LOCATION
Addis Ababa, online

DATE
15 March 2022

CHAIR
Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) Adviser
Andrea Rosales, Logistics Cluster Coordinator

PARTICIPANTS

ACTION POINTS
- Partners wishing to access the Logistics Cluster-facilitated airlifts are required to:
  1. Obtain the necessary clearance from the authorities (independently from the Logistics Cluster):
  2. Coordinate with:
     - The Health Cluster Coordinator Officer in Charge (OIC) - Patrick O Abok: abokp@who.org
     - The Nutrition Cluster Coordinator - Wondayferam Gemeda: wgemeda@unicef.org
     - The Emergency Shelter/Non-Food Items (ES/NFI) Cluster - Getahun Shimelis: Getahun.shimelis@crs.org
     - The Agriculture Cluster (Ntandoyenkosi Mlobane ntandoyenkosi.mlobane@fao.org)
  3. Requested to submit a Service Request Form (SRF). For additional information, kindly contact hannah.bamberger@wfp.org. Further information can be found in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) published online
- 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 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) for their storage should submit the MSU form to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org. More information can be found in the MSU Request SOPs.

AGENDA
1. OCHA Updates
2. Health Cluster Updates
3. Nutrition Cluster Updates
4. Agriculture Cluster Updates
5. ES/NFI Cluster Updates
6. Operational Updates
7. FAQs and Partner Discussion

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
1. OCHA Updates

- OCHA provided partners with access updates in Amhara. The A2 from Addis Ababa heading North is reportedly accessible up until Kobo.
- Additionally, OCHA informed that the B-30 from Whagamera and Gondar heading northeast is accessible until Debark, but beyond border areas with Tigray remain hard to reach at the time of reporting.
- OCHA noted that the A-3/B-31 from Addis Ababa heading north towards Bahir Dar is reported to have officially reopened. OCHA advised partners to move to this area with caution.
- Flights to Bahir Dar have now resumed to their normal schedule to Gondar, Dessie, and Bahir Dar.
- OCHA reported a protest in Zone 3 of the Afar region.
- OCHA reported a protest at Gabi Zone 3 in northern Awash over the weekend, which caused Gabi Zone 3 to close temporarily.
- OCHA informed partners that the route from Semera to Kombolcha via the B-11 was reported as accessible.
- OCHA reported a damage to the generators at the Shire airport in the past week. OCHA mentioned that, to date, no assessment on the extent of the damage incurred was carried, but informed that an assessment is planned for this week.
- OCHA provided partners with updates on cash transfers. The approval of cash requests is delayed due to lengthy review processes. OCHA advised agents to follow-up on submitted requests.
- OCHA reminded partners that no humanitarian fuel tankers have been able to enter Tigray from August 2021, limiting the humanitarian community’s ability to respond.
- To contact OCHA, partners were encouraged to reach out bilaterally to Nicola Wing: nicola.wing@un.org.

2. Health Cluster Updates

- The Health Cluster shared updates regarding the airlift of life saving medical supplies from Addis Ababa to Mekele.
- The Health Cluster informed partners that a guidance regarding the clearance process from the Health Cluster has been drafted and will be shared with partners and the Logistics Cluster upon completion.

3. Nutrition Cluster Updates

- The Nutrition Cluster updated partners on the nutrition cargo that had been airlifted in the previous week, as well as the scheduled cargo that will be airlifted to Mekele through the Logistics Cluster.
- The Nutrition Cluster informed partners that a certain number of requests are under clearance process and left with the final approval of Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC). Updates will be shared in the upcoming week.
- The Nutrition Cluster reminded partners interested in moving nutrition cargo via air to coordinate with the Nutrition Cluster to include in the prioritisation list.
- To contact the Nutrition Cluster, partners can reach out to wgemeda@unicef.org
4. Agriculture Cluster Updates

- As agreed with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), the Agriculture Cluster is working to prioritize agricultural cargo. The Agricultural Cluster is currently engaging with relevant partners for cargo clearance for airlift.
- To contact the Agriculture Cluster, partners can reach out to ntandoyenkosi.mlobane@fao.org

5. ES/NFI Cluster Updates

- The ES/NFI Cluster shared updates with partners regarding the prioritisation schedule for ES/NFI cargos. The ES/NFI Cluster mentioned about 39 mt of prioritised ES/NFI items are planned to be airlifted. The requesting partners are in process to receive the final clearance from the relevant authorities, once this is done the airlift schedule will proceed.
- The ES/NFI Cluster added partners were requested from Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) to specify the date for airlifting of the cargo.
- To contact the ES/NFI Cluster, partners can reach out to Getahun.shimelis@crs.org

6. Operational Updates

- In the past week, the Logistics Cluster facilitated air transport of 17.8 mt of prioritised health items from Addis Ababa to Mekele on behalf of four partners.
- The Logistics Cluster informed partners that, in order of relevance, the current ICCG-prioritised Clusters are Health, Nutrition, WASH, ES/NFI and Agriculture Clusters.
- The Logistics Cluster reminded partners about the circulation of the updated airlift standard operating procedures (SOPs) from Addis Ababa to Tigray. These were shared via the mailing list and can also be found on the website. It is expected that this document will be updated as required.
- The Logistics Cluster provided the following indications on how to avoid cargo airlift delays and incidents:
  - Ensure the cargo is labelled
  - Share the clearance with the Logistics Cluster as soon as the partner receives it. This is required for planning purposes and for UNHAS to request flight clearance.
  - Remove any unnecessary extra plastic before arrival of the cargo at the airport.
  - Partners should ensure that at least one representative per organisation (if possible two) is present both at the Addis Ababa and Mekele airport, carrying the cargo packing list, work ID, and the required airport pass. In Addis Ababa, they should be able to answer any questions related to cargo from the authorities. In Mekele, the focal person is responsible for picking up the cargo. If storage services are required, please inform the Logistics Cluster in advance by writing to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org or by including this on the submitted SRF, for planning purposes.
  - Partners also must ensure the correct information on the SRF is included. Discrepancies between SRF figures and actual figures cause delays during the checks. To ensure correct SRF figures, partners need to provide the packing list by email to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org, and make sure to correctly measure the volume, weight, and number of boxes.
  - Partners should request access passes for the restricted area of the airport when approaching NISS. This will enable them to access the area in the airport where the cargo is checked, unboxed, and repacked.

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The Logistics Cluster highlighted the below new requirements, as shared by Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), required to be fulfilled by partners for cargo airlift services.

- EDRMC letter for cargo must mention the total weight of the cargo to be airlifted.
- EDRMC letter for cargo must include a validity date.
- The Logistics Cluster reminded partners without the above information that UNHAS is unable to secure the flight clearances for next week’s airlifts.

The Logistics Cluster informed partners that no convoy movements to Mekele through the Semera-Mekele corridor have occurred since 14 December 2021.

In Semera, the Logistics Cluster supported with the off-loading of seven partner trucks containing NFIs and four partner trucks containing food items into the Logistics Cluster warehouse.

Additionally, two partner trucks of 54 mt of SNFIs have been loaded in the past week from the warehouse on behalf of one partner for distribution in Afar.

The Logistics Cluster informed partners in Tigray, approximately 10 mt of medical supplies belonging to one partner were dispatched from the Mekele warehouse on 4 March to be distributed to the health centers across Tigray. The transportation was carried out with partner’s trucks, with fuel secured by the partner.

In Amhara, the Logistics Cluster received the 12 mt of WASH and Shelter items at the Kombolcha warehouse on behalf of one partner.

In Addis Ababa, the Logistics Cluster shared with partners that it is conducting two sessions of Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) installation and dismantling training for partners at the Kality warehouse (14-15 and 16-17 March 2021).

As of 15 March 2021, available storage capacity is currently as follows:

- 50 percent in Gondar
- 50 percent in Kombolcha
- 72 percent in Mekele
- 93 percent in Shire
- 35 percent in Semera
- 25 percent in Adama
- 0 percent in Addis Ababa.

The next coordination meeting is in Mekele at 15:00 EAT on 15 March, in-person and online. To receive the link for this meeting, contact abriha.assefa@wfp.org.

In order to be added to the mailing list and receive Logistics Cluster communications and notifications on upcoming meetings and training opportunities, partners should contact hannah.bamberger@wfp.org.

7. FAQs and Partner Discussion

- A partner asked information about the figure for cumulative cash amounts that reached Tigray since July 2021. OCHA responded that the total cash amount that was transferred lies approximately at 1.1 billion ETB since July 2021.
- One partner asked that for clarification on the National Intelligence Security Service (NISS) clearance process, how to send the request and if it follows the NDRMC clearance. The Logistics Cluster answered that all the latest information on clearance gathered can be find on this website: https://logcluster.org/document/ethiopia-airlifts-addis-ababa-tigray-sops-0
- The Logistics Cluster responded to a partner’s inquiry about the OCHA/WFP decision to advocate for road convoy testing via Kobo. The Logistics Cluster said that advocacy for all three key corridors is still underway; on the operational side, all test convoy trucks will be ready to proceed to Semera, Kobo, or Gondar if all parties agree, and the convoy will be given the green light to move.
- A partner inquired about reasons for UNHAS flight re-scheduling. The Logistics Cluster answered that this is related to the EDRMC requirements as advocated by MOFA.

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
Meeting Minutes, 15 March 2022
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 22 March at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

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