
Meeting Minutes, 5 October 2021

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



LOCATION	Addis Ababa, online
DATE	5 October 2021
CHAIR	Andrea Rosales, Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	Action for Social Development and Environmental Protection Organization (ADEPO), CARE Ethiopia, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Christian Aid, Crown Agents, Danish Red Cross (DRC), ECHO, Goal, Handicap International (HI), International Committee for the Development of Peoples (CISP), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Islamic Relief, Médecins Sans Frontières Belgium (MSF-B), Medical Teams International (MTI), OXFAM, Plan International, Population Services International (PSI), Red Cross Denmark, Save the Children, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Food Programme (WFP), World Vision International (WVI), ZOA
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partners are requested to submit their Service Request Form (SRF) via ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org to access storage and transport services• Partners who would like to request MSUs for their storage should write to ethiopia.logisticsclustermdu@wfp.org• Logistics Cluster to consolidate a list of transporters operating in Ethiopia and used by WFP, and share with interested partners
AGENDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome and Introduction• OCHA Updates• Operational Updates• Maps Updates• Humanitarian convoys and Updated SRF• WFP Cost Recovery Fuel Service• FAQs and Partner Discussions

1. OCHA Updates

- OCHA shared that information was received regarding the new Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) requirements for the UNHAS flights, regarding non-Ethiopian nationals who are non-residents. OCHA was informed that NDRMC will be providing a support letter for the flights, and all partners in need of this letter should write to NDRMC stating the purpose of the staff visit, where they will stay and where they will be going during the visit. OCHA underlined partners should make sure they include the staff's visa when this support letter is requested.

2. Operational highlights

- The Logistics Cluster shared that on 4 October, 49 trucks arrived into Tigray, out of which 23 trucks were coordinated or facilitated by the Logistics Cluster: five were Logistics Cluster trucks on behalf of 4 partners, and 18 were trucks owned by 2 partners. The remaining 26 trucks were WFP trucks.
- On 5 October in the morning, 51 WFP trucks left Semera for Mekele.
- Logistics Cluster reported that, since 12 July, 686 trucks have entered Tigray, out of which 74 were Logistics Cluster trucks, 200 were partner trucks coordinated by Logistics Cluster and 412 were WFP trucks. In total, 26,035 mt of cargo was transported, out of which the majority were Food security, Nutrition, WASH and Protection supplies.
- The Logistics Cluster is also facilitating access to transport services in the different hubs. In this sense, 3 mt of Protection and WASH items were dispatched from Mekele to Shire and Abi Adi on behalf of two partners.
- On 4 October, the Logistics Cluster facilitated transport to two partners to mobilize hygiene and other NFIs from Addis Ababa to Mekele and from Mekele to Shire.
- Partners were informed about the current storage capacity available across the 7 hubs, as of 4 October: in Addis Ababa 45% is available, 20% in Adama, 100% in Gondar, 50% in Kombolcha, 94% in Mekele and 92% in Shire. No capacity is available in Semera.
- The next coordination meetings set to happen are in Mekele at 15:00 today, and Thursday 7 October at 10:30 EAT in Bahir Dar.
- To be added to the mailing list to receive Logistics Cluster communications and notifications on upcoming meetings, partners should contact hannah.bamberger@wfp.org.

3. Maps Update

- The Operational Planning map was updated: the humanitarian corridors Gondar-Dansheha-Humera-Shire and the Dansheha-Hitsat-Shire were deleted.
- The Physical Roads Constraints Map was updated: in Tigray, the May Tsebri bridge between North Gondar and Tigray has been fixed. According to the OCHA Access Working Group, one truck (40 mt) can pass at a time. In Gambella, the Gambella to Mater port via Lare (and the bridge) is currently not operational, and the bridge is reported as being partially flooded.
- All maps can be accessed on the Logistics Cluster website [here](#).

4. Humanitarian convoys and Updated SRF

- Partners were reminded of the two ways to access the convoys:
 - For partners wishing to dispatch their cargo **accessing transport services facilitated by the Logistics Cluster**, they are requested to submit the [Service Request Form](#) (SRF) to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org

Meeting Minutes, 5 October 2021

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



- For partners wanting to **join the convoy with their transportation**, they are requested to submit the following information 48 hours in advance to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org

NUMBER	AGENCY	DRIVER NAME / ALTERNATE	PHONE NUMBER(S)	VEHICLE NUMBER / TRAILER NUMBER	CARGO TYPE	WEIGHT OF CARGO
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						

- It is essential to receive the information on time since the convoys need the approval of NDRMC and the trucks' details must be submitted in advance.
- The Logistics Cluster highlighted the importance of abiding by the following recommendations:
 - Make sure that drivers carry their ID and do not travel with substantial amounts of cash.
 - Not to travel with cameras, laptops or any electronic or communication devices. Generators are not allowed in the convoys either.
- Not following the indications will affect other partners and trucks in the same convoy, causing unnecessary delays in delivering humanitarian cargo.
- Partners were informed that an updated SRF is now available online and can be found [here](#). The added features are: weight and volume cells get highlighted in red if the ratio between them is illogical, the cell gets highlighted if service user missed out any values in line items detail, and the SRF asks for values if special handling request is marked 'yes'. However, partners were notified that the system still recognizes the existing SRF.

5. WFP Cost-Recovery Fuel Service

- WFP informed partners that no green light has been given to the tankers in Semera to enter Tigray.
- WFP mentioned other discussions were held at the highest levels with advocacy from WFP, partners and stakeholders. WFP hopes to come back with positive developments soon.
- WFP informed that 26 partners placed requests and are waiting to receive fuel.
- Partners are encouraged to reach out to annemaud.draugeon@wfp.org, sara.berhanu@wfp.org, helen.somes@wfp.org, elwan.bader@wfp.org and simeret.yemane@wfp.org for any inquiries related to fuel services.

6. FAQs and partner discussion

- OCHA stated the support letter from NDRMC required for travel should most likely apply for the return travel as well.

Meeting Minutes, 5 October 2021

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



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- The Logistics Cluster informed partners they were aware of the existing backlog of SRF requests and are working on responding to the SRFs. The Logistics Cluster reminded about the challenges currently faced regarding available trucks and transporters.
 - The Logistics Cluster reported that further clarification from the government is expected regarding the airlift of medical supplies. Once this is received, the Logistics Cluster will share with partners the next steps.

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for 12 October at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

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