Meeting Minutes, 16 November 2021
Somalia Logistics Cluster

LOCATION
Mogadishu, Online

DATE
16 November 2021

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
GREDO, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), OXFAM, Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), Save the Children, SOMAUS HELP, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Health Organization (WHO), and World Food Programme (WFP),

ACTION POINTS

- Partners who wish to have a copy of the key local supply chain and market alerts report are to contact somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org.
- The Logistics Cluster will continue to share updates on access restrictions across Somalia (road and airstrip accessibility).
- Partners with additional inputs regarding customs delays to share information with otavio.costa@wfp.org.
- The Logistics Cluster to discuss drought preparedness during the next coordination meeting.
- All communication/inquiries regarding possible cargo movements should be sent first to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org, then partners should use WFP Service Marketplace to formalise the requests.
- Partners are encouraged to suggest discussion topics for the next Logistics Cluster Coordination meeting by emailing otaviot.costa@wfp.org

AGENDA
1. Action points review
2. Logistics Cluster Situation Update
3. Cargo Transport Requirements & Q4 Planning
4. HRP
5. Customs Data
6. AOB

1. Action Points Review

The action points from the Coordination Meeting on 2 November were reviewed:

- Partners wishing to have a copy of the key local supply chain and market alerts report, to contact chifundo.ntupanyama@wfp.org. [Ongoing]
- The Logistics Cluster will continue to share updates on access restrictions across Somalia (road and airstrip accessibility). [Ongoing]

https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a
Partners were informed of a call for nominations for a Training of Trainers to be held in Italy already shared through the Logistics Cluster Mailing list – closing on 8 November [Completed]

The Logistics Cluster is facilitating the transport of response items to Guri Ceel. All communication/inquiries regarding possible cargo movements should be shared with the Logistics Cluster for consolidation. [Completed]

All communication/inquiries regarding possible cargo movements should be sent first to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org, then partners should use WFP Service Marketplace to formalise the requests. [Ongoing]

Partners are encouraged to suggest discussion topics for the next Logistics Cluster Coordination meeting by emailing chifundo.ntupanyama@wfp.org [Ongoing]

2. Situation Update

- The updated Roads Access map and Airport Access map (as of 1 November) are available on the Logistics Cluster Somalia webpage.
- Access challenges that are affecting cross border operations, inland transport, and airlift operations were discussed:
  - Some roads in the South of Somalia (ex-Mogadishu) to Jowhar and Mahaday are still closed due to the rain, and reports indicates that a route through Afgoye is a possible alternative.
  - An accident with a C-160 blocked Dollow over the week, but as of the 16th of November, the airport is operational.
  - Jalalaqsi airstrip has been flooded for the past three weeks and remains not operational.
  - Baidoa airport still has a cutoff time due to ongoing renovations. Flights can only operate between 07:30-12:00.
- All ports remain operational. WFP time-chartered vessel MV Spiekeroog is currently in Djibouti with next calls in Mogadishu (10/11/2021), Djibouti (24/11/2021), Mombasa (09/12/2021), Mogadishu (19/12/2021) and Berbera (07/01/2022). Partners were reminded to share requests for Sea transport early to allow time for the different processes.
- Partners inquired about the current accessibility of humanitarian cargo from Berbera port to Puntland. The Logistics Cluster advised that this route is currently done by sea until Bossaso and then by road to both Puntland and Galmudug areas.
- Key local supply chain and market alerts were shared for the last week. If partners would like a copy of the report, please contact otavio.costa@wfp.org.

3. Cargo Transport Requirements

- Logistics Cluster has facilitated the delivery of 1,948 mt of cargo on behalf of sixteen organisations so far in 2021:
  - 1,100 mt through air transport;
  - 835 mt through road transport;
  - 13 mt through sea transport.

https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a
• Partners were encouraged to share their needs until the end of the year for planning. Considering the cargo demand of the available assets, partners were advised that available slots may be reduced in December.

• All communication/inquiries regarding possible cargo movements should be first sent to somalia.cluster.cargo@wfp.org, and then formalised on WFP Service Marketplace.

4. Humanitarian Response Plan 2022

• The preparation of the 2022 Somalia Humanitarian Response Plan is underway and the Logistics Cluster presented the two projects received for review:

**Project 1: Logistics Coordination, Service Provision and Information Management for Humanitarian Organisations (WFP)**

Summary: The project aims to provide the enabling capacity of the Logistics Cluster through its lead agency and strengthen the humanitarian community’s logistics capacity to deliver timely, agile and reliable assistance. The project aims to facilitate operational coordination, generate decision support products through information management and, whenever resulting from a systemic gap, facilitate access to common service to key locations across Somalia as well as access to storage, sea and road transport services, where required.

Budget: 5.813 million USD

**Project 2: Provision of Humanitarian Air Services in Somalia (WFP)**

Summary: Somalia is grappling with increased humanitarian needs due to food insecurities, evolving political tensions and security situations, therefore having reliable air access for the humanitarian community is critical. With the infrastructure gaps existing in Somalia and no countrywide safe and reliable air services, the WFP-led United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) remains vital as the only travel options for humanitarian personnel needing to reach beneficiaries to provide timely and efficient assistance. UNHAS provides safe, reliable, efficient, and cost-effective air transport services (regular scheduled and special flights) to hard-to-reach locations in Somalia. UNHAS facilitates access for over 100 UN agencies, NGOs and Donor organizations to provide life-saving humanitarian assistance in Somalia.

Budget: 20.580 million USD

• The review panel formed with a representative from INGOs, NNGO, UN and OCHA reviewed the projects and endorsed both as being relevant and accurate to achieve the Logistics Cluster strategy.

• Currently, the HRP cover pages are being prepared and the document is proceeding to its final stages of preparation by the end of this year.

https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a
5. Customs Data

- The Logistics Cluster, in support of a joint advocacy effort with OCHA, collected information about customs delays to support discussions about procedures simplification with the government.
- Seven organisations submitted customs data: 384 entries. Data were cleaned to correct dates (some items were excluded due to inconsistency) and a 2021 sample was prepared with 194 entries.
- Some of the results are presented below:
  - 36 per cent of entries took more than three weeks to be processed
  - 18 per cent of entries showed Tax Exemption being granted after cargo already arrived
  - On average, took 27 days to have exemptions issues
- Partners indicated that the overview reflects their organisations’ experience thus providing a reasonable overview of the time taken to process customs.
- The Logistics Cluster indicated the next steps as follow:
  - A meeting with OCHA and other relevant stakeholders is planned in January to discuss the outcomes and present asks related to the simplification of procedures.
  - Further analysis of available data will be done and partners will be reached for additional information.

6. AOB

- Partners were reminded that the cluster IMO left as of last week and requests related to IM products should be channelled through somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org.
- Partners suggested discussing drought preparedness in the forthcoming coordination meeting.
- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 30 November 11:00 am EAT.

Contacts

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