LOCATION
Addis Ababa, online

DATE
8 March 2022

CHAIR
Ato Tadesse Bekele, Senior Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) 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 OIC (Patric O Abok abokp@who.org) to be included in the prioritisation list and with Nutrition Cluster Coordinator (Wondayferam Gemeda, wgameda@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 prioritized 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.

https://logcluster.org/ops/eth20a
Meeting Minutes, 8 March 2022
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

AGENDA
1. Welcome and Introduction
2. OCHA Updates
3. Health Cluster Updates
4. Nutrition Cluster Updates
5. Operational Updates
6. FAQs and Partner Discussion

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 reiterated that within Amhara, partners are now free to move across the region without the requirement for authorisation letters, which were previously required by the Amhara administration.
- OCHA informed partners that Wag Hamra is mostly accessible with the exception of boundary areas with Tigray. OCHA also mentioned that a multi agency mission was planned to Wag Hamra this week, with the aim of exploring the hard to reach areas. However this mission was postponed to the beginning of next week.
- OCHA shared that the B-22 from that Woldia heading west towards Bahir Dar is accessible.
- Additionally, the B-30 from Gondar heading northeast is accessible until Debark, but beyond border areas with Tigray remain hard to reach at the time of reporting.
- In the Afar region, OCHA informed partners that Semera was accessible from Addis Ababa, as well as Dessie through the B-11 route.
- Additionally, OCHA mentioned that access in Afar had improved in Zones 1, 4 and 5. However, access constraints in Zone 2 persist.
- OCHA informed partners that UNHAS flights have been moving consistently with two flights per week.
- OCHA reminded partners that no humanitarian fuel tankers have reached Tigray since August 2021, limiting the humanitarian community’s capacity to respond.
- OCHA shared with partners the latest on cash transportation to Tigray. From 24 February - 8 March, ETB 88.96 million on behalf of 33 partners were approved for transfer to Tigray. This brings the total approved cash for transfer to Tigray since July 2021 to ETB 1,044.46 billion.
- OCHA requested partners to report if they were able to get authorisation for the transport into Tigray of more than ETB 3 million.
- To contact OCHA, partners were encouraged to reach out bilaterally to nicola.wing@un.org

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2. Health Cluster Updates

- The Health Cluster shared updates regarding the airlift of lifesaving medical supplies from Addis Ababa to Mekele.
- The Health Cluster informed partners that WHO is planning to ship 95 mt of medical supplies in the next 10-14 days.
- The Health Cluster informed that it is coordinating with relevant partners for the prioritisation of medical supplies for airlift through the Logistics Cluster.

3. Nutrition Cluster Updates

- The Nutrition Cluster provided information on the nutrition cargo that had been airlifted in the past week, and informed partners of the scheduled cargo for airlift to Mekele through the Logistics Cluster.
- Partners were informed that the Nutrition Cluster has been receiving requests from partners to airlift goods that are categorised under the Food Cluster. The Nutrition Cluster is only prioritising lifesaving, nutrition items at this time.
- The Nutrition Cluster reminded partners interested in moving nutrition cargo via air to coordinate with them in order to be taken into account in the prioritisation list.
- To contact the Nutrition Cluster, partners can reach out to wgemeda@unicef.org

4. Operational Updates

- In the past week, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the air transport of, 99.6 mt of life-saving medical and nutrition supplies from Addis Ababa to Mekele on behalf of three partners, out of which five mt were health items and 94.5 mt were nutrition items.
- Partners were informed the next planned airlifts is on Thursday 10 March, with approximately 16 mt of health items on behalf of four partners.
- The Logistics Cluster highlighted the below cargo airlift recommendations to avoid delays and incidents, by adhering to the following indications:
  - **Ensure 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, partners are recommended to bring at the airport some extra stickers and a cutter, a tape roll and face masks.
  - 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.

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- Remove 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.
- Partners should ensure that at least one representative per organization (if possible two) is present both at the Addis Ababa and Mekele airport, carrying the cargo packing list, the 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 will be 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.
- Ensure 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, 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.

- The Logistics Cluster reminded partners that no convoy movements to Mekele through the Semera-Mekele corridor had occurred since 14 December.
- In Semera, the Logistics Cluster support with the offloading of seven partner trucks representing approximately 260 mt of SNFIs into the Logistics Cluster warehouse.
- Additionally, two partner trucks of 40 mt of SNFIs have been loaded in the past week from the warehouse on behalf of one partner for distribution in Afar.
- Partners were informed that in Tigray, 8.6 mt of medical supplies belonging to one partner was dispatched from the warehouse between 28 February and 1 March to be distributed to the health centres in Mekele. The partner transported the items using partner trucks and with fuel secured by the partner.
- In Shire, 1.28 mt of WASH and shelter items belonging to one partner was dispatched from the Shire warehouse to IDP centres around Shire (Adikentibay and Adiwenfito). The partner transported the items using partner trucks and with fuel secured by the partner.
- The Logistics Cluster informed partners that it has reactivated the bi-weekly coordination meetings in Shire on Mondays, 14:00 EAT. The next meeting is scheduled on 21 March 2022 and will be in person.
- In Amhara, the Logistics Cluster received authorisation from the regional authorities for the rental of the warehouse. It now is seeking the final authorisation from the police.
- The Logistics Cluster mentioned 4 mt of medical items were received on behalf of one partner for storage.
- The Logistics Cluster informed partners that it is looking into expanding its storage capacity in Kality warehouse, with an additional two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs). This would represent an additional 640 m2 of storage capacity available to partners upon request.
- In Adama, the Logistics Cluster received 20 mt of shelter items on behalf of one partner.
- Regarding the storage capacity available, as of 8 March: 23% of storage space is available in Addis Ababa, 50 per cent in Gondar, 50% in Kombolcha, 70% in Mekele, 94% in Shire, 20% in Semera and 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.

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7. FAQs and Partner Discussion

- One partner inquired regarding the process to get approval to send computers to Mekele through UNHAS flight. The Logistics Cluster with OCHA answered that the requesting organization has to write a letter to EDRMC by mentioning the serial number of the computer and who is going to use the computers and has to send one responsible person with the UNHAS flight. According to OCHA the maximum number of computers to send is 50 per organization and partners were encouraged to share their experience if they have received approvals to send above this number.

- A partner asked if women dignity items are prioritised by the Health Cluster. The Logistics Cluster recommend the partner to contact the relevant cluster coordinator inorder to receive further information regarding the prioritisation of the cargo by writing to abokp@who.org

- A partner asked on possibilities to send hibernation kits with a staff assigned to travel to Mekele via a UNHAS flight. OCHA replied the partner needs to write a letter to EDRMC to see if permission is given to transport it on the regular passenger flight.

- One partner informed about a plan to send 10 mt of health items through airlift, and asked for the process on how to get approval from the authority or if the Health Cluster can handle all the approval process. The Health Cluster requested this partner to share the details of the cargo for airlift to Health Cluster to be included in the prioritisation list. The Logistics Cluster also added that partners are responsible to secure the necessary clearances and recommended partners to contact the Health Cluster for further guidance on the clearance process by abokp@who.org. Additionally, the Logistics Cluster mentioned first approval to be received from MoH, then EDRMC then NISS.

- A partner asked for the contact list of the cluster coordinators for different inquiries. The Logistics Cluster recommended partners to go through https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ethiopia and reach out to Hannah.bamberger@wfp.com for contact list details.

- One partner asked regarding the prioritisation of vegetable seeds and veterinary drugs to Tigray by mentioning both of these are essential for future food security. The Logistics Cluster recommended the partner to engage with the the Agriculture Cluster by writing to ntandoyenkosi.mlobane@fao.org, regarding prioritisation of agrircultural items. The Clusters were invited to engage with the Inter Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) to discuss further.

- One partner inquired who the directorate/ person in the Ministry of Health is in charge of authorising the nutrition and health cargo. The Nutrition Cluster answered details will be provided bilaterally, and the partner should write to wgemeda@unicef.org

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One of the partners inquired about fuel transportation to Tigray, explaining that the lack of fuel has posed a major impediment to the provision of health supplies to health facilities in woredas across Tigray. The Logistics Cluster responded that advocacy efforts at federal levels are ongoing, and that partners will be informed of the outcomes.

The next Coordination Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 15 March at 11:00 EAT.

Contacts

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