

BACKGROUND

Since March 2014, the humanitarian situation in Somalia has deteriorated significantly due to clashes among armed groups. Severe instability has directly affected Bakool, Galgaduud, Gedo, Hiraan, Bay, Lower and Middle Shabelle and Lower Juba, eight of the 18 regions in Somalia, with 1.1 million Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and 2.16 million in stress (reported by OCHA Humanitarian Bulletin, 17 October 2014).

Active hostilities have interrupted local markets and commercial activities, with road blocks preventing traders and populations from returning. Surface level transport has been significantly impeded, leaving the humanitarian sector with limited options to deliver lifesaving cargo to populations displaced across the country. Air services are the most viable option to deliver relief to locations that cannot be accessed by road, conduct assessment missions and identify the needs in the affected regions.

LOGISTICS GAPS AND BOTTLENECKS

The Logistics Cluster aims to facilitate, coordinate, and ensure delivery of life saving humanitarian assistance to the affected populations in the affected regions of Somalia. However, the humanitarian community is facing a number of challenges, translating into severe gaps that continue to impede the ability of the humanitarian community to deliver an adequate response. The major challenges are as follows:

- **Insecurity and humanitarian access:** The situation remains volatile, which restricts the movement of personnel and humanitarian cargo. Several key operational areas are only accessible by air and some areas are inaccessible completely due to active hostilities. Safe passage, access, delivery and distribution of humanitarian relief to resettled population and IDPs is severely limited.
- **Lack of transport services:** Insecurity is also preventing traders and transporters from carrying out their normal activities. Delivering relief to many of the affected areas is only possible by air (such as Baidoba, Hudur, Wajid, Buloburte, Maxas Jalalaqsi, Celbur and Qoryoley).
- **Infrastructure for storage and distribution:** Limited infrastructure is available in the affected regions and restricts the ability to plan distribution. In addition, access to and operation of existing warehouses is limited by the volatile security situation.

LOGISTICS CLUSTER ACTIVITIES

The following range of activities and services are not intended to replace the logistics capacities of individual agencies or organisations, but rather to temporarily fill identified gaps in the humanitarian supply chain and supplement the response of the humanitarian community through the provision of common services, based on need. The following services will be made available to the humanitarian community:

1. Logistics Coordination:

The following coordination services will be provided to mitigate any duplication of efforts by humanitarian actors and maximize the use of available logistics assets and resources:

- Monthly coordination meetings in Nairobi;
- Coordination with other clusters and relevant organisations and entities including participation in the Inter Cluster Working Group Meetings.

2. Information Management:

The Logistics Cluster will provide information management services with the aim of supporting operational decision making to improve the efficiency of the logistics response. These services will include the following:

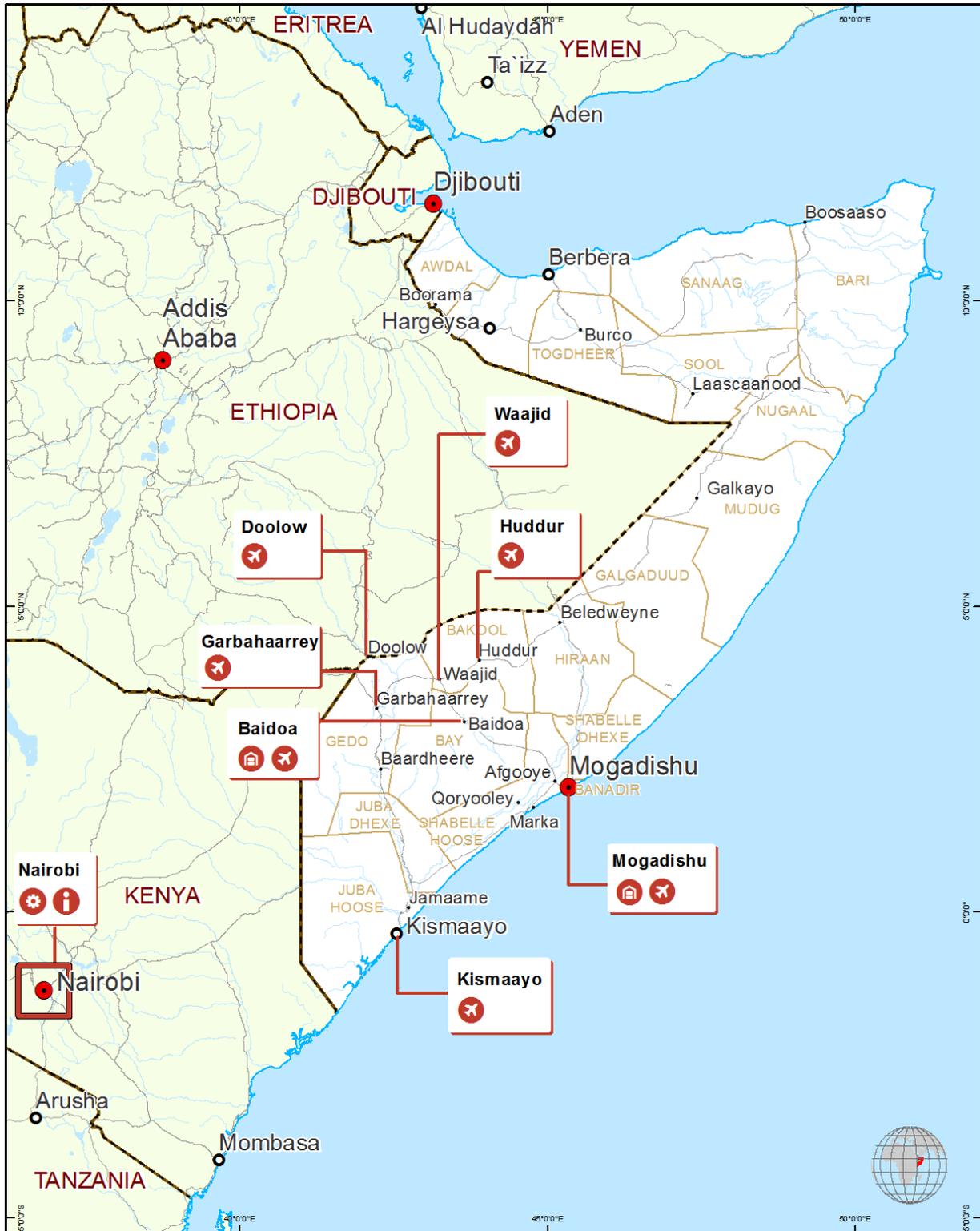
- The Logistics Cluster plans to support and where possible, carry out assessment missions to multiple locations in order to identify needs and support the affected population in Somalia. Rapid dissemination of logistics information, as well as guidance to organisations;
- Consolidate information on the overall logistics situation from the humanitarian community and identifying logistics gaps and bottlenecks;
- Provide updated information on operational data, such as route accessibility, through the publication of situation updates, meeting minutes, snapshots, flash news and briefings and share with partners via a purpose built mailing list and a dedicated webpage (www.logcluster.org/ops/somalia14a).

3. Logistical Services

The services made available by the Logistics Cluster are intended to enable partners through the provision of common services to ensure timely and safe dispatch of aid cargo to the needed population of Somalia. Access permitting, the following services will be provided at no cost to the user for a temporary period of time, depending

on the availability of funds and the emergency response situation. Common services are envisaged for short term use on a free-to-user basis and will then shift to full cost recovery.

- I. **Common Warehousing:** Safe and secure common storage spaces are envisaged in key locations including Mogadishu, Wajid and Baidoa to receive, consolidate, store and dispatch aid cargo on behalf of the humanitarian community.
- II. **Common Air Transport:** The Logistics Cluster, through and in collaboration with WFP and UNHAS, plans to facilitate air transportation services from Mogadishu, Galkayo, Hiran and Bakool regions.
- III. **Common Road Transport:** The Logistics Cluster, where possible, plans to facilitate road transportation services between key strategic locations.



 <p>World Food Programme</p> 	<p>SOMALIA</p> <p>Logistics Cluster</p> <p>Concept of Operations</p> <p>as of 26 November 2014</p>	 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logistic Hub ⚙️ Coordination ℹ️ Information management 🏠 Storage Capacity ✈️ Air transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National capital ○ Major town ◐ Intermediate town International boundary Undetermined boundary Province Boundary Surface waterbody River 	<p><small>Date Created: 26-NOV-2014 Map Num: SOM_CONOPS_LASP Data System Datum: WGS 1984 UTM Data Sources: Logcluster, WFP, UN/WHO, OAU</small></p> <p><small>The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or approval by the United Nations Secretariat.</small></p> <p><small>Email: map@logcluster.org Website: www.logcluster.org/index.html Cluster / Logistics, Kinshasa/ROC</small></p>
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This Concept of Operations is a live document and the activities will be adapted and revised as the situation unfolds and further assessment results become available, including the possible provision of additional logistics common services as required by the humanitarian community.