1. **Opening remarks**
   The meeting was opened by the WFP Logistics Preparedness Officer. She welcomed participants and thanked them for their attendance. The Department of Civil Protection (DCP) team was not available for the meeting but had shared an update to be given to the participants regarding preparedness and response to flooding.

2. **Action points from last meeting**
   - The National Contingency Plan document was finalised and circulated to sectors/clusters by DCP.
   - Partners were yet to provide updates on logistics training plans to enable joint sessions where appropriate.
   - WFP shared a copy of the Global Logistics Cluster Strategy. The Strategy Implementation Plan was developed and WFP will share the link so that partners can peruse to get an appreciation of practical dimensions of the new strategy through tangible and implementable activities and outputs to enable action planning and effective monitoring of the work of the Global Logistics Cluster.

   **Action:** WFP will share the link to the Global Logistics Cluster Strategy Implementation Plan.

3. **Updates on preparedness and response to flooding emergencies**
   - The Meteorological Services Department (MSD) and DCP had issued adverse weather alerts regarding an overland Tropical Depression Ana which was likely to have fully dissipated by Friday 28 January 2022.
   - Strong and destructive winds were affecting the country.
• Excess rain especially in Manicaland and Mashonaland provinces - localized heavy rainfall (more than 50mm/24hrs) in the 13 districts: Chipinge, Chimanimani, Mutare, Mutasa, Nyanga, Mudzi, UMP, Rushinga, Mt Darwin, Centenary, Mbire, Hurungwe, Kariba
• Gokwe North and Mbire district were reported to be inaccessible due to damaged roads and bridges
• Partners were advised to be guided by the National Contingency Plan and to use the available Civil Protection structures for all preparedness and response efforts and communicate through the District Development Coordinators to avoid duplication and misinformation for effective and coordinated preparedness and response activities
• Planning - Partners are guided by the National Contingency Plan and the HCT Contingency Plan which were developed by Department of Civil Protection (DCP) and UNOCHA in collaboration with humanitarian stakeholders including WFP. All civil protection structures have been activated and are on high alert in all Provinces, WFP field offices and other partner district offices are part of these teams
• Communication and Coordination - Partners are using available Civil Protection Units (CPUs) for all preparedness and response efforts and communicate through the District Development Coordinators (DDCs). WFP works with UNOCHA in coordinating support to government through the inter-sector mechanism
• Pre-positioning - DCP has grain stocks of 50 MT per province stored at the government’s Grain Marketing Board. Working with UNOCHA coordination team, humanitarian partners have mapped prepositioned relief stocks. The stock-map has been shared with government. Pre-positioned stocks including tarpaulins, blankets, water and sanitation materials with minimum stock provision for fifty households in each province.
• Warehouses - Warehouse space for prepositioning is available in partner shared Mbire and Muzarabani warehouses, these have space to store materials (about 300 sqm each). Temporary storage can also be requested from partners, schools or clinics as needed. Humanitarian partners, including WFP have been collaborating to ensure availability of warehousing facilities and facilitating transport for provincial and district level pre-positioning of stocks. Through the Preparedness Project, WFP and DCP visited some provinces to assist CPUs in piloting emergency warehouse assessments. WFP is providing warehouse services for government in Harare and can assist in other locations during emergencies if funding is available.
• Training - Training sessions including Warehouse Management, Mobile Storage Unit assembly training and National Logistics Sector meetings were held as part of Preparedness activities. Trained logistics personnel are on stand-by and on high alert to assist and continue collaborative and coordinated efforts of monitoring and responding to the floods across the country. The Logistics Sector meetings are being organized through WFP on a regular basis, a minimum of fifteen organizations usually attend to share logistics gaps and needs.
• Transport - DCP has two lorries which can be utilized by partners. The lorries have a capacity of 10MT and 7MT. The military also has various trucks available for use on request via DCP. Government owned buses (ZUPCO) are on standby to assist with transport. These will only be deployed upon request through DDCs. Tractors have been mobilized for use in Muzarabani as rugged terrain will not allow use of buses. The government’s Central Mechanical Equipment Department (CMED) has trucks, buses, light vehicles, and other equipment for hire. Some partners have long term agreements with transporters to assist in emergencies if funding is available.
• Excavation assets - The District Development Fund (DDF) and private sector companies involved in mining projects and the national emergency road rehabilitation programme are assisting with excavation equipment and are on standby in all provinces
• Air rescue - The Airforce is on standby to assist with air evacuations if needed. The fuel has been prepositioned in two main military bases (Manyame and J. Tungamirai)
• Evacuation centres - As a preparedness measure, the DCP has activated evacuations centres where affected people are being sent. All affected districts have activated alerts for people to move away from flooding areas to evacuation centres. Permanent evacuation centres in Chimanimani and Chipinge are ready for use with a capacity of 200 HHs each
• Information Management – Thematic area WhatsApp groups and mailing lists are being used to share information. WFP, as lead of the Logistics and Food Security sector is sharing regular information through a mailing list (of 100 participants including government and other humanitarian organizations. DCP is providing public updates through national broadcasting services with support from the Ministry of Information and other
partners such as telecommunications companies offering bulk SMS services. Real-time sharing of logistics information has been essential especially on physical access as some roads and bridges have been damaged due to the heavy rains rendering some areas temporarily inaccessible and delaying partner activities.

- A second tropical depression, named Batsirai, was being monitored although its trajectory was still uncertain.
- DCP highlighted the response gaps or challenges including the inadequacy of equipment for the Sub aqua unit, inadequate permanent evacuation centres and inadequate temporary shelter (proper tents not tarpaulins), water and sanitation facilities for the displaced people. DCP will undertake detailed assessments to determine the damage caused by flooding and share reports with partners.

**Action:** WFP will share relevant flood season updates through the National Logistics Sector mailing list to inform partner emergency preparedness and response activities.

### 4. Preparedness Project planned activities

The Preparedness Project received an extension to 30 June and plans to continue with the following key activities:

- Quarterly meetings – physical meetings to be held if COVID-19 prevention measures do not prohibit.
- Action plan review – organise meeting with core members from working groups.
- Information management session with DCP and partners – Global Logistics Cluster team to assist.
- Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) assembly training – facilitate training within the Districts and Masvingo and Bulawayo provinces.
- Warehouse management training – cascade training to disaster-prone districts such as Mbire, Chipinge, Muzarabani, Chimanimani for government teams and to include humanitarian partners who had expressed interest.
- Support government with simulation exercises – will depend on WFP Programme colleagues’ inputs.
- Support regional collaboration and workshop – Global Logistics Cluster team to assist.
- National Workshop – to facilitate project close out and agree next phase of activities led by DCP and WFP.

Participants in the meeting were encouraged to advise if they have budgets for subnational level preparedness trainings and to share relevant plans to enable collaborative facilitation efforts.

**Action:** Partners will provide updates on logistics training plans to enable joint sessions where appropriate.

### 5. Updates from partners

Partners raised the need to further engage Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA) on import procedures. A suggestion was made for partners to share specific questions or topics to be discussed with ZIMRA. A meeting will then be scheduled when the need is clearer and an invitation letter is forwarded to ZIMRA. Previously guidance to partners was that bilaterally engagement with ZIMRA could be more ideal for partners who were experiencing challenges. This would enable speedy resolution of issues and yield better results than a generic presentation to the National Logistics Sector.

Partners in Manicaland province had carried out a Rapid Assessment and gave a brief update that the floods had caused some damages to road and bridges. The highlights were:

- Institutional buildings roofs blown off or damaged: Nyafaro sec school, Gairezi clinic, ZRP Nyanga houses, Chalet at Rhodes hotel, staff houses at Bonda mission.
- Bridges damaged: Samhutsa (Chipinge) and Gairezi (Nyanga).
- Roads blocked: Burma Valley Road is slippery, Samhutsa, Penhalonga/ Shamhu, Nyanga -Ruwangwe, Tombo/ Nyafaro/Ngurundu rural roads in Nyanga.

The assessment report was circulated to the meeting participants.

Partners emphasized the need to ensure that emergency flood response activities are coordinated and that partners take advantage of synergies and focus on each other’s core competencies through joint proposals to funders. The suggestion
to have quarterly physical meetings was welcomed as they would provide a platform to enhance networking and collaboration among partners.

6. Any other business and closing remarks

The WFP Head of Supply Chain closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their participation and attendance.

The plans regarding the next National Logistics Sector meeting will be shared in due course. The next meeting will be held on 24 February 2022 or an email update to partners will be provided on the same date.

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