Meeting Minutes, Damascus, 17 June 2025



CHAIR: Logistics Cluster Coordinator

- PARTICIPANTS: ADRA, CARE, CESVI, CONCERN, CHF International, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, Food and Agriculture Organization, HI, HOPE, HULO, Human Appeal, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Medical Corps, International Organisation for Migration (IOM), IYD, Mercy USA, Medecins du Monde, Norwegian Church Aid, Norwegian People's Aid, OXFAM, Salam, Secours Islamique, Shafak, Terre des Hommes, Turkish Red Crescent, UN International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), UN Office for Project Services, UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO).
 - AGENDA: 1.
 - 1. Status Updates (context and physical access)
 - 2. Syria Logistics Cluster Support
 - 3. AOB

1. Status Updates (Context and Physical Access)

OCHA SITUATION REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

As of mid-2025, the humanitarian crisis in Syria remains critical, with an estimated 16.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance across the country. Among them, 7.4 million individuals remain internally displaced, continuing to face instability and limited access to essential services. The situation is further compounded by severely damaged infrastructure, including health, education, and water systems, which significantly hampers the delivery of basic services and the resilience of affected communities.

Despite the scale of need, the humanitarian response remains drastically underfunded. For the period January to June 2025, the total funding requirement is USD 2.0 billion. However, as of 29 May 2025, only 11% of the appeal has been met, with approximately USD 219.4 million received. This leaves a 90% funding gap, severely impacting the ability of humanitarian actors to scale up or sustain critical operations.

IDP AND RETURNEE MOVEMENTS

As of 31 May 2025, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Syria remains at 679,000, unchanged since 15 May. This includes 463,000 newly displaced individuals and 216,000 experiencing secondary displacement. Notably, around 5% of the displaced population are persons with disabilities. The majority of IDPs are concentrated in Idleb governorate (271,600) and Aleppo governorate (104,800). Meanwhile, IDP returnee movements have reached approximately 1.16 million people. This figure includes 535,300 individuals displaced prior to 27 November 2024 and 522,800 returning from IDP sites.

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The highest return concentrations are observed in Aleppo governorate (449,700) and Hama governorate (187,600)

PERMANENT NGO REGISTRATION

The Minister of Social Affairs and Labour has issued a decision declaring that all local NGOs previously granted temporary registration are now considered permanently registered from the date their temporary license expires, provided they complete the required documentation. These organizations must finalize their paperwork with the relevant Directorate of Social Affairs and Labour before their license expires. Failure to comply will result in suspension of their activities.

FUEL PRICES AND EXCHANGE RATE ANALYSIS

- In May 2025, fuel prices in Syria continued to rise across both formal and informal markets. The
 national average price in the formal market reached 9,806 SYP per Liter, marking a 7.34%
 increase from 9,136 SYP in April. Meanwhile, the informal market saw a more modest rise, with
 the average price climbing to 9,524 SYP per Liter, up 1.29% from 9,403 SYP the previous month.
- In May 2025, Syria's exchange rates showed mixed trends across different benchmarks. The parallel market rate appreciated, with the Syrian Pound strengthening by approximately 5.99%, as the rate fell from 11,054 in April to 10,392 in May. Similarly, the official fixed exchange rate saw a significant adjustment, decreasing by 8.34%, from 12,060 to 11,055. In contrast, the UN exchange rate experienced a slight depreciation of the Syrian Pound, increasing by 1.00%, from 12,000 in April to 12,120 in May, reflecting a modest upward revision.

BORDER CROSSINGS

Partners are encouraged to visit the <u>Syria LogIE page</u> for the latest access updates.

Türkiye – Syria

- Bab Al Hawa Cilvegozu: the consent-based agreement is valid until 7 August 2025.
- Bab Al Salameh Oncupinar: agreement extended until 3 September 2025.
- Al Raee Cobanbey: agreement extended until 3 September 2025.
- All borders are open for commercial cargo.

Iraq - Syria

- The Simalka Fishkhabour is operational for both passengers and cargo.
- Rabiaa Al Yarubiyah remains closed.
- Abu Kamal Al-Qa'im is operational for cargo and passengers since 14 June.

Jordan – Syria

Nasib – Jaber remains fully operational for both passenger and cargo movement. Passenger travel is permitted in both directions with immigration and passport control in place on each side. On the cargo side, the crossing supports shipments from Jordan to Syria, including transit and humanitarian aid, as well as transit cargo originating from Syria. A new temporary customs regulation issued by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers is now in effect, and as of 23 March, the border point has transitioned to 24-hour operations.

Lebanon – Syria

- Al Masnaa–Jdidet Yabus is open for passengers and vehicles both ways; cargo operations have started under new temporary customs regulations. The road to Damascus is open and safe.
- Al Arida–Tartous is operational for passenger and private vehicles.

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- Al Jusiyah–El Qa'a (Homs) is fully operational for passengers and vehicles (reopened last week).
- Al Marabo–Albusiyeh is reported closed.
- Other BCPs remain closed.

PORTS & AIRPORTS

- Lattakia Port is open for commercial operations.
- Tartus Port is fully functional at normal capacity.
- Damascus Airport is operational with on/off flight cancellations due to the regional security situation.
- Aleppo Airport is open.
- Latakia, Qamishly, and Deir Ezzour Airports are expected to reopen on 21 August 2025.

INTERNAL DISPATCHES – ROAD NETWORK

- Al Tabka Checkpoint is open for all traffic, including cargo and pedestrians.
- M4 Highway is operational from Idleb to Aleppo city (west); inaccessible in eastern Aleppo and rural areas.
- M5 Highway is open from Damascus to Aleppo. Al Rastan Bridge is now accessible for cars and light trucks; 40 MT trucks should use the Homs–Salamiyeh–Hama alternative.
- M1 & Road 35: routes from Homs to Tartous and Lattakia have returned to normal.
- Raqqa–Hassakeh–Deir ez-Zor (west): Roads are accessible.
- Qara Kozak Bridge: Limited access due to nearby clashes.
- Alleramoon Road: Currently accessible.
- Deir ez-Zor: Baghouz Bridge is under rehabilitation and not accessible.

2. Syria Logistics Cluster Support

COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- The Syria Logistics Cluster is currently conducting an ad-hoc exercise to identify which agencies intend to continue utilizing the Reyhanli hub and to understand the preferred modalities for future operations. In parallel, the team has also initiated an assessment of the commercial track within the cross-border operation.
- On 4-5 June, the Syria Logistics Cluster conducted three hands-on LOGIE training sessions in Damascus for humanitarian partners.

SERVICES

- From 20 May to 12 June, the Syria Logistics Cluster facilitated the cross-border operations. 119
 UN trucks carrying humanitarian aid crossed the Bab al-Hawa and Bab al-Salam borders from
 Turkiye to Syria.
- WFP continues to support partners (UNOPS, UNFPA, and OXFAM) through the provision of ODS storage services. As of now, a total of 636,043.36 units are stored, weighing 186.868 metric tons and occupying 1,268.3 cubic meters. These supplies support key sectors such as WASH, Protection, and Health.

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Partners will be informed about the next coordination meeting via email.

CONTAC	TS
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Ayad Naman	Logistics Cluster Coordinator	ayad.naman@wfp.org
Rama Wannous	Logistics Cluster Associate	rama.wannous@wfp.org
Cholpon Tursunalieva	Logistics Cluster IM Officer	cholpon.tursunalieva@wfp.org