Meeting Minutes, 20 December 2022
Somalia Logistics Cluster

LOCATION Mogadishu, Online
DATE 20 December 2022
CHAIR Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS Action Against Hunger (AAH), Cardisom, Community Relief Center (CRC), Concern Worldwide, Danish Red Cross (DRC), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), GREDO, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Rescue Committee (IRC) Islamique Relief Somalia, Medair, Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oxfam, Secours Islamique France (SIF), Somali Red Crescent Society (SRCS), Somaushelp Somalia, Trocaire, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), World Vision.

ACTION POINTS
• The Logistics Cluster to share with partners an update on the date of the next Kenya-Somalia border crossing humanitarian operation.
• The Logistics Cluster, in cooperation with IMPACCT, to organize the next Technical Working Group meeting on Import and Customs Clearance on the 18 January 2023.
• Partners to reach out with transportation needs to areas which are difficult to reach including Jalalaqsi, Qansaxdhere and Bulo Burte.

AGENDA
1. Action Points Review
2. Situation Update
3. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations (ConOps)
4. Fuel Prices
5. Customs Clearance Technical Working Group Meeting
6. Any Other Business (AOB)

1. Action Points Review

The action points from the Coordination Meeting on 06 December were reviewed:
• The Logistics Cluster will continue to share updates on access restrictions across Somalia (road and airstrip accessibility). [Ongoing]
• The Logistics Cluster will continue to share monthly reports on fuel prices across Somalia via the Logistics Cluster mailing list and on the Logistics Cluster Website. [Ongoing]
• The Logistics Cluster will start sharing weekly Market Alerts and Supply Chain Updates via the Logistics Cluster mailing list and on the Logistics Cluster Website. [Ongoing]
• The Logistics Cluster to organize a subnational coordination meeting in Dollow. [Completed]
• The Logistics Cluster to organize a subnational coordination meeting in Beletweyne. [Ongoing]
- The Logistics Cluster to reach out to partners to consolidate needs to transport vehicles from Mogadishu to Baidoa. [Completed]
- Partners to reach out with transportation needs from Kenya to Somalia by road. [Completed]

2. Situation Update

Physical Transport Network Updates:
- The Logistics Cluster has received information that the roads from Jowhar–Jalalaqsi and Jalalaqsi–Buulobarde–Beletweyne are now open. However, these routes have not yet actually been used/verified by WFP.
- WFP transported supplies from Mogadishu–Buurhakaba–Baidoa in November and will try to use the same road to transport supplies in January. If the second attempt is also successful, the road will be declared as open.
- Currently there is no warning issued for any other roads.

Air Transport Updates:
- All airstrips are currently accessible. However, the following locations are currently only accessible by the helicopter: Qansaxdhere, Jalalaqsi and Bulo Burte.
- The airstrip in Berdale is currently only open on the following days until noon: Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
- Partners to reach out with transportation needs to areas which are hard to reach including Buurhakaba, Jalalaqsi, Mahas and Qansaxdhere.

Sea Transport Updates:
- All sea ports remain operational: Mogadishu – Berbera – Bosasso – Kismayo – Garacad.
- WFP time-chartered vessel MV Zehrah 1 is currently at the seaport in Mombasa. The vessel is expected to depart on the 23rd of December. The next port after Mombasa is Bosasso.
- The Mombasa seaport is currently facing loading capacity challenges resulting in vessel departure delays.
- WFP is planning to trial transport supplies from Mombasa to the North of Somalia by dhow. If successful, this opens a new opportunity to transport supplies from the South to the North by sea.
- The new vessel voyage schedule with arrival and departure dates as well as deadlines for submitting documentations will be shared with all partners via email and on the Logistics Cluster website.
- Partners are encouraged to take advantage of the vessel service facilitated by the Logistics Cluster, especially to move cargo from the North to the South, as it is more cost efficient than moving cargo by air.
Relief Materials Pipeline and Sourcing:

- **Commodity Prices:** Overall, prices of imported food items either decreased or remained the same compared to the previous week in all the regions except in Galmudug where the price of wheat flour showed an increase of 6%/kg. In Mogadishu, the price of wheat flour and sugar decreased by 11% and 6%, respectively, per kg, and the price of vegetable oil dropped by 6%/litre. In Hirshabelle, pasta, rice and wheat flour decreased by 6%, 4% and 3%, respectively, per kg, also vegetable oil decreased by 3%/litre. In Southwest, rice, sugar, wheat flour and pasta decreased by 8%, 6%, 5% and 1%, respectively, per kg and vegetable oil dropped by 6%/litre, compared to the previous week.

- **Availability:** Sufficient stocks of key food items were reported in most markets across the states that can cover approximately two weeks of current demand.

- **Market resilience:** Generally, supply chain resilience is good across the regions throughout the country except in locations controlled by insurgents such as Qansaxdhere Wajid and Hudur. Despite accessibility issues related to insecurity in these locations, business communities are getting supplies through informal trade to ensure the availability of key items in the markets.

- **Border and Supply Chain:** Most roads are accessible and transport services function smoothly except for some supply routes in Galmudug where the lead time may get extended compared to normal times due to some natural sand piles along the road. Further, most supply corridors linked to Kismayu town are under maintenance; once complete, transport services from Kismayo port to key markets will also improve further. The road linking Bossaso and Taleex is in poor condition and transport trucks are currently using the Bossaso-Dhahar-Sarmanyo-Hudun-Arooleey-Taleh route. Given this alternate route is longer, the lead time has increased from 13 hours to 48 hours. However, this increase of lead time has not yet impacted on the food prices and the availability of commodities in the Taleex market.

- The Logistics Cluster is sharing weekly Market Alerts and Supply Chain Updates via the Logistics Cluster mailing list and on the Logistics Cluster Website. Partners to reach out to the Logistics Cluster to be added to the Logistics Cluster emailing list.

3. Logistics Cluster Concept of Operations (ConOps)

**Beletweyne Subnational Coordination Meeting**

- The Logistics Cluster is planning to organize its next Subnational Logistics Cluster Coordination meeting in Beletweyn on the 21st of December.

- The purpose of the Logistics Cluster Subnational Coordination meeting in Beletweyne is to identify and map NGOs and other agencies’ needs for logistics support in Hiiran region.

- The invite for the Subnational Coordination meeting in Beletweyne has been sent to all partners. Partners can join the Logistics Cluster Subnational Coordination meetings both in person or online.

- Partners to reach out with other suggested regions for the Logistics Cluster to conduct Subnational Coordination meetings.
Services

- Since 2020, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transport of over 3,807.672 mt of cargo (excluding shunting) on a free-to-user basis on behalf of 27 organizations.
- In 2022, 1,698.756 mt of supplies (excluding shunting) was transported to 30 locations on behalf of 15 organizations.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to support the humanitarian community in reaching hard-to-reach locations. In cooperation with UNHAS and other service providers, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 84 mt to 6 hard-to-reach locations: Afmadow, Beletweyne, Buurhakaba, Jalalaqi, Mahas and Qansaxdhere.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to participate in key decision-making forums on behalf of the humanitarian community. In October, the Logistics Cluster attended the weekly DOCC and ICCG meetings.
- The majority of requests for airlifts are for transport to the southern regions.
- Access remains a concern due to insecurity, causing high dependence on airlifts and increasing the cost of transportation.

Famine Prevention: 2022 Secondary Transport

- To date in 2022, the Logistics Cluster have reached 30 different locations via air (1,114 mt), land (438 mt) and sea (147 mt) transportation. Below are the locations Logistics Cluster airlifted to on behalf of partners in 2022, ranked by amount of humanitarian cargo delivered:
  - Dollow: 367 mt
  - Baidoa: 232 mt
  - Kismayo: 154 mt
  - Beletweyne: 123 mt
  - Huddur: 120 mt
  - Elbuur: 76 mt
  - Diinsor: 74 mt
  - Harardheere: 62 mt
  - Wajid: 55 mt
  - Qansaxdhere: 55 mt

Information Management

- Thus far in 2022, the Logistics Cluster has published 124 Information Management Products on the Logistics Cluster Website.

4. Fuel Prices

Diesel Prices

- From January to November 2022, the average price of diesel in Somalia has increased by 37%; however, a 1.8% average price decrease was recorded between October and November. The current average price for Diesel is $1.11/litre.
• The highest diesel prices in November were in Afmadow/Jubba Region ($1.40/litre) and Baidoa/Sorghum Belt ($1.34/litre). The lowest regional prices were observed in Bosasso/NE ($0.98/litre), Banaadir/Mogadishu ($1.00/litre) and Galkayo/Central ($1.00/litre).

• Although the cumulative price increase from January 2022 is high, the average price of diesel has decreased by 9.8% since August, from $1.23/litre to $1.11/litre. This decrease aligns with global trends where there have been decreases in fuel prices since September 2022.

• Whilst the average price has decreased, price increases from October to November were observed in Jowhar, Mogadishu and Nugaal regions. This might be explained due to the global increase of fuel by 0.05USD/l.

Diesel Prices

• Jet fuel has increased in price in November. While the price fell in October by $0.20/litre, it then increased again by $0.07/litre in November, aligning exactly with a global average increase of $0.07/litre.

• Although there was a significant decrease in October, the average price from January 2022 ($0.81/litre) has still observed a cumulative increase of 44% in November 2022. While there was a sharp increase between February and March this year, the strongest price increase was experienced between May and June, with an increase of 22.4%.

5. Customs Clearance Technical Working Group Meeting

• The Logistics Cluster, in cooperation with IMPACCT, organized its third Technical Working Group meeting on 14 December 2022.

• The purpose of the meeting was to continue to map the end-to-end process to import and export humanitarian cargo in Somalia.

• The next meeting will be held on 18 January 2023. During this meeting, the Logistics Cluster, in cooperation with IMPACCT and partners, will start drafting recommendations on areas of attention.

• Partners interested in joining the Technical Working Group are encouraged to reach out to annekathrin.landherr@wfp.org

6. Any Other Business (AOB)

• Question 1: Can the Logistics Cluster support with transporting vehicles?
  • The only aircraft in this region which can transport vehicles is the C130. However, it has been a challenge to mobilize this aircraft. The partner is encouraged to reach out with the specific needs to the Logistics Cluster so the Logistics Cluster can advise on how to support.

• Question 2: Can the Logistics Cluster support with shipments from Mogadishu via Elwak to Dollow?
The partner has been encouraged to send the request to the Logistics Cluster so the Logistics Cluster can advise on the best cost efficient option to transport the supplies.

- **Question 3:** Is Dhobley airport accessible? If so, can the Logistics Cluster support with the facilitation of transport to Dhobley?
  - The airport is accessible. However, the Logistics Cluster is encouraging partners to transport the supplies across the border from Kenya to Somalia by road whenever possible. The partner has been encouraged to reach out with the request to the Logistics Cluster to explore possible options.

- **Question 4:** Is the road from Dollow to Belet Hawa open?
  - The Logistics Cluster has received the information that the road from Dollow to Luuq and Dollow to Belet Hawa is open.

The Logistics Cluster will meet again on the **3 January 2023 at 11:00 am EAT.**

All requests (including IM requests) to be directed to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org

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