Meeting Minutes, 01 November 2023
Kabul, Afghanistan

LOCATION: KABUL, online

DATE: 01 November 2023

CHAIR: Logistics Working Group

PARTICIPANTS: Organization for Migration (IOM), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Emergency, Danish Red cross (DRC), People In need, Food and Agriculture organisation (FAO), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Caritas, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Rescue, Medair, Médecine 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)

AGENDA:

1. Recap of Previous Action Points (from LWG meeting on October 4, 2023)
2. Herat Earthquake updates
3. Humanitarian Service Provision
4. Updates on Border Status
   • Torkahm Border (Returnees)
5. Aviation-Related Updates
6. Data Collection (Access Constraints Mapping)
   • Log.IE Platform (Demo)
7. Shared Resources Updates
8. Any Other Business (AOB)

1. Recap of Previous Action Points:

Customs and Importation Challenges:

- **Clarification on prohibited pharmaceuticals:** PU-AMI updated the partners during the meeting related to prohibited pharmaceuticals, these items should be procured locally, PU-AMI mentioned that Afghanistan Food and Drug Authority (AFDA) started to be more restrictive on the new regulation and PU-AMI will convene a meeting with AFDA to further discuss the flexibility and communication regarding the prohibited pharmaceuticals. Partners are encouraged to share any experiences or challenges they have encountered in this regard.

https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG
• **Collaboration with the United Nations Operations Management Team (UN OMT):** Discussions on the custom clearance processes are underway with the United Nations Operations Management Team. 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.

• **Update on the Customs Clearance and Importation Challenges meeting:** A joint meeting to be scheduled for the Sub Working Group with UNCTAD and the Import and Customs Clearance Together (IMPACCT). The aim of this meeting is to link the UNCTAD focal points with additional interested partners in the country who may be able to provide clarity on challenges being faced, and to also give an overview on the plan for planned AYSEREC implementation. If requested from health partners, the LWG team will actively engage with the Health Cluster and Inter-Cluster Coordination Team (ICCT) for further discussions and to share these challenges with the larger audience. 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.

2. **Herat Earthquake Updates:**

• **Temporary Emergency Storage:** Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) have been erected in various villages across Zindajan district to support response needs. Should partners require short-term emergency storage, please get in touch with the LWG for any inquiries or requirements concerning emergency storage: Pballo MOSALA paballo.mosala@wfp.org, Brian LANGDON brian.langdon@wfp.org.

• **Mobile storage support was provided to partners in Injil district Herat through WFP Humanitarian Logistics Services (HLS) On-Demand Services (ODS). ODS provided support on transportation and installation of one MSU to support livestock feeding.**

• **Partners are strongly encouraged to reach out and raise any type of challenges they continue to face during the earthquake response.**

3. **Humanitarian Service Provision:**

During the meeting, **The Humanitarian Logistics Services (HLS) focal point for WFP’s On-Demand Services (ODS) presented the available services and opportunities offered.**

These services and opportunities include:

• **WFP ODS Light Vehicle Maintenance (LVM) Services:** WFP has workshops in six area offices across the country and can support partners with the below services:
  - Light Vehicle Scheduled Services
  - Safety Inspection

[https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG](https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG)
- Breakdown and Recovery: On-site or In-workshop
- Minor Repairs
- Spare Parts

For any further information or support, please feel free to reach out HLS team through the following email address: HLS_AFG@wfp.org.

4. Updates on Borders and Customs Issue

- **Border Status Update Map**: the following are the border statuses as of 01 November 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 Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) monthly flow monitoring [here](https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG).

**Torkahm Border (Returnees)**

- During the meeting, the WFP focal point in Jalalabad Torkham provided useful information related to the current situation and cargo processes at the Torkham border crossing point. He mentioned that congestion is delaying the customs clearance process on the Pakistan side, but no major issues in the Afghanistan side. Additional security checks on the Pakistani side are causing further delays in truck movement: cargo trucks now take an additional 3-4 days to cross over to Afghanistan. With a large
number of families returning from Pakistan daily, the IOM-led multi-sectoral interagency response has been scaling up over the last few weeks.

- All partners are highly encouraged to reach out to LWG team for reporting any challenges or issue in Torkham.

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. Passengers without a valid Afghanistan visa will be rejected entry 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](https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG), the LWG Website, the UNHAS User List, or contact UNHAS Customer Service at [unhas-afg.customerservice@wfp.org](mailto:unhas-afg.customerservice@wfp.org) and [khalilullah.kakar@wfp.org](mailto: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](https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG)) For more information, please contact Move One Country Director, Richard Tagg at [richard.tagg@moveoneinc.com](mailto:richard.tagg@moveoneinc.com) or visit [https://www.moveoneinc.com/](https://www.moveoneinc.com/)

**ECHO Humanitarian Air Bridge (HAB)**
- For more information, please reach out to [thibault.larose@echofield.eu](mailto:thibault.larose@echofield.eu) and [alexandre.veron@rlh.coop](mailto: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. Data Collection (Access Constraints Mapping)

LOG.IE Platform: LOG.IE is an online platform powered by the Global Logistics Cluster (GLC), Log.IE visualizes and shares relevant logistics information through online interactive and live maps. Log.IE Afghanistan contain two layers: Physical Access Constraints (Information about the status of access routes and key infrastructures, along with vehicle limitations and other details that can support logistics planning and response.) and Situation Monitoring (Information in real time regarding the respective natural hazard (e.g. evolution of a tropical storm). During the meeting, the LWG focal point presented a demo on how to use the Log.IE platform to create a report on the physical access constraints section or situation monitoring. Log.IE is accessible through the following link: LogIE Afghanistan.

7. 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 the provinces: Allan Tuazon Allan.Tuazon@savethechildren.org

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. Contacts below.

The next Logistic Working Group coordination meeting will be held on Wednesday, 06 December 11:00h Kabul time.

Quick Links
Logistics Working Group Web Page: Afghanistan | Logistics Cluster Website
Afghanistan LOG.IE Platform: LogIE Afghanistan (logcluster.org)
WFP Service Marketplace (SMP): Service Marketplace | Delivering humanitarian assistance services
UNHRD Partner Portal: Home page | UNHRD

https://logcluster.org/countries/AFG
Contacts

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