LOCATION
Addis Ababa, online

DATE
01 March 2022

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

PARTICIPANTS

ACTION POINTS
• Partners are requested to submit their Service Request Form (SRF) via ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org to access storage and transport services.
• Partners wishing to access the Logistics Cluster-facilitated airlifts have to (1) obtain the necessary clearance from the authorities (independently from the Logistics Cluster) and in parallel (2) should coordinate with the Health Cluster and share the details of their cargo with the Health Cluster Coordinator (Beatrice Muraguri, bmuraguri@who.org) to be included in the prioritisation list and with Nutrition Cluster Coordinator (Wondayferam Gemeda, wgemeda@unicef.org) (3) Partners are then 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
• Health Cluster and Nutrition Cluster to collaborate with their respective partners to consolidate a list of prioritised life-saving cargo for airlift through the Logistics Cluster.
• 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
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1. **OCHA Updates**

- OCHA shared updates on access in Northern Ethiopia. Regarding the Tigray region, some areas around the borders with Eritrea remain hard to reach.
- In Tigray, access remains largely unchanged, with constraints in the border regions with Eritrea and Western Zone.
- OCHA informed partners a multi-agency mission was conducted on the past Thursday and Friday from Mekelle to Southern Tigray through Mekele, Mehonie, Alamata, Waja and back to assess the possibility of convoy movement resumption. The mission was reportedly able to pass freely to Waja.
- The Addis Ababa-Amhara road heading north along the A2 and most of the Amhara region is accessible, except for a few areas along the borders to the Tigray region. According to OCHA, partners are allowed to move across the region without the need for authorisation letters - previously needed by the Amhara government. The Addis Ababa-Amhara road heading north along the A2 and most of the Amhara region is accessible, except for a few areas along the borders to the Tigray region. OCHA also noted that on Monday, 28 February, access constraints were reported in the region along zone B31 from Bahirdar to Gohatsion. Therefore, mission plans for that section of the road had been postponed.

- According to OCHA, partners are allowed to move across the Amhara region without the need for authorisation letters - previously needed by the Amhara government.
- OCHA informed partners negotiation efforts regarding access in the Semera-Mekele corridor are still ongoing.
- OCHA shared that the Addis Ababa-Semera route using the A1 via Awash was reportedly accessible.
- Regarding access in the Afar region, OCHA informed that it remains challenging and hard to reach, especially in Zone 2.
- OCHA shared there was a multi-agency mission conducted to Afdera last week, however access beyond Afdera is reportedly not feasible at this time.
- OCHA reminded partners that no humanitarian fuel tankers have reached Tigray since August 2021, remaining as one of the major bottlenecks for humanitarian operations within Tigray.
- OCHA informed partners updates regarding cash transfer is expected to be received by today.

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
Partners are requested to report to OCHA (nicola.wing@un.org) if they have been able to receive approval for more than 3 M ETB.

OCHA informed partners that UNHAS flights Addis Ababa – Mekele have been moving consistently, with two flights per week.

For further information on access, partners were encouraged to reach out bilaterally to nicola.wing@un.org

2. Nutrition Cluster Updates

The Nutrition Cluster provided updates on the prioritised nutrition cargo that has been airlifted from Addis Ababa to Mekel through the Logistics Cluster as well as the planned cargo.

So far, Approximately 133 mt of prioritised nutrition and medical cargo have been airlifted.

Partners were informed that the Nutrition Cluster has been receiving requests to airlift goods categorised under the Food Cluster. As agreed at the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group, only life-saving, nutrition items (and health) are being airlifted at this time.

To contact the Nutrition Cluster, partners can reach out to wgermeda@unicef.org

3. Operational Updates

The Logistics Cluster informed partners that in the past week, 47.1 mt of life-saving medical and nutrition supplies were airlifted from Addis Ababa to Mekele on behalf of four partners. The cargo consisted of 30.5 mt of Nutrition items and 16.5 mt of Health supplies.

Partners were informed that a Boeing 737 with a max capacity of 13 mt is operational since 25 February.

The Logistics Cluster shared that two dedicated Logistics Cluster trucks will be used to transport cargo for airlift from warehouse to airport, upon request.

The Logistics Cluster shared with partners that the review of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) is ongoing to include details on clearance processes.

Additionally, partners were informed that 30 mt of Nutrition cargo on behalf of one partner are currently being cleared at the airport.

The Logistics Cluster recommends to adhere to the following indications to avoid delays and incidents:

- Ensuring the cargo is labelled. This can be done by sticking a logo/tag of the organisation on each box, either with a sticker, pen or tape. For more safety, please, bring at the airport some extra stickers and the following items: cutter, tape roll, face masks.
- Removing any unnecessary extra plastic before arrival of the cargo at the airport. This can help speed up the manual checks at the airport which require the unboxing of all cargo for NISS clearance.
- Ensuring at least one representative of your organisation, and if possible two, are present both at Addis Ababa and Mekele airports, carrying the cargo packing list, work ID and required airport pass. In Addis Ababa, they should be able to answer any questions authorities may have on the cargo. In

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
Meeting Minutes, 1 March 2022
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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.

- Ensuring the correct information on the SRF is included. Discrepancies between SRF figures and actual figures will cause delays during the checks. To ensure correct SRF figures, please provide the packing list by email to ethiopia.logisticsclustercargo@wfp.org, and make sure to correctly measure the volume, weight and number of boxes.

- The Logistics Cluster reminded partners that no convoy movements through the Semera-Mekele corridor had occurred since 14 December.
- In Semera, one partner truck of 20 mt of SNFIs has been loaded from the warehouse on behalf of the one partner for Afar distribution.
- Additionally, six trucks facilitated by the Logistics Cluster representing 113 mt SNFIs have been offloaded in the Logistics Cluster warehouse in the past week.
- Partners were informed that in Tigray, there were no transportation or storage services provided in the past week due to limited fuel availability.
- In Addis Ababa, the Logistics Cluster received 40 mt of WASH, Health, and Food items on behalf of three partners for storage.
- Regarding the storage capacity available, as of 1 March: 19% of storage space is available in Addis Ababa, 60% in Gondar, 75% in Kombolcha, 51% in Mekele, 94% in Shire, 30% in Semera and 25% in Adama.
- The next coordination meeting is in Mekele at 15:00 EAT today, in-person and online. To receive the link for this meeting, contact abriha.assefa@wfp.org.
- 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

- One partner inquired regarding the current inland accessibility to Tigray through Amhara region. OCHA answered missions to assess the inland accessibility through Amhara were ongoing and OCHA added that negotiations for improved access were ongoing.
- A partner asked on the convoys movement and the Logistics Cluster answered there was no convoy movement since last December. There is currently a test convoy in Semera that has received EDRMC clearance and that it is pending final authorisations from regional authorities and stakeholders on the ground.
- A partner asked if the energy biscuits are categorised as prioritised items for airlift. The Nutrition Cluster answered that energy biscuits are not considered life-saving nutrition items, thus they are not prioritised at the moment.
- A partner enquired about the distribution of items that are airlifted to Mekele as the fuel shortage has been hindering operations for most partners. A partner that has been airlifting cargo through the

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
Logistics Cluster answered that most of implementing partners collect the items with small vehicles from the airport.

- A partner inquired on the status of convoy movements from Djibouti to Kombolcha. The Logistics Cluster is not coordinating convoys from Djibouti to Kombolcha, but will liaise with the relevant WFP unit so the team can provide an update on the status of this route to the partner. The partner was advised to contact the Logistics Cluster for further contact details of WFP relevant unit team on the convoys moving from Djibouti to Kombolcha.

- One partner inquired about airlifting other items beyond health and nutrition, such as WASH, education, agriculture and other sectors. The Logistics Cluster advised partners to get in touch with their relevant cluster to advocate for the prioritisation of other sectors. The subject has been already raised in the ICCG, and the Logistics Cluster will offer updates on the upcoming Logistics Cluster Coordination meeting, on 8 March.

- A partner inquired regarding the process and permit required to transport IT equipment to Mekele. The Logistics Cluster recommended reach out to both OCHA and ETC to get the most up to date information on the clearance process and permits to transport electronic and/or IT equipment into Tigray: the ETC Cluster can be contacted here ivan.thomas@wfp.org and OCHA can be contacted by writing to nicola.wing@un.org.

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 8 March at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

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