LOCATION
Khartoum, Sudan - online

DATE
2 December 2021

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
Cafod, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW), Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), USAID/BHA, World Food Programme (WFP)

ACTION POINTS
- The Logistics Cluster will contact medical organisations to better understand customs clearances' processes specific to medical shipments.
- The Logistics Cluster will share the IMPACCT questionnaire regarding importation constraints faced by humanitarian partners.

AGENDA
1. Situation Update
2. Partners Survey Feedback
3. Importation/Customs constraints
4. AOB

1. Situation Update

- No new blockades have been reported for the last few weeks. The rumors on a potential new blockade are not confirmed. The port is currently open and fully functional and no closure of the ports operations are expected. Partners are encouraged to contact the shipping officer in Port Sudan, Kazuhiko Yamazaki. (kazuhiko.yamazaki@wfp.org)
- OCHA Kassala sub-office’s team will visit Port Sudan on Sunday to discuss with the BHC and other stakeholders, to anticipate and find solutions in case on any new blockade.
- MAERSK Rep in Port Sudan is still in the process of cleaning the backlog in Jeddah.
- WFP will complete the release of the 600 containers previously blocked in PZU by the end of the week.
- UNFPA has reported the release of all its cleared containers.
- WFP is still working on the elaboration of a humanitarian corridor through Egypt.

2. Partners Survey Feedback

- A survey has been shared with the Logistics Cluster’s partners in Sudan regarding the impact of the recent blockades on their operations. So far, on the 75 persons approached, 16 organisations have answered to the questionnaire, including 13 International NGOs and one UN agency, which represents...
a low 21% participation rate. One of them has accepted the invitation for a one-to-one discussion with the Logistics Cluster.

- Out of the 14 participants, 3 have reported their operations being affected by the blockade.
- 40 percent of the participants are adopting a local procurement strategy, mostly for Non-Food Items (NFIs), and are not expecting future constraints regarding their supplies.
- Some partners have raised their concern regarding fuel availability while others have reported challenges regarding cold-chain requirements for medical projects.
- WFP have prepositioned fuel in all its locations in-country and should be able to answer the needs of its partners for the next three to four months.

3. Importation/customs constraints

- Some administrative constraints are still being faced regarding the access to documentation required for customs clearance and tax exemptions.
- Medical shipments’ customs clearances are particularly affected by the new regulations.
- The IMPACCT working group is sharing a questionnaire regarding importation constraints faced by the humanitarian community.

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