Bureaucratic and Administrative Access Impediments (BAI) are a major access constraint among the humanitarian community.
- Lack of clarity around some administrative procedures are increasing cost, causing delays and adding an unnecessary extra work load to responding organisations.
- The Logistics Cluster will raise the issue with OCHA to work on steps towards addressing the issue.

4. AOB

Market Survey

- The Logistics Cluster encouraged partners to share information regarding warehouse and transportation costs. It will be a useful exercise to further understand where warehouse challenges may lie to inform the Logistics Cluster response.
- It will also offer partners a benchmark by location and sector.
- The Logistics Cluster will re-circulate the survey via the mailing list.

Contacts

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