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# Meeting Minutes, 24 January 2020

Global Strategic Advisory Group



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| <b>LOCATION</b>      | Teleconference  |
| <b>DATE</b>          | 24 January 2020   |
| <b>CHAIR</b>         | Bruno Vandemeulebroecke   |
| <b>PARTICIPANTS</b>  | Didier Merckx, Fabrice Perrot, Katja Hildebrand, Mary Jelliti, Susan Hodgson, Theo Lingens  |
| <b>ACTION POINTS</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The GLC Support Team will confirm the need or cancellation of the booking of the alternative GLM venue at ECHO by Friday 31 January.</li><li>• Fabrice, Susan and Mary will prepare the GLM GSAG update session.</li><li>• Mary to organise a GLM session on “Capacity Building of Local Partners”.</li><li>• The GLC Support Team to explore the possibility of teleconference/online streaming of upcoming and/or future GLMs.</li><li>• The GLC Support Team to revert with a draft GLM agenda to the GSAG.</li><li>• The GSAG to reach out to potential candidates amongst representatives from Governmental Organisations regarding the upcoming GSAG vacancy.</li><li>• The GLC Support Team to publish the GSAG infographic.</li><li>• Fabrice to review structure of the GSAG TORs.</li><li>• The GLC Support Team to share the Working Group TOR template with aspiring Working Groups in the coming week. Working Groups will be asked to, if possible, submit their TOR proposals by the next GSAG meeting on 21 February.</li><li>• GSAG members to provide comments on the draft texts for the Annual Report and Mary and Theo to provide quotes by COB Monday 27 January.</li><li>• GLC Support Team to engage with DFID on the content of the GLM session</li><li>• Fabrice to examine composition of other cluster Strategic Advisory Groups.</li><li>• The GLC Support Team to provide information regarding breakdown of partners by organisational category.</li></ul> |

## AGENDA

1. Previous Action Points
2. GLC Update
3. Global Logistics Meeting (GLM) Spring 2020
4. Infographic
5. Working Group ToR Template
6. Annual Report
7. AOB

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## 1. Previous Action Points

- The GLC Support Team had circulated an updated and laid out version of the draft GSAG infographic.
- Discussions being finalised with Leuven University regarding the venue for the GLM.
- The GLC Support Team had circulated draft GSAG texts for the 2019 Annual Report.
- Action points to be carried forward:
  - Fabrice to examine composition of other cluster Strategic Advisory Groups.
  - GLC Support Team to provide information regarding breakdown of partners by organisational category (final 2019 figures expected to be ready by the next GSAG meeting).

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## 2. GLC Update

- Jakob Kern has been appointed WFP Director of Operational Management and Deputy Chief of Staff. He has been a great support to the cluster and a valuable contributor to the GSAG. The name of his successor will be communicated as soon as it is available. GSAG members underlined the importance of continuity from the side of WFP and hoped that his successor would be able to maintain the same high level of engagement with the cluster and not delegate the responsibility downward.
- Updates were provided on operations and activities regarding Yemen; Syria; Venezuela; the Sahel region; Athalie's ongoing visit to South Sudan; the upcoming HNPW; the LET partnership; partnership discussions with Airbus, DHL, the Airport of Liege and Qatar Cargo; the mid-term review of the Logistics Cluster training activities funded by a German Federal Foreign Office grant; and vacancies in the Global Logistics Cluster Support Team.
- Of particular note:
  - Consultations are currently ongoing regarding operations in Yemen and a consultation round may start on the Sahel region in the near future.
  - The LET work plan is extended by a year and negotiations are ongoing to expand the partnership TORs, particularly continuing the focus on expanding engagement in the Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs).
  - Negotiations are ongoing with the airport of Liege (LGG) regarding the potential to use it as an airport of consolidation for humanitarian emergencies.

- The Logistics Cluster has been approached from two different sources regarding partnership with Qatar cargo to move air cargo. This is of interest but further details need to be discussed.
- An MoU with HELP Logistics is being finalised for signature.

### 3. Global Logistics Meeting (GLM) Spring 2020

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- Discussions on the GLM venue 31 March-2 April are advancing with Leuven University. The GLC Support Team will confirm the need or cancellation of the booking of the alternative ECHO venue by Friday 31 January.
- The GSAG discussed the upcoming GLM. The meeting will cover capacity building both from operational and academic perspectives with the aim to provide a forum for strategic debate of what is needed to become a humanitarian logistician rather than a format that resembles a “market place”.
- Mary to reach out to colleagues and organise a joint interactive session on the topic “Capacity Building of Local Partners”, covering competency standards of local partners, programmatic and technical aspects, trainings and coaching offered by INGOs, opportunities for joint capacity building in field operations etc. The session will link to relevant activities in the Strategy Implementation Plan.
- HELP Logistics with partners will organise an academic session on day three, including discussions with academic speakers and a walk-around session/lunch to facilitate bilateral discussions.
- The GLC Support Team would like to reach out to operational training institutions to participate.
- DFID would like to organise a block chain session. GSAG members advised that the topic would need to be adapted to the meeting theme, possibly as a training on what block chain can be used for.
- GLM Sessions will further include a GSAG update; Strategy Implementation Plan update; operational updates; a financial update; a vote for one of the Governmental Organisations seats on the GSAG; and a keynote speech by the hosts, Leuven University, on the work they are doing specialised on health logistics.
- The GLC Support Team will revert with a draft agenda in the near future.
- The GSAG to reach out to potential candidates to stand for the upcoming Governmental Organisations vacancy on the GSAG.
- Fabrice, Susan and Mary will prepare the GSAG update session.
- The GSAG needs to reach out to Working Groups regarding Strategy Implementation Plan updates.
- The GLC Support Team will look into the possibility of teleconference/online streaming options for the GLM to facilitate broader participation/reduce environmental impact. If possible, it will be done already for the upcoming GLM in Belgium. If relevant, governance around remote participation and engagement might need to be discussed further by the GSAG to keep the GLM manageable.
- The GSAG meeting in conjunction with the GLM will be held in the afternoon of 2 April. GSAG members to confirm when they need to leave in order to facilitate scheduling.
- Following a discussion on the pressing need to further examine the environmental impact of humanitarian logistics operations, it was proposed that the theme of the Autumn GLM 2020 should be around reverse logistics, climate change and environmental impact and that it would require a

three day meeting. This meeting would also need to cover sessions on practical advice and tools as this is needed in the field.

- The organisation of a GLM in Africa was postponed for Spring 2021 as it would require preparations to start a year in advance.

## 4. Infographic

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- The GSAG discussed the use of the sub-heading “global activities” instead of “operations”. “Global activities” was derived from the text of the GSAG TORs which did not mention “operations” and it was pointed out that to the extent that something was found to be missing from the infographic which was not present in the TORs, the TORs would need to be amended before a new term could be introduced in the infographic. It was also mentioned that “global activities” could cover the full range of activities that the Logistics Cluster engages in on a global level but “operations” could not.
- The text and layout of the first proposed infographic was endorsed.
- Fabrice to review the structure of the GSAG TORs for the next meeting to ensure that no logical gaps in the TOR structure lingered in the version endorsed by the GLM in Dublin.

## 5. Working Group TOR Template

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- The terminology of the Working Group TOR Template had been streamlined throughout and aligned with the Strategy Implementation Plan.
- The GSAG endorsed the template and asked the GLC Support Team to share it with the aspiring Working Groups in the coming week, with a note asking for submissions to the GSAG prior to the next GSAG meeting on 21 February, if possible.

## 6. Annual Report

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- No objections were raised to the draft GSAG texts for 2019 Annual Report shared by the GLC Support Team. Final comments would need to be sent to the GLC Support Team by COB Monday 27 January.
- In their capacity as new GSAG members, Mary and Theo were asked to share brief quotes on the importance of the GSAG and the cluster partnership for the annual report, also by COB Monday 27 January.

## 7. AOB

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- The cluster is organising two sessions on preparedness at the HNPW. One open session in the morning of 4 February to present the preparedness project and one (confirmed) Preparedness Working Group meeting in the afternoon to which members will also be able to dial in remotely.
- The GSAG agreed to ask OCHA to consult future HNPW agendas with the clusters to ensure that it is representative of the participating communities and that discussions are held in the appropriate fora.

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- In response to a question, Bruno clarified that HELP Logistics had funded 100 subscriptions for the cluster to the Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management for two consecutive years but that this initiative came to an end due to low user usage.

### Contacts

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