Meeting Minutes, 21 November 2023
Somalia Logistics Cluster

LOCATION
Mogadishu, Online

DATE
21 November 2023

CHAIR
Logistics Cluster

PARTICIPANTS
Action against Hunger (AAH), Acordo, Adrasom, Catholic Relief Service, Concern Worldwide, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Finland Church Aid, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Gredo, International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Medair, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oxfam, Polish Humanitarian Action (PAH), Save the Children, Somaus Help Inclusion, SOYEBO, Trocaire, United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization and World Vision.

ACTION POINTS
• The Logistics Cluster team to deploy and operationalise a second helicopter to support the humanitarian response.
• Partners request boat transportation to adhere to the standard required dimension for easy airlifting.
• The Logistics Cluster team to establish a Logistics Hub in Baidoa to serve the Juba region.
• In collaboration with OCHA the Logistics Cluster team to facilitate the prepositioning of boats to flood-affected areas in the Juba and Shabelle region.

AGENDA
1. Action Points Review
2. Situation Update
3. Flood update
4. Logistics Cluster Boats Prepositioning
5. Helicopter Funding and Deployment
6. Humanitarian Logistics Hub
7. Gaps and Need Analysis
8. Fuel Prices
9. Bi-weekly Logistics Cluster Meeting
10. AOB

https://logcluster.org/ops/som20a
1. Action Points Review

The action points from the Coordination Meeting on 7 November were reviewed:

- The Logistics Cluster team to facilitate the prepositioning of boats to flood-affected areas in Juba and Shabelle region in collaboration with OCHA [ongoing]
- The Logistics Cluster partners to complete gaps and need analysis survey to assess current logistics gaps and the support required [ongoing]
- The Logistics Cluster team to mobilise funds for the helicopter. (completed)

2. Situation Update

Physical Transport Network Updates:

- Road accessibility has become a challenge due to the ongoing heavy rainfalls, flash floods and riverines swept sections of roads in many parts of Juba and Shabelle region.
- Currently, roads in Galmudug, Puntland, and Somaliland are the only roads accessible.

Air Transport Updates:

- Most of the airstrips in Somalia are not tarmacked and cannot withstand the ongoing heavy rains.
- Airstrips in Juba and Hirshabelle are currently inaccessible due to heavy rains or are only accessible by helicopter

Updates on bridges:

- The Logistics Cluster team has mapped out bridges to understand their accessibility to both vehicles and people.
- Currently Baidoa and Buurdub bridges are inaccessible as it was damaged by the flooding while the bridge in Luuq is partially accessible. Only light vehicles can access.

Sea Transport Schedule:

- All seaports remain operational: Mogadishu, Berbera, Bosasso, Kismayo and Garacad.
- The WFP time-chartered vessel is at Bossaso and expected to make its way to Mogadishu Seaport on 28 November and is expected to arrive on 4 December 2023.
- The updated sea transport schedule has been shared on the Logistics Cluster website.
- Partners with cargo for transport are kindly requested to reach out to the Logistics Cluster team at somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org.

3. Flood Update

- The 2023 deyr (October to December) rains season has intensified, with heavy rains reported across Somalia, particularly in Puntland, Galmudug, South-West, Hirshabelle and Jubaland states.
Global climate models have confirmed the presence of El Niño conditions and a positive Indian Ocean Dipole, which are likely to influence enhanced rainfall and flooding in most parts of the country.

Around 1.2 million people are affected by the ongoing floods, 456,000 people were displaced and 25 persons were reported dead while 1.6 are at risk.

4. Logistics Cluster Boats Prepositioning

The Somalia Logistics Cluster is at the forefront of mobilizing and preposition Boats to flood-affected areas in the Juba and Shabelle region, giving firm Logistics support to the humanitarian community in responding to the impending flood season in Somalia.

WFP has leased 8 boats to address the urgent requirements and bridge the gap in the humanitarian response to the floods.

The Logistics Cluster has airlifted 10 Boats and delivered them to different most affected locations in Jubba and Hirshabelle. Currently, there are around 20 boats in the pipeline.

The Logistics Cluster in collaboration with OCHA has developed standard operation procedures (SOP) which will be disseminated to clusters and partners to ensure proper utilization of the boats.

Partners requesting Boat transportation with UNHAS should ensure a standard dimension of (6 metres in length x 2.3 metres in width x 1.8-metre height)

5. Helicopter Funding and Deployment

The Logistics Cluster team has received funding from the UK and ECHO to sustain the helicopter operation for two months.

A second helicopter will be deployed at the beginning of December to support humanitarian response efforts in addressing the floods. Both the Helicopters will provide free service to the users.

Partners interested in the service should send an email to somalia.clustercargo@wfp.org

6. Humanitarian Logistics Hub

The main logistics hub is based in Mogadishu, but, in order to support the flood response, the Logistics Cluster is establishing another humanitarian logistics hub in Baidoa.

The logistics hub is strategically planned to serve the Juba region.

Supplies will be transported from Mogadishu to Baidoa via a fixed-wing aircraft, after which a helicopter will distribute the supplies to the areas affected by the floods.

7. Gaps and Needs Analysis

The gaps and needs survey has been shared with partners to assess current logistic gaps and support required by humanitarian organizations.
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- The GNA will be temporarily suspended until the flood response in Somalia subsides.
- The Global Logistics Cluster will extend support for the execution and development of the GNA for Somalia from January 2024

8. Fuel Prices

- During the period from September and October 2023, the average diesel price showed a slight increase from 0.99 USD per litre to 1.00 USD per litre.
- The most significant diesel price increases were observed in Banadir, NW, and Shabelle region
- The price of A1 Jet fuel increased from 1.10 USD per litre to 1.20 USD per litre between September and October 2023
- This marks the first price increase since July 2023, which can be attributed to the ongoing flooding season in Somalia.

9. Bi-weekly Logistics Cluster Meeting

- The Logistics Cluster coordination meeting has been happening online. The next bi-weekly Logistics Cluster meeting will take place on 5 December 2023 at the WFP TCU, and partners will have the opportunity to join in-person or online.
- Please note that partners are responsible for their access to the AAIA

10. AOB

- Anne-Kathrin is the new Logistics Cluster Coordinator supported by Joseantonio Carino, Logistics Officer.
- The next Logistics Cluster coordination meeting will take place at the TCU WFP office in-person or online on 5 December at 11:00 am EAT.
- Discussion topics for the next Logistics Cluster Meeting can be shared with joseantonio.carino@wfp.org and annekathrin.landherr@wfp.org

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