Meeting Minutes, 18 July 2023
Somalia Logistics Cluster

LOCATION  
Mogadishu, Online

DATE  
18 July 2023

CHAIR  
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS  
Action Against Hunger (AAH), Concern Worldwide, Danish Red Cross (DRC), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Medical Corps (IMC), Islamic Relief Somalia, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oxfam, Somaus Help, SOS Children's Village, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO) and World Vision.

ACTION POINTS  
• The Logistics Cluster to share the training plan for the second ‘Basic Humanitarian Logistics Course’.
• The Logistics Cluster to conduct a gaps and needs analysis (GNA) in the 3rd quarter of 2023.
• The Logistics Cluster to update the tax exemption tracking sheet.
• Partners to contact the Logistics Cluster for any transport request from Kenya to Somalia by road.
• The Logistics Cluster to revise the Concept of Operations to address the existing gaps.

AGENDA  
1. Action Points Review  
2. Situation Update  
3. Coordination  
4. Common Logistics Services  
5. Information Management  
6. AOB

1. Action Points Review

The action points from the Coordination Meeting on 04 July were reviewed:

• The Logistics Cluster to share the date for the second ‘Basic Humanitarian Logistics’. [Not started]
• The Logistics Cluster to facilitate a Subnational Coordination meeting in Mogadishu. [Completed]
• The Logistics Cluster to update the tax exemption application tracking sheet. [Ongoing]
• The Logistics Cluster to revise the Concept of Operations to address the existing gaps, taking into account the transition from a drought to flood context. [Ongoing]
2. Situation Update

Physical Transport Network Updates:

- Physical access across Somalia remains unchanged. The following roads remain closed or inaccessible:
  1. Kismayo- Dobley
  2. Kismayo-Jilip
  3. Jilip – Saakow – Bardera – Afmadow - Baidoa
  4. Jilip - Barawa
  5. Wanlaweyn – Buurhakaba – Baidoa – Luuq
  6. Balcad – Jalalaqsi
  7. Galkayo – Bacadweyne
- Due to insecurity, standard trucking routes from Burco to Laascanood town are still disrupted.

Air Transport Updates:

- The airstrip in El Wak is temporarily inaccessible as it undergoes maintenance work.
- Partners can reach out to the Logistics Cluster via somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org to share their transportation needs, particularly in areas that are hard to reach, including Buurhakaba, Jalalaqsi, Mahas, and Qansaxdhere.

Sea Transport Updates:

- All seaports remain operational: Mogadishu, Berbera, Bosasso, Kismayo and Garacard.
- WFP time-chartered vessel is currently at sea to Mogadishu and is expected to arrive on 20 July.
- The voyage vessel schedule, with arrival and departure dates along with the deadlines for submitting documentation will be shared with all partners via email and published 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:

For further reference and information, below is a summary of WFP’s weekly analysis:

- **Commodity Prices:** In Hirshabelle, Mogadishu, and Galmudug, local cereal prices have increased by 1-8% due to a slight decline in supply. However, in Puntland, prices of white maize and red sorghum have declined by 4-6% because of an increase in supply resulting from improved access in Sool and Buuhoodle, along with a slight decrease in demand for maize and sorghum for livestock feeding due to better pasture conditions. Compared to a week ago, prices of imported food items have decreased in Hirshabelle by 1-9% and in Galmudug by 4% due to increased supply as more routes became passable. However, mild to moderate price increases (3-8%) for most food imports were observed in Mogadishu due to a decline in supplies from the port.
- **Availability:** There was adequate supply of food in shops and on shelves, capable of meeting demands for days, and in many instances, even for weeks.
- **Assortment:** Consumers had access to a wide variety of food items. Markets across the nation offered an array of products, including milk, meat, fish, fresh fruits, and vegetables.
- **Quality:** There were no market-level quality issues reported.
• **Logistics:** The movement of goods into Somalia was generally active across both major and minor corridors, thanks to passable roads and open border posts and ports. However, social conflict continues to disrupt standard trucking routes along Cabudwaaq town to Harale town and Burco town to Laascanood town. Despite ongoing operations, trucking from Beletweyne town to Cadaado town, Baraawe town to jilib town, and Mogadishu town to Marka town remained passable, albeit with some difficulties.

• **Resilience:** Market players countrywide enjoyed uninterrupted flows along supply chains, with the exception of flood-affected corridors including Afmadow town to Dobley town and Baardheere town to Baidoa town which are impassable.

• The Logistics Cluster is sharing weekly Market Alerts and Supply Chain Updates via the Logistics Cluster mailing list and publishing the documents on the [Logistics Cluster Website](https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a). Partners wishing to be added to the Logistics Cluster mailing list can send a request to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org.

### 3. Coordination

**Cross Border Transport from Kenya to Somalia**

- The Logistics Cluster is planning to facilitate a cross-border movement by road from Kenya to Somalia through Elwaak, Dhobley, and Mandera border points
- The cross-border movement is planned from 1 to 22 August
- Partners that have cargo ready to transport are kindly requested to reach out to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org

**Procurement Discussions**

- Over the last few months, there has been a noticeable surge in interest in procurement-related discussions, such as supplier contacts and regulations.
- Traditionally, the Logistics Cluster coordination forum has not prioritized on procurement matters. However, the Logistics Cluster is willing to explore the possibility of reassessing this approach.
- Partners are encouraged to contact the Logistics Cluster if they are interested in conducting a mapping exercise to identify potential areas for procurement coordination.

**Gap and Need Analysis**

- Due to the shift in focus following last year’s crisis and considering the upcoming funding situation, it is essential to reevaluate the position of the Logistics Cluster in the response, ensuring that it aligns with the Logistics Cluster’s mandate and remains well-suited to the current circumstances.
- To achieve this objective, the Logistics Cluster has planned to conduct a Gap and Needs Analysis (GNA) during the second semester, with preliminary steps initiated in the 3rd quarter of 2023.

[https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a](https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a)
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- The GNA involves consulting with partners to identify common logistics gaps in delivering humanitarian aid within the specific country or context.
- The recommendations derived from the GNA will serve as the foundation for joint advocacy efforts and addressing shared logistics challenges.
- Furthermore, the Logistics Cluster aims to contribute to the Country Humanitarian Forum in 2024.

4. Common Logistics Services

- Since 2020, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transport of over 6,581 mt of cargo (excluding shunting) for 28 organizations on a free-to-user basis.
- In 2023, 2,538 mt of supplies (excluding shunting) were transported on behalf of 22 organizations to 27 locations.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to support the humanitarian community in reaching hard-to-reach locations. Since the mobilization of the helicopter in September 2022, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transport of 150 mt on behalf of 6 partners to 4 hard-to-reach locations: Burhakaba, Jalalaqsi, Mahas, and Qansaxdhere.
- The Logistics Cluster continues to participate in crucial decision-making forums on behalf of the humanitarian community. The Logistics Cluster continues to attend the weekly Drought Operations and Coordination Centre (DOCC) and Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) meetings.
- Access remains a concern due to insecurity, creating a high dependency on airlifts and increasing the cost of transportation.

Helicopter

- The Logistics Cluster provided partial funding for the helicopter from September 2022 to June 2023.
- However, due to the reduced funding resulting from the scale down, the Logistics Cluster will no longer be able to continue to fund the helicopter.
- Therefore, partners are kindly asked to submit a request for bilateral service provision if they require the helicopter for transporting supplies.

5. Information Management

Log.ie

- The Log.ie tool has been designed for and by humanitarian partners to improve coordination, information sharing and the quantity and quality of the data available in emergency response and preparedness.
- Log.ie allows the users to share relevant logistics information through an easy-to-use interface. The data, after being processed, is displayed in a multi-layer map, combining different layers of information.
• The tool facilitates the display and analysis of both the logistics and geographical information in a single map and users can customize the selection of layers according to their specific needs.

Log.ie Next Steps

• In order to optimize the use of Log.ie, the Logistics Cluster has initiated a comprehensive revision process. As a component of the Log.ie enhancement, the Logistics Cluster is currently in the process of evaluating and will soon commence an expansion of the monitoring capabilities, focusing on the following aspects:
  o Identification of additional required rods
  o Enhancement of ports operations monitoring
  o Streamlining of border crossing monitoring
  o Exploration of other areas for potential improvements?

6. AOB

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

The next Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will take place on 01 August at 11:00 am EAT, online

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