LOGISTICS WORKING GROUP (LWG)
Meeting Minutes

LOCATION           Islamabad, Pakistan (online)
DATE                27 February 2023
CHAIR               WFP
PARTICIPANTS        International Medical Corps, Concern Worldwide, UNHCR and WFP.

ACTION POINTS
• WFP will finalise the questionnaire to identify logistics gaps and partners’ needs and circulate it to Logistics Working Group (LWG) member organizations.

AGENDA
1. Operational update
2. Coordination and information sharing
3. Plans for LWG
4. AOB

1. Operational Update
• Logistics operations in Karachi were disrupted due to a strike on 27 February 2023. The strike will likely end shortly with activities resuming as normal 28 February 2023.
• The Pakistan/Afghanistan border at Torkham has been closed for two weeks due to security incidents but was re-opened on 26 February 2023. Long queues of vehicles at the border prevented the timely transport of goods. The border at Chaman/Spinboldak has however, operated smoothly.
• Most of WFP’s contracts were revised due to increased fuel prices.
• Partners were reminded that updates and information related to access are available via a dedicated page on the Logistics Cluster website.

2. Coordination and information sharing
• Status: WFP is no longer providing transport or warehouse assistance to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). However, recently the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in Sukkur requested WFP to relocate their two Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) to Humanitarian Response Facility (HRF). The PDMA in Balochistan requested the allocation of two additional MSUs.
• Information sharing:
  ○ An organization reported that the containers have been cleared by the customs following three months of dialogue. They will be delivered to Sukkur as the final delivery of items to PDMA.

https://logcluster.org/countries/PAK
o Hundreds of containers remain in the port, awaiting approval by MoFA. WFP followed-up with relevant authorities in Islamabad to facilitate the clearance of remaining shipments to avoid demurrages. A large backlog of exemption requests is expected by MoFA, and it is anticipated that finding a suitable solution will likely take significant time.

o WFP will share information on training with LWG participants, when opportunities arise; WFP will consider training needs and potential training dates.

o Hyderabad storage space needs were raised by an organization. While WFP does not have a storage facility in Hyderabad, facilities exist in Sukkur, Moro, Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar and Lahore. Participants were requested to consult with WFP on the requirements, when the need arises.

o A question related to how to handle purchase orders during inflation was raised. For transportation contracts, it was suggested to include a clause stipulating that the price would be modified when the fuel price fluctuated more than a certain percent. For other orders, it is handled case by case basis.

3. Next steps for Logistics Working Group
   • Although many organizations have scaled down their flood operations, LWG members expressed interest in keeping the Group active. In order to improve support to LWG members, WFP will conduct a survey to identify logistics gaps and partners’ needs. Participants were requested to respond to the forthcoming survey.

4. AOB
   • Next meeting: 27 March 2023 at 14:30

WFP Contacts

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