LOCATION: KABUL, online

DATE: 04 October 2023

CHAIR: Logistics Working Group

PARTICIPANTS: Organization for Migration (IOM), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Emergency, Food and Agriculture organisation (FAO), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Caritas, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Rescue, Medair, Médicine sans Frontières (MSF), Save the Children, Handicap International (HI), World Vision Afghanistan (Wvi), Mercy Corps, World Health Organization (WHO), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Afiat, Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief & development (ACBAR), AIRLINK, Pactec, Management Science for Health (MSH), iMMAP, Development Education Learning and Training Association (DELTA)


1. Recap of Previous Action Points:

Customs and Importation Challenges:

- **Clarification on 15 prohibited pharmaceuticals:** PU-AMI will convene a meeting with fellow NGO partners and AFDA (Afghanistan Food and Drug Authority) to further discuss the communication regarding the 15 prohibited pharmaceuticals. Currently, this meeting is pending due to the absence of the AFDA director, who is currently out of the country. Partners are encouraged to share any experiences or challenges they have encountered in this regard.

- **Collaboration with UN OMT:** Discussions are underway with the United Nations Operations Management Team (UN OMT). Member organizations from the United Nations and NGOs are kindly requested to share their sector-specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) concerning customs procedures. The Logistics Working Group (LWG) will review and consolidate these SOPs. Partners interested in contributing information are urged to reach out to the LWG.
2. Update from Customs Clearance and Importation Challenges meeting:

- The Logistics Working Group (LWG) held a meeting with the IMPACCT project and UNCTAD, the implementers of the ASYCUDA system, to seek technical guidance on customs-related matters. Following this meeting, partners were contacted to collect additional qualitative and quantitative data on delays and costs. This data will be instrumental in forthcoming discussions at the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) forum and with UNCTAD.
- The LWG team will actively engage with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and Inter-Cluster Coordination Team (ICCT) for further discussions and to share these challenges with the larger groups.
- All partners are strongly encouraged to reach out to the LWG team if they are interested in sharing information and participating in discussions related to customs and import challenges.

3. Humanitarian Service Provision:

During the meeting humanitarian services were presented:

- **WFP Humanitarian Logistics Services (HLS):** During the meeting, the focal point for WFP's On-Demand Services (ODS) presented the available services and opportunities offered by WFP's Humanitarian Logistics Services (HLS). These services and opportunities include:
  - **WFP Fleet and In-Land Transportation Services:** WFP Fleet and In-Land Transportation Services: HLS can provide support to partners for inland transportation and cargo handling. Additionally, WFP has active contracts with private logistics companies, enabling coverage for over 600 Food Distribution Points (FDPs) across all provinces in the country.

For any further information or support, please feel free to reach out HLS team through the following email address: [HLS_AFG@wfp.org](mailto:HLS_AFG@wfp.org).
4. Updates on Borders and Customs Issue

- **Border Status Update**: the following are the border statuses as of 04 October 2023

- **Call for additional Border Crossing Points (BCPs)**: Partners are encouraged to share with the LWG additional BCPs of concern if relevant to their operations. The LWG will investigate ways to monitor these BCPs and add them to the weekly monitoring table.

Additional information regarding movements at points of entry can also be found from IOM DTMs monthly flow monitoring [here](https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG).

**Torkham Border Crossing Update:**
During the meeting, the WFP focal point in Jalalabad Torkham provided partners with important information about the current situation and processes at the Torkham border crossing point:

**Background:**
- Torkham is one of the key land crossing points between Afghanistan and Pakistan, situated on the disputed Durand Line.
- Location: Approximately 75 kilometres south of Jalalabad city.
- **Working Hours:**
  - Torkham CP: Open 24/7
  - Jal CP:
Meeting Minutes, 04 October 2023
Kabul, Afghanistan

- Sat-Wed: 0800-1600hrs
- Thursday: 0800-1200hrs
- Friday: Closed

Custom Charges:
- Torkham:
  - Afghan Trucks: 5,850 AF per truck
  - Pakistani Trucks: 8,350 AF per truck
- Jal:
  - 130 AF per metric ton (MT)
  - 1,500 AF per truck (includes electronic, weighbridge, and labor union fees)

Recent Closures:
- From 19-Feb-2023 to 25-Feb-2023
- Between 06-Sep-2023 to 15-Sep-2023

Current Situation:
- Normal operations; open for both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- Approximately 250-300 trucks cleared daily.
- Congestion caused by border closures has subsided.

Customs Clearance:
- Torkham: Maximum of 1 day
- Jal: 1-2 days

Challenges:
- Frequent border closures.
- Occasional congestion.

5. Aviation-Related Updates

UNHAS Domestic (Passenger and light cargo service)
- Passenger and cargo to all domestic destinations operational.

UNHAS International (Passenger and light cargo service)
- Islamabad airbridge operational
- Dushanbe airbridge operational
- Doha airbridge operational
- Dubai airbridge is operational through Al Maktoum International Airport

- Visa Requirement for Traveling to Afghanistan: It is now mandatory for all passengers, including those utilizing humanitarian air services, to possess a valid visa for Afghanistan. Adhering to these procedures is crucial, as passengers without a valid Afghanistan visa will be rejected by the immigration authorities. Please note that for all passengers arriving on international flights to Kabul, it is also imperative to possess either a valid entry visa for Afghanistan or an approved letter from the authorities that grants a visa upon arrival.
For more information, please visit the Humanitarian Booking Hub, the LWG Website, the UNHAS User List, or contact UNHAS Customer Service at unhas-afg.customerservice@wfp.org and khalilullah.kakar@wfp.org

UNAMA (Passenger service only)
- Almaty airbridge is operational

Commercial Airlines (Passenger and cargo service)
- Mahan: Kabul — Teheran and Mashhad
- Taban: Kabul-Tehran and Mashhad, Kandahar-Mashhad
- Kish Air: Operated to Kandahar
- Ariana: Kabul — Dubai, Riyadh, Jeddah, and Islamabad, AL Ain ANN UAE.
- KamAir: Kabul – Islamabad, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Shanghai, Ankara

Freight Forwarders and Courier Services
- UPS services: (Operational (Move One authorized UPS services) For more information, please contact Move One Country Director, Richard Tagg at richard.tagg@moveoneinc.com or visit https://www.moveoneinc.com/

ECHO Humanitarian Air Bridge (HAB)
- For more information, please reach out to thibault.larose@echofield.eu and alexandre.veron@rlh.coop

PACTEC:
- Operational
  For more details regarding PACTEC services and flight schedules, kindly reach out to: Sayed Hamid Hashimi Booking/ Flight following Manager bookingkbl@pactec.net, John Woodberry PACTEC Country Director jwoodberry@pactec.net

6. Shared Resources Forum

- IRC is looking for information on RUTFs suppliers: Muhammad Ziad Muhammad.Ziad@rescue.org
- DRC is looking for suppliers of mining material: Hamidullah Sediqi hamidullah.sediqi@drc.ngo
- Save the Children is looking for information on vehicle rental rates in different provinces: Allan Tuazon Allan.Tuazon@savethechildren.org

7. Global Logistics Cluster Meeting – November 2023

The meeting will be led Logistics Cluster Support Team and will provide a high-level, global update on the activities and operations of the Logistics Cluster. It will review the updated Logistics Cluster Strategy

https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG
Implementation Plan and invite participants to provide feedback and reflection on their engagement with the cluster in relation to their work and location.

Meeting Details:

- Tuesday 28, Wednesday 29 and Thursday 30 November
- The meeting will be online, broadcast live from Rome.
- English sessions from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (Rome Time)

- Logistics Impact of Ban on Female National Staff Workers:

The LWG continues to monitor closely for unanticipated gaps and secondary effects of reduced commercial or humanitarian logistics capacity resulting in the potential widening of decree enforcement, stronger restrictions on female staffing, or larger changes to humanitarian response programming.

8. AOB

- Any partners who would like to request dedicated time to present their specific logistics challenges in the next LWG Coordination Meeting can please contact the LWG Team.
- The next Logistic Working Group coordination meeting will be held on: **Wednesday, 25 October 11:00h Kabul time.**

Quick Links

Logistics Working Group Web Page: Afghanistan | Logistics Cluster Website
WFP Service Market Place (SMP): Service Marketplace | Delivering humanitarian assistance services
UNHRD Partner Portal: Home page | UNHRD

Contacts

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https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG