Meeting Minutes, 19 February 2021
Global Strategic Advisory Group

LOCATION            Teleconference
DATE                 19 February 2021
CHAIR                Athalie Mayo
PARTICIPANTS         Didier Merckx, Fabrice Perrot, Katja Hildebrand, Martin Keitsch, Mary Jelliti, Susan Hodgson

ACTION POINTS
• The Global Logistics Cluster Support Team (GLC ST) continues to work on the the April 2021 GLM and will send a calendar invite to partners to block the dates.
• The GLC ST will further develop partnership definitions taking into account feedback from the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) considering the participation requirements for the April 2021 Logistics Cluster Global Meeting (GLM) sessions.
• The GLC ST will reach out to Dubai DP World to gather information and explore possible options for hosting a meeting of GLC partners in February 2022.
• SAG members will consider additional potential opportunities for secondments to the GLC ST to work on the development of the roadmap for the 2022 Strategy.
• The GLC ST to share developments on planning for the Field Based Preparedness Project (FBPP) post 2022.

AGENDA
1. Update on Logistics Cluster Global Meetings (GLM) planning
2. Update on the 2022 Global Logistics Cluster Strategy roadmap
3. Partnership Definitions for the upcoming GLM
4. AOB
5. Update on the Field Based Preparedness Project

1. Update on Logistics Cluster Global Meeting (GLM) planning

• The organisation for the April GLM is underway, the GLC ST is looking into potential facilitators with the appropriate soft skills required to facilitate the meeting. The sessions and themes planned may be adapted depending on the availability and profile of particular facilitators.
• The GLC ST is reaching out to OCHA to discuss potential synergies with the Humanitarian Networks and Partnership Week (HPNW) which overlaps with the GLM.
• The GLM is planned to last four or five days and to be split into general information sessions and more specific discussion sessions for partners, with the list of topics still to be decided.
• The SAG discussed an offer by the Logistics Emergency Teams (LET)/DP World to hold the GLM or a regional meeting of partners in February 2022 in Dubai and agreed to evaluate this option. Among the points discussed, the SAG considered whether Dubai may offer easier travel options for colleagues based in Africa, Asia, or the Middle East. Possible hybrid solutions involving separate locations and the possibility of dialing into the respective sessions were discussed. The GLC ST will liaise with DP World to gather information and explore possible options in order to revert to the SAG.

2. Update on the 2022 Global Logistics Cluster Strategy roadmap

• The SAG discussed the development roadmap of the 2022 Logistics Cluster Strategy using the current Strategy Implementation Plan (SIP) as a basis. The GLC ST is working to put together dedicated resources within the team and raised the potential for secondments from partners to make the process more inclusive. Other possibilities discussed included reaching out to MA or PhD students interested in a research internship to benefit from their expertise. The SAG agreed also to raise these options at the upcoming GLM in April to solicit feedback from partners.

3. Partnership Definitions for the upcoming GLM

• Participants discussed the different types of partnerships and partners of the Global Logistics Cluster particularly in the context of the upcoming GLM and the fact that it will be held online. The SAG continued previous discussions on how to provide clarity on participation in the various fora, particularly when voting and decision making is required. GLCC presented an initial proposal with two broad groups of partners:
  o Partners representing the logistics functions of humanitarian organisations
  o Partners from other sectors such as private and academic that contribute to the Logistics Cluster
• SAG members raised the following comments for further consideration:
  o Whether or not different terms should be used for the different groups as opposed to using “partner” for all
  o Whether or not there should be further differentiation within the second group particularly with regards to humanitarian service providers
• Participants agreed to continue the discussions on definitions and to consider wider implications.
• On categorising partners for the GLM and different sessions, discussions focused on establishing categories that ensure partners are given a voice while ensuring that meetings and decision making is manageable and representative. In the context of the GLM, all agreed that informational sessions may be open to all, but it was recognised that there is a need to have a more defined criteria for participation in discussions and decision making. A broad definition of
eligibility for such sessions was proposed focusing on whether partners represent the logistics/supply chain unit of an organisation directly engaged in humanitarian operations with the potential to consider additional criteria such as engagement of their organisation in Logistics Cluster operations at country level.

- Recognising the importance of partners across the spectrum of Logistics Cluster operations, the SAG agreed to continue discussions on categorisation and meeting participants with a focus on open communication and inclusion.

4. AOB

- A member of the SAG raised an upcoming temporary secondment to a different programmatic area within their organisation, while retaining the authority to represent their Logistics operations. The SAG was in full agreement for the member to continue in their role as SAG member for the duration of their secondment.

5. Update on the Field Based Preparedness Project (FBPP)

- As of 2021 there are 20 countries participating in the FBPP at different stages of the process. The FBPP is based on a clear commitment and leadership by national stakeholders with, ideally, a National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) as the main partner on the ground. The primary aim of the project at country level is the joint development and handover of a preparedness roadmap covering a period ranging from three to five years.
- The funding for the FBPP is scheduled to end in 2021 and three main scenarios have been developed to cover the transition: Scenario A plans for a long-term handover and transition strategy, extending activities from 2022 to 2025; Scenario B plans for an expansion of project activities beyond 2025; Scenario C plans for a timely transition strategy and an end to all project activities in 2022. Two additional scenarios cover approaches for adding further countries to the FBPP: Scenario D covers an expansion to other countries as per established criteria, while Scenario E, proposes a more flexible on-demand approach to adding countries upon request, subject to funding and a flexible organisational structure able to satisfy demand.
- High level feedback on preferences by the SAG sought by the team working on preparedness to begin planning for likely scenarios and potential fundraising activities.
- The SAG considers the FBPP to be an important project and members were in favor of continuing the work in this area along the lines presented by Scenarios A and B.
- The SAG also emphasized the importance of analysing project data and long-term sustainability, along with careful consideration of funding and staff resources required.
- The Preparedness Team welcomed the feedback and agreed with the focus on sustainability. The team plans to reach out to their donor network, noting positive feedback already received from partners.

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The next GSAG meeting will be scheduled on 12 March 2021 at 10:00CET.

Contacts

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