Meeting Minutes, 31 October 2023

**LOCATION**
Teleconference/Sana’a

**DATE**
31 October 2023

**CHAIR**
Logistics Cluster

**PARTICIPANTS**
Action Against Hunger (ACF), Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Americans, Danish Red Cross (DRC), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Islamic Relief Yemen (IRY), Make Hope Foundation, Medair, Médecins du Monde (MDM), National Foundation for Development and Humanitarian Response (NFDHR), Médecins Sans Frontières Belgium (MSF OCB), Secours Islamique, Society for Humanitarian Solidarity (SHS), United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organisation (WHO), Yemen Family Care Association (YFCA), ZOA.

**AGENDA**
1. General Logistics Cluster Updates
2. Seaport Operations
3. Overland Transport
4. Aviation
5. AOB

### 1. Logistics Cluster General Update

- **a.** UNHAS November 2023 flight itineraries are presently available in [Logistics Cluster website](https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a), and Logistic Cluster will maintain it updated, in case of any potential changes.

- **b.** Minutes of September Coordination meeting have been published in LC website in both English and Arabic languages.
  - [Yemen - Meeting Minutes, 25 September 2023, English](https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a)
  - [Yemen - Meeting Minutes, 25 September 2023, Arabic](https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a)

- **c.** Yemen Access Constraints map has been updated in October 2023 on our website. The map indicates the road networks which are open, difficult to access, and inaccessible roads, to assist partners in supply chain related plannings. Partners can refer to the [Yemen Access Constraint map](https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a) for more information.

- **d.** WREC case study of circular Economy in WFP’s storage facilities in Yemen is presently available on Yemen Logistics Cluster webpage.

- **❖** Coordination and information management remain an integral part of the Logistics Cluster mandate: The Logistics Cluster conducts monthly coordination meetings and interfaces with the wider humanitarian community through participation in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), the Inter-Cluster coordination Mechanism (ICCM), and the Humanitarian Access Working Group (HAWG).
❖ General Situation Updates for Impact of the Tropical Cyclone Storm Tej:

▪ On the 20 October, a depression formed over the Southwest Arabian Sea east-southeast of Socotra in Yemen, which eventually developed into an "Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm" by Sunday evening, 22 October.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) report, the affected areas by this cyclone are Socotra, Hadramout, and the majority of Al Mahra districts (Herout, Nashtoun, Al Ghaidah and Hasween). The cyclonic storm "Tej" reached the eastern coasts of Yemen between October 23 and 24, and then proceeded towards the eastern areas of Hadramawt Governorate. This resulted in heavy rainfall and torrential showers in Socotra and Al Maharah, causing numerous road blockages in various locations.

Over time, the cyclone's strength diminished as the wind speed decreased, resulting transformation of the “cyclone” into a "Depression." The remaining part of the storm moved towards the northeastern regions of Hadramawt governorate before dissipating on the evening of October 24. Local authorities and partners are assessing needs and responding. Priority needs in the affected areas are food, shelter assistance and non-food items (NFIs), in addition to psychosocial support, particularly for children and women.

Based on recent statistics shared by OCHA, over 10,000 households have been affected in Socotra, Hadramawt and Al Maharah governorates, including an estimated 7,100 HHs in Al Maharah, 2,682 HHs in Hadramawt, and 669 HHs in Socotra. Homes have been damaged, destroyed, or flooded, with household items swept away. Strong winds and rains also damaged sites for displaced people in Hadramawt. As roads continue to be opened, the local authorities and partners are putting in more efforts to respond to the situation. OCHA has responded by deploying its staff in the affected areas, actively supporting coordination efforts at the local level. This increased scale-up of response demonstrates the commitment and dedication of all involved in addressing and managing the challenges on the ground.

Not to mention that the figures mentioned may change given that field observations are ongoing.

▪ Access updates in the affected areas: In Hadramawt, authorities reopened the main road linking Ar Raydah wa Qusaia’r District with both Mukalla and up to Qishin in Al Mahrah. However, the road in Qishin is still not open for all vehicles. Further east, the road from Al Ghaydah District to Hasswin District reopened in Al Mahrah; however, again, at Qishn District the main road remains impassable for trucks. Damage from the Cyclone has resulted in road cuts in the southern part of the island. The main roads connecting the southern island to Socotra’s center are affected, and access is limited to these areas.

❖ Other General updates: the recent banning of importing goods with origin of Sweden, Denmark, and Netherlands to north of Yemen, which was circulated by SCAMCHA on 30 July, remains unchanged.
2. Seaport Operations

- In light of the recent circular issued by the Yemen Red Sea Ports Corporation on September 20th, which outlined procedures for granting berthing priority to vessels carrying food items at Hodeidah and Saleef ports upon payment of USD 7,000 per day or part thereof, it has been announced that these procedures have been temporarily suspended. This decision was made due to challenges in finding an effective implementation mechanism.

- YRSPC initiated refurbishment works to Hodeidah berth number 5. The maintenance process is planned to be implemented into three phases.

2.1 Entries to Hodeidah, Saleef, and Aden Ports from 1 - 30 October:

- **Hodeidah Port:** 21 commercial chartered vessels with an overall quantity of 480,514 MT and one humanitarian vessel carrying 12,163 MT.

- **Saleef Port:** 7 chartered vessels with overall quantity of 213,612 MT. all of them are commercial as well.

- **Aden:** 12 commercial chartered vessels with an overall quantity of 383,373 thousand MT.

2.2 Entries to Hodeidah, Saleef, and Aden Ports during 2023 (from January – 30 October):

- **Hodeidah Port:** 224 commercial chartered vessels with overall quantity of approximately 4,2 million MT, and 15 Humanitarian chartered vessel carrying 252,987 MT. In addition to 48 commercial container vessels with 33,314 containers onboard, and 14 humanitarian container vessels carrying 3,726 containers onboard.

- **Saleef Port:** 61 commercial chartered vessels with overall quantity of approximately 2,3 million MT, and 3 Humanitarian chartered vessel carrying 90 thousand MT.

- **Aden Port:** 96 commercial chartered vessels with overall quantity of 2,040,137 MT, and 9 Humanitarian chartered vessels with overall quantity of 400,985 MT. In addition to 33 commercial container vessels.

2.3 Waiting & Dwell Times:

The congestion at Hodeidah port continues to worsen, with an increasing number of vessels arriving and causing longer waiting times. In October, the average waiting time for vessels reached a new high of 17 days, the longest since the beginning of the year. This prolonged waiting period can be attributed in part to the refurbishment works conducted on berth number 5 in the second half of October, which contributed to a 10% increase in waiting time. Despite these challenges, the average dwell time for vessels remains steady at 8 days in October.

The influx of vessels arriving at Saleef port has continued to rise steadily, resulting from the lifting of import restrictions to northern ports. However, this increase in traffic has also led to longer waiting times for vessels at the port anchorage. In October, the average waiting time reached 25 days, slightly better than the previous two months where it had peaked at an average of 29 days.

The number of vessel entries to Aden port remains at the minimum level compared to previous years; hence no real waiting time has been recognized for the vessels calling Aden since March 2023.
3. Overland Transport

❖ **Main South – North Access Points:**

➢ The four main access points connecting road transport pipeline between south and north of country, Mafraq Aljawf in Fardat Nehm, Alrahedah in Taiz, Afar connecting Albaydhah with Rada’a, and Saqam at the coastal road connecting Aden with Hodeidah; all the four access points are presently open.

➢ On 7 October, the Ministry of Interior issued a new telegraph to the attention of Hodeidah Governorate Traffic Police Department regarding the change of the connection road between Hodeidah and Sana'a for all trucks, commercial or humanitarian, to be through Al-Sharq City - Anas - Ma'bar - Sana'a, rather than the former route line Bajil - Manakhah - Sana’a, instead or the former road through Manakhah.

4. Aviation

❖ On the 30 of September 2023, the Yemenia Airways decided to halt all their flights for October from Sana’a to Amman. According to Yemenia, the announcement of the suspension of flights occurred due to the seizure of the company's balances in Sana'a banks. This decision lasted for two weeks before Yemenia Airways resumed their flights from Sana’a Int’l Airport, effective from the 17th of October 2023 with six flights per week to one destination of Amman.

4.1 Humanitarian – UNHAS

➢ **International Flights:** UNHAS is performing 3 flights per week from Sana’a Int’l Airport towards Amman, Addis Ababa, & Djibouti, for passenger & a very limited cargo (up to 100-200 MT only). And from Aden Airport, 7 flights per week are performed for Passenger with a limited quantity of cargo to Amman, Addis Ababa, and Djibouti Airport.

➢ **UNHAS also performs weekly domestic** flights between Aden, Sana’a, Marib, AL Rayyan, and Sayon airports.

4.2 Commercial – Yemenia Airlines

➢ **Sana’a international airport:** 6 flights/week to one destination - Amman.

➢ **Aden international airport:** Several destinations - Amman, Djibouti, Cairo, Addis Ababa, Mumbai, Riyadh, and Jeddah.

➢ **Sayon airport:** One destination - Cairo.

*The next Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will be held virtually in November 2023.*
## Contacts

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[https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a](https://logcluster.org/ops/yem10a)