

Interagency Logistics Meeting 23 November 2007 Minutes
WFP Logistic Office Flower Ave. Colombo
Minutes

Attendance:

Name	Org	email	mobile
Sergio Monteiro	WFP	Sergio.monteiro@wfp.org	0773178325
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Cynthia Caron	UNOPS		0773515044
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Roslyn Myers	CCF	Roslyn@ccfsrilanka.org	0776001450
Steven Wells	IOM	swells@iomsrilanka.org	0773171658

The meeting was opened and chaired by Patrick Phipps, WFP

1. Minutes of the IA Logs meeting held 12 November 2007 accepted without comment – no matters arising.

2. L&ES Committee and CCHA.

There was no meeting of the L&ES committee in advance of the CCHA held 20 November 2007 at which WFP was represented by the CD. Feedback on logs issues raised is awaited.

3. Transport Issues.

(a) *Air* – Recent meeting with UNHAS and common users noted that UNHAS service to Jaffna is phasing down given increased availability from the commercial operators. A proposal for UNHAS *in standby mode* is under consideration for 2008. With current passenger and freight loads UNHAS is barely managing one flight per month. Clearly unless agencies and NGOs commit or there is sufficient load factors to other routes the justification for UNHAS continuation is suspect. The meeting noted however that using UNHAS is less cumbersome vis a vis travel clearance. Even more so with the introduction new regulations for clearance by Colombo authorities and pre-departure procedures in Jaffna.

(b) *Sea* – WFP reported no problems with the regular service to Jaffna. IOM have been allocated space on a vessel arriving Monday in Colombo sufficient to ship up to 15 CMBs.

© *Road* – Discussion centered on the Medawachchiya check point and UNOPS gave a briefing on a recent assessment undertaken. Key findings include average delay in passing the check point is 5 hours, most of which is the time taken to unload/reload to

trucks north bound. Little time is spent on checking cargo contents. Losses and damage to cargo is occurring but difficult to quantify as information is not forthcoming. It seems clear that the check point has become a tool for grey market activity and as a consequence costs in cargo movement have increased for all users. Agencies and NGOs are requested to quantify additional costs to their organization and submit to WFP logs by 30 November 2007 for consolidation review and analysis. Additional costs to cover – actual increase in transport rates, value of lost/damaged cargo and cost of HR/equipment deployed to monitor/escort deliveries. Pending findings a case may be made to bring the issue to L&ES.

4. Warehousing.

The issue of warehouse consolidation was again discussed. With UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP facilities in Colombo the case for a forth site is being considered especially to accommodate smaller organisations. The advantage in limiting storage facilities include in particular relative speed of clearance and inspection of cargo destined for the North. NGOs are requested to notify warehouse needs to WFP Logs. Currently WFP need to upgrade its facility and UNICEF are to vacate some of their capacity and are interested to talk with potential users.

5. Fuel Allocation Vanni.

The 30,000 liter allocation for November 2007 was confirmed. Agencies did not indicate any difficulty this may cause despite the request for an overall 34,000 liters. The December request will stick to the agency needs detailed in form November.

6. AoB

WFP agreed to a request from UNOPS to park at its warehouse two trucks.

IOM have secured funding for their transport project. This will enable them to be operational by December and pending the level overall need the intention is to lease around sixty 10 tonne fully enclosed trucks for use across the island with the exception of the north at least until the security/check point situation improves. The program period is Dec 1st 2007, until June 1st 2008. IOM should be able to support the WFP hub in Vavuniya throughout this time. Transport is provided free of charge, but loading, unloading and other fees are the organizations responsibility. The standard Transport Request form is annexed to these minutes. Potential users are asked to be very specific on the cargo location, qty, destination and time of pick up and delivery, as delays will adversely affect the entire project. Further info contact Bandu Epitawala bandue@iomsrilanka.org or (077-318-4456).

The next meeting is scheduled for 10 am, Friday 7 December at WFP logistic offices, 3A Flower Ave, Colombo 7.

P.Phipps

WFP Colombo

23 November 2007



IOM International Organization for Migration

TRANSPORT REQUEST FORM - CARGO

Requested By	
Loading Date & Time	
Est. Time of Departure (ETD)	
Number of Vehicles Requested	
Loading Address	
Type of Cargo and Quantity	
Destination Address	
Contact Person at the Destination & Phone Number (office & mobile)	
Est. Date & Time of Return	

Please make your transport requests at least 24 hours in advance on the following e-mail addresses or fax no:

To: swells@iomsrilanka.org

Cc: bandue@iomsrilanka.org

Tel : 011 536 1941 - 43

Fax : 011 536 1944