

PAKISTAN LOGISTICS CLUSTER – MEETING MINUTES

FOCUS Office, Gilgit

Date: 25 May, 2010

- Chair: Logistics Cluster Coordinator – Simon Hacker (WFP)
- Attendees: WFP, PRCS, FOCUS, Muslim Aid, UNICEF.

1. Introduction – Mr. Simon Hacker

- Overview of Logistics Cluster Meeting formats.
- Overview of Logistics Cluster Functions:
 - Coordination: Coordinate the logistics response by identifying gaps and sharing information.
 - Information Management: Production and dissemination of logistics informational products (maps, sitreps, reports, etc.). These products will also be available on www.logcluster.org/pak09a.
 - Provision of services: Services provided include storage, handling, and transport of commodities for organizations as requested. However, it was highlighted that the Logistics Cluster should be viewed as a 'provider of last resort' as available resources are limited. Furthermore, all requirements of services for the Hunza Lake humanitarian response are to be channelled through the Gilgit-Baltistan Disaster Management Authority (GBDMA). GBDMA will then prioritize cargo storage and movements.
 - Available Resources: The Logistics Cluster has the capacity to deploy emergency stocks within 24-48 hours, provided the need is justified and jointly assessed with GBDMA. These stocks include: generators, temporary storage, pallets, and tarpaulins. The Logistics Cluster has already deployed and transported WiikHalls, Office Containers, Pallets, 13 Kv generators, and a warehouse management team for WFP.
 - Logistics Cluster Coordinator in this context: The speaker explained his role as representing GBDMA for a period of one month as per the request of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). It was stressed that GBDMA is the lead agency coordinating the humanitarian response in Gilgit. As such all actions taken by the Logistics Cluster would be subject to approval by this agency prior to implementation. All outcomes and discussions of the present and future Logistics Cluster Meetings would be relayed to GBDMA for correspondence.

2. Storage

- Lack of storage capacity was a common theme during the discussions. All participants noted a severe lack of storage space especially in Gilgit. Concerns were also raised about lack of storage in Aliabad, which is the helicopter staging area for Northern Hunza. It was agreed that should the situation further deteriorate, smaller storage facilities may also be needed in Rahimabad and Skanderabad.
- The Logistics Cluster has been asked by NDMA to mobilize temporary storage facilities for the creation of a warehouse/consolidation facility in Gilgit. In this regard, WFP has already transported 2 (10x32m) WiikHalls and a requisite warehouse management team to the area. It is hoped to have 640 sq/m of covered storage space erected within the next 4 days.

3. Transport

- Participants raised the issue of a lack of sufficient secondary transport to the camp facilities.
- Clarification of the system of prioritizing of cargo movements by GBDMA was needed. These include cargo movements both by Heli-lifts and by secondary road transport from Gilgit to the camps.
- Mr. Simon Hacker stressed the limited financial resources of the Logistics Cluster in providing transport services.

4. AOB

- **PRCS** noted that the 13 Kv generators (4 No.s) provided by WFP have not yet been unloaded due to difficulty in crossing the suspension bridge. The Logistics Cluster coordinator agreed to look into the matter.
- **PRCS** again stressed the importance of storage space availability.
- **FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance** urgently requested air-lift of 11,000 running feet of PVP to Shishkat.
- **Muslim Aid** requested assistance with the transport of water purification tanks and 1 anesthesia kit from Islamabad to 4 camps in Gilgit.

5. Action Points

- Cluster meetings to be held every second day or as per requirement. Location for meetings was to be decided, but would ideally be in the Home Secretary's Office.
- Cluster to determine the location of the storage/consolidation facility in Gilgit.
- Cluster to determine the load capacity of the suspension bridge separating Gilgit and Dangor.
- Cluster to discuss with GBDMA the issue of devising a mechanism for the prioritization of cargo (storage and transport).
- Cluster to discuss with GBDMA the issue of lack of storage space as raised by all participants. Areas of concern are Gilgit, Aliabad, and various other strategic points.
- Cluster to discuss with the military on possible provision of trucks committed for secondary transport from Gilgit to the camps.

End.