
Meeting Minutes, 13 April 2021

Syria Operation, Gaziantep



This is an unofficial UN meeting record and should not be considered as a verbatim account of the UN meeting or position.

LOCATION	Gaziantep, Turkey
DATE	13 April 2021
CHAIR	Logistics Cluster
PARTICIPANTS	Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique et au Développement (ACTED), Ahl Horan Association, Americares, Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA), BINAA, Cooperative Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Ghiras Al Nahda, Global Communities, Hand in Hand for Aid and Development (HIHFAD), Humanity & Inclusion, International Humanitarian Relief (IHR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), IYD International, Humanitarian Relief Association, League of Syrian Networks, Maram Foundation for Relief and Development (MFRD), Misk, Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID) (OFDA), Qatar Charity, Save the Children International, Shafak, Solidarités International (SI), Syria NGO Forum, Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations (UOSSM), United National Development Program (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Welthungerhilfe.
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partners with road rehabilitation expertise to submit SCHF project proposal via OCHA by 15 April.• Partners interested in being co-facilitator to nominate candidates by 30 April.• The Logistics Cluster is collecting questions about customs from partners for compilation until 23 April.
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. SCHF Allocation2. Coordination3. Cross-border operation4. AOB

1. SCHF Allocation

- On March 31, the Syria Cross-border Humanitarian Fund (SCHF) allocated USD 1 million to the Logistics Cluster's partners for a road rehabilitation project to ensure uninterrupted physical access to IDP sites during winter and as and when emergency situations arise.
- The Logistics Cluster objective contributes to the overall SCHF Allocation Strategic Objective 1 (ASO1) through the coordination and facilitation of several technical rapid response teams organized and managed directly by partners in Aleppo and Idleb governorates to respond to physical access needs on the ground.

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- The SCHF team decided to modify the eligibility criteria of the 2021 First Standard Allocation. Partner organisations are now able to submit:
 - Two proposals as a lead applicant
 - Plus one proposal as sub-implementing partner
 - **Plus one for logistics projects.**
- Logistics Cluster partners with relevant technical expertise in road rehabilitation are therefore strongly encouraged to submit proposals to the SCHF via OCHA's Grand Management System.
- **Submissions deadline is 15 April. The SCHF clearance of proposals is 31 May.**

Further Guidance

- The Logistics Cluster recommends that partners establish a consortium of I/NGOs that have relevant experience in road rehabilitation activities. This is to ensure the widest spread of both expertise and geographical area to conduct any road rehabilitation needs that may arise.
- For any support regarding your proposals, please contact Chris Vial at christophe.vial@wfp.org.

2. Coordination

Co-facilitation

- Partners present at the meeting validated the the co-facilitation Terms of Reference (ToRs).
- The nomination process has now started. The deadline for submissions is **30 April 2021**.
- Partners should submit their nominations to Halil Cepoglu (halil.cepoglu@wfp.org) keeping Christophe Vial (christophe.vial@wfp.org) and Peter Liddiard (peter.liddiard@wfp.org) in copy.
- Candidates will be nominated through a vote during the next Cluster meeting. Th agreed upon criteria for nominations is international NGOs with previous co-facilitation experience. Details on the election process and rules will be shared via email.
- Partners in accordance with SAG members recommend that I/NGOs with previous co-facilitation experience nominate themselves.

Non-renewal of UNSCR 2533

- Partners expressed that the non-renewal of the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2533 at Bab al-Hawa and the ceasing of cross-border movement of UN assistance would lead to major logistics and supply chain disruptions.
- The lack of a transshipment hub would also be a major gap and bottleneck.
- To date, no I/NGO has expressed interest for a possible operational involvement and management of the transhipment hub in the future.
- The Procurement Working Group (PWG) is working closely alongside UN and NGO organisations to find potential solutions for mitigation of any potential issues and gaps.
- However, the NGO forum and the PWG emphasised no I/NGO has the capacity to absorb the current UN traffic in the event of non-renewal of the UN resolutions.

Questions and Clarifications

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- The Logistics Cluster is gathering partner's questions and issues regarding customs and tax rules and procedures for both import and export to northwest Syria. The deadline for partners to submit their questions is 23 April. Answers will be shared to support organisations with cross-border logistics operations.

3. Cross-border Operations

- In March, 920 trucks transporting over 21,783 mt of humanitarian assistance were transhipped from Turkey to northwest Syria through UNSCR-approved border crossing Bab al-Hawa. For more details on transhipments in 2020, please see [here](#).
- In March, 669 trucks transporting humanitarian assistance were transhipped by Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRC) through nine border crossings.
- All partners are encouraged to share their transhipment figures with the Logistics Cluster.
- The Logistics Cluster has adequate funding to continue its operations and provision of information management and coordination services.

4. AOB

Traffic Monitoring

- The Logistics Cluster has made an analysis of all UN traffic by axis inside northwest Syria since 2020. A map will be shared to show how many trucks and how much assistance has moved on each road segment.
- In close collaboration with HNAP, the Cluster wishes to further analyse commercial truck traffic by collecting information on their routes/destinations inside the northwest.
- With inputs from WFP's Vulnerability Analysis and Monitoring (VAM) unit, OCHA and REACH, the Logistics Cluster is now monitoring diesel prices inside the northwest.

Contacts

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