LOCATION
Mogadishu, Online

DATE
31 May 2022

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
Alight Horn of Africa, Gargaar Relief Development Organization (GREDO), International Medical Corps (IMC), Medair, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Save the Children, Somaus Help Inc., SOS Children’s Village, Trocaire, World Food Programme (WFP), World Vision International, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations’s Children Fund (UNICEF).

ACTION POINTS
• The Logistics Cluster to continue to share updates on access restrictions.
• The Logistics Cluster to share Market Alerts Report upon request.
• The Logistics Cluster is conducting a transport cost assessment of the Baidoa to Kasandere route.
• The Logistics Cluster will contact partners for focused discussions on Concept of Operations (ConOps) updates: organizations who wish to contribute are requested to reach out to annekathrin.landherr@wfp.org.
• A quantitative data analysis will be conducted by the Logistics Cluster for the 2022 tax exemption analysis: the entry table will be shared with partners.

AGENDA
1. Action Points Review
2. Situation Update
3. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations (ConOps)
4. Custom Clearance
5. AOB

1. Action Points Review

The action points from the Coordination Meeting on 17 May were reviewed:
• The Logistics Cluster will continue to share updates on access restrictions across Somalia (road and airstrip accessibility). [Ongoing]
• Following the Logistics Cluster presentation of its warehouse mapping as part of the drought response, next steps will be explored. [Planned]
2. Situation Update

General Country Updates:
- The last two weeks have seen a significant reduction of rainfall across Somalia, marking a possible early end to the Gu 2022 rainfall season. The amount of rainfall recorded so far lies below average. Water levels along the Juba and Shabelle rivers decreased over the last week and the rainfall reduction trend is expected to continue in the coming week.

Road Transport Network Updates:
- The following roads are currently closed or inaccessible: (1) Jowhar–Jalalaqsi (2) Jalalaqsi– Buulobarde–Beletweyne (3) Brava–Jilib (4) Mogadishu–Buurhakaba–Baidoa and (5) Galkayo– Bacaadweyne –South Mudug.

Air Transport Updates:
- El Wak airport is closed.
- Baidoa airport is only open until 12.00pm.
- Diinsor is open on Mondays and Thursdays.
- Quansadere airport is open and operational.
- Partners are expected to share transportation needs from Baidoa to Quansadere by reaching out to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org.

Sea Transport and Airport Updates:
- All ports remain operational. WFP time-chartered vessel MV Spiekeroog arrived in Berbera on the 28th of May and is currently discharging.
- On its next journey from Berbera to Bosasso and Bosasso to Mogadishu, MV Spiekeroog has space left to carry additional cargo. Requests for cargo transportation should be sent out as soon as possible to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org.
- Updates on upcoming schedules will be shared with all partners.

Relief Materials Pipeline and Sourcing:
- Food commodities are available in all regions.
- While the prices of food in Somaliland, South Somalia and Central Somalia increased, the prices in Puntland and Banadir/Hirshabelle have reduced due to increased supply in the market.
- The supply corridors in all regions are accessible. The maintenance of the road linking Galkayo and Burtinle town has been completed. This has reduced the lead time from 3 to 1.5 hours.
- For a detailed report, please reach out to annekathrin.landherr@wfp.org.

Funding:
Due to funding constraints:
- The Logistics Cluster’s available funding is currently exclusively earmarked for nutrition and food security supplies.
- Analysis of other cargo requirements will be conducted and if no additional funds are identified, services may need to be delivered under the form of partial or full cost recovery modalities.
3. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations (ConOps)

Information Management
- The updated Roads Access map and Airport Access map (as of 27 May) have been uploaded on the Logistics Cluster website.

ConOps
- The Logistics Cluster plans to update the ConOps to align the context with the ongoing drought and famine prevention operations.
- The Logistics Cluster will contact partners for focused discussions on Concept of Operations (ConOps) updates: organizations who wish to contribute are requested to reach out to annekathrin.landherr@wfp.org.
- Based on currently identified needs and gaps, and based on funding expectations and the current drought response, there are no foreseen changes in operational requirements.

Services
- In 2022, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 1013mt of cargo on behalf of 8 organizations.
- 6.28 mt of health and nutrition supplies for Action Contre la Faim (ACF) were airlifted from Mogadishu to Wajid, Baidoa and El Berde.
- 3mt of nutrition supplies for Concern Worldwide were airlifted from Mogadishu to Bardhere.
- 0.30mt of health supplies and drugs for CESVI were transported by road from Galkayo to Beletweyne.
- 1.72mt of Rapid Antigen Covid-19 Test Kits were transported from Nairobi to Mogadishu for the Ministry of Health (MoH).
- 59 mt of cargo is pending for airlifting for ACF, UNICEF, Save the Children (SCI), Gredo, International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNHCR and Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MoHADM).

4. Custom Clearance

Custom Clearance
- There is a renewed interest from donors to support advocacy efforts towards faster customs clearance processes. The Logistics Cluster submitted a ‘Key Logistics Issues’ paper through OCHA to bring attention to key topics, signalling implications caused by customs delays. The Logistics Cluster proposes to the Somalian government to consider a blanket tax exemption for humanitarian organizations based on a predefined list of humanitarian and life-saving supplies, as well as to simplify the tax exemption processes through creation of fast-track initiatives.
- There is a need to update the 2021 quantitative data analysis exercise integrating data on customs clearance processes.

Tax Exemption Analysis 2021:
Key findings include:
Meeting Minutes, 31 May 2022

- 36% of entries took more than 3 weeks to be processed.
- 18% of entries shown tax exemptions being granted after cargo arrived.
- Average processing time: 27 days.

**Tax exemption analysis 2022:**
- A quantitative data analysis will be conducted by the Logistics Cluster, and the entry table will subsequently be shared with partners.
- The Logistics Cluster will also conduct a qualitative focus group discussion with volunteer partners to identify key customs clearance challenges.

5. AOB

- The Logistics Cluster will meet again on the 14th of June at 11:00 am EAT.
- All requests (including IM requests) are to be directed to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org

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https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a