
Global Logistics Coordination Call

[Regional crisis] – Coordination Meeting Minutes

10 March 2026



World Food
Programme



LOCATION	Global, Remote
DATE	10 March 2026
CHAIR	Global Logistics Cluster Coordinator
PARTICIPANTS	Americares, CARE, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), CESVI (Cooperazione e Sviluppo), Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG-ECHO), DHL, Humanity & Inclusion/Atlas Logistique, Humedica International Aid, Hulo, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Medical Corps (IMC), Johanniter, Medair, Médecins Sans Frontières – Spain (MSF-Spain), Médecins Sans Frontières – Switzerland (MSF-Switzerland) Mercy Corps, Oxfam, Oxfam Intermon, Relief International (RI), Technisches Hilfswerk (THW), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), WeWorld, Welthungerhilfe (WHH), WeWorld, World Food Programme (WFP), World Vision International (WVI)
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Situation Update2. Logistics Update3. Medical Logistics Working Group Update4. Lebanon and Logistics Cluster updates5. Telecommunications Update6. Partners Update7. AOB
ACTION POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inquire on possible extension of the shipping surcharge waiver to more partners•

1. Situation Update

- As reported by OCHA, IOM and UNHCR¹ an increase in population movements has been observed across the various regions affected, raising humanitarian concerns:
 - Syria: Over 89,000 returnees and Lebanese refugees have crossed into Syria in the last few days.
 - Lebanon: Over 500,000 people have been displaced with over 117,000 sheltering in collective sites.
 - Iran: Initial estimates reported over 100,000 people fleeing Tehran in the first two days of the crisis (figures are expected to be much higher now). Ongoing concerns around population movements to Baluchistan province in Pakistan

¹ Sources: [IOM](#), [UNHCR](#), [UNHCR](#), [OCHA](#)



- Afghanistan: over 66,000 have been additionally displaced in the eastern and southern areas since the escalation of the hostilities.
- The airspace of six countries remains fully closed: Syria, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Israel. Intermittent cancellation of flights continues to affect other countries.
- The Strait of Hormuz remains de facto closed even though its ports are operational.

2. Logistics Update

Lebanon Update

- A possible Logistics Cluster activation is foreseen in the coming days as it has been already discussed at the Humanitarian Country Team level.
- The Logistics Working Group (LWG) continues to support partners with coordination and will scale up IM support and the provision of common services to overcome access challenges.
- An increase in oil and natural gas prices has already been observed with the oil prices surpassing 100 USD per barrel on 8 March.
- WFP Shipping provided an update on the status of sea operations:
 - Ongoing severe disruptions in the sector. Container ships are still not able to leave the Strait of Hormuz.
 - A large number of shipping lines are already suspending their bookings to the Middle East, mainly UAE, Oman, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.
 - There is an ongoing rerouting of some of the shipping lines and increase in emergency surcharges from all container carriers. Some carriers are also starting to impose bunker surchargers on containers now because of the fuel prices increase. What has been observed so far is ranging from 30 to 200 USD per Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TEU), WFP is also advocating in support of partners on this'. Freight rates have been severely increased too.
 - WFP is currently working with UNHRD on some shipments and exploring options to move cargo by road to Khor Fakkan Port and dispatching by sea from there.
 - The situation remains very fluid with changes on a daily basis.
- UNHRD shared that they are facing some challenges to use the Omani ports as an alternative to UAE due to some challenges on the Omani side to handle and move medical cargo. Conversations are ongoing with the UAE Ministry of Health, Dubai Humanitarian and partners to see what the best solution is. It was emphasized that it is possible to move cargo out of Dubai, challenges are noted on the increased costs and availability, so the focus is being put on finding the best solution in terms of time and cost. UNHRD is also looking at transport by road via Jeddah, but this is also affected by the increased costs. Regarding air operations, there are challenges on the availability and predictability and there is some backlog.
- WFP Aviation provided an update on the air operations. There are still carriers operating so the issue remains on the unpredictability and increased costs. For the main airlines they are conducting limited flights but still operating.



3. Medical Logistics Working Group Update

- An update was provided on behalf of the Medical Logistics Working Group which held an initial meeting on the 9 March ([meeting minutes](#)). Some challenges were raised by the partners and the Logistics Cluster is still exploring how support can be provided.

Upstream

- Some partners are facing significant challenges for cargo stored in Dubai. Many partners are buying directly from the vendors, but some big health partners have significant stocks in Dubai. In particular for the health partners is especially important:
 - Prepositioned cargo also includes short shelf-life commodities and medical cargo
 - Despite being operational, some shipping lines and ports may not accept specific cargo type and some vessels cannot dock already.

Downstream

- Downstream corridors potentially disrupted as well due to the situation. Lebanon as transit hub into Syria is at risk.
- Challenges around storage for sensitive cargo and temperature-controlled goods are worsening.
- Som partners raised that key information on land crossings/routes and availability of temperature controlled storage and handling capacities remain unknown.
- A survey will be shared with the health partners to gather information on their challenges to explore solutions.

4. Lebanon Scale-Up

- It is foreseen a Cluster activation in the coming days due to the deterioration of the situation
- For the time being, coordination and information management activities were scaled up and the provision of common services is being planned to scale up the response. So far the options that are being explored are storage in Beirut and the coordination of convoy movements to the South. Storage needs expressed by partners are still very limited, but partners are encouraged to reach out to express their challenges and needs.
- For the time being, a convoy organized by WFP to the South is being planned together with 6 other partners (UN and NGOs). Planning is ongoing for the next movements and the locations to be served.
 - Location selection is managed by Lebanon governorates, not by UN agencies.
- Convoy management is the only service that can be guaranteed by now due to limited funding.
 - Other services (corridor to Syria, warehousing) will depend on the needs and funding availability.
- An ECHO Humanitarian Airbridge service is confirmed for Lebanon
 - Most probably ex-Liege, pending to identify partners' needs.
 - LWG is in touch with ECHO to support with the identification of needs.



- Flash Appeal is being drafted, pending confirmation of submission. A section on logistics was submitted to including the convoy coordination and warehousing services and considering the possibility of additional services.

4. Lebanon Scale-Up

Iran update

- Lack of visibility and information throughout. Partners that have a presence and have additional information are encouraged to reach out to share information.

Palestine update

- The route to the West Bank is closed for aid trucks.
- Jordan border crossing reopened for aid trucks on 09 March
- Kareem Shalom was limited reopened on 03 March

Syria Update

- Border crossings to/from Lebanon remain operational with frequent changes to the situation. Masnaa commercial border crossing point is open to people and cargo.

Afghanistan Update:

- Southern corridor (Pakistan): The southern border remains closed, traditional Pakistan entry points are not currently available for commercial or humanitarian movements.
- Iran corridor: The Iran corridor is also closed/paused at this stage, shipments that would normally move from Karachi to Dubai and onward via Iran are not moving,
- Current mitigation: Partners are shifting to Poti and Mersin corridors to bypass Iran, entering Afghanistan via the northern corridors through Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

5. Telecommunications Update

- Iran
 - No Internet or GSM connectivity across the entire country and networks are severely affected
 - This morning two of the main banking services were affected in Tehran.
 - No connectivity including phones outside Tehran capital city
- Afghanistan
 - A Task Force was set up for Afghanistan to manage the fast-evolving situation
 - Next Task Force Meeting is on Thursday, 12 March 2026 to identify needs for ETC support

5. Partners Updates

- An ECHO flight with emergency health supplies arrived 12:00 am local time Beirut from Copenhagen



6. AOB

- Partners to fill out the [survey](#) to better assess needs for support (so far, only five partners responded)
- The global coordination will transition to a regional set up, partners who still want to be involved need to sign up to the [new mailing list](#) to receive regional updates and meeting invites. A Regional Logistics Coordinator will support and coordinate with partners at the regional level, while the existent coordination mechanism in the country level will continue to facilitate the discussions in the ground.

The next Coordination Meeting will be held next Tuesday, 17 March, at 13:00

Contacts

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