

Libya Crisis – Snapshot

Salloum Land Port – Egypt – 8 June 2011

The information below is the most recent information available to WFP gathered through an assessment conducted on 10 May 2011 of the Egyptian side of the Salloum border crossing. This snapshot provides a report of the findings from the assessment.

Border Point Name	Borders with	Features
Salloum Land Port	Libya	<p>Salloum: 31°34'36.58 N, 25°03'53.54 E</p> <p>This is the main border entry point between Egypt and Libya. Although Egypt shares a long border with Libya (1100km) this is the only official crossing point between the two countries. This border point can be accessed using a main highway from the Egyptian side. Salloum border crossing is about 220km from Marsa Matruh, 400km from Al-Alamein and 520km from Alexandria port.</p>

Border Crossing Infrastructure and Administration	Number of custom clearance lanes/booths ex Egypt	There is one approach lane for all vehicles, which leads to 6 custom clearance booths for passenger vehicles and 6 customs clearance booths for trucks. Currently, since there is not much traffic, only one customs booth operates for each type of vehicle, however additional lanes/booths can be opened up in case of congestion.
	Number of lanes towards Egypt	The port organization in the direction towards Egypt is a mirror image of the other side (traffic ex Egypt). One common approach to the port, 6 customs clearance lanes for trucks and 6 customs clearance lanes for the passenger vehicles.
	Vehicle inspection/waiting areas	There are large inspection areas for trucks ready to undergo inspection, and waiting areas for trucks that have been customs cleared. Each area accommodates around 30-40 large trucks.
	Opening hours of the crossing	Port in Salloum (from the Egyptian side) is open 24/7. The personnel work in shifts. The border from the Libyan side is open until 17:00 hrs.
	Border authorities (names, functions, contact details)	See flow-chart below.
	Length of time to cross border	<p>It takes one hour to inspect a truck and around 30 minutes to process the documents.</p> <p>It takes longer for trucks carrying commodities in transit to cross the border. For cargo in transit, the internal form is sent by the Egyptian border authorities to the Libyan border authorities in Emsaad. Only after the form is returned by the Libyan authorities to the Salloum port administration confirming that the Libyan side accepts the cargo are the trucks allowed to cross the border.</p> <p>The stamped form from the Libyan border authorities is also essential in order to release the bank guarantee required for the transit of the commodities through Egypt.</p> <p>As the Libyan border authorities operate only until 17:00 hrs and it takes up to 4 hours for the Libyan authorities to approve and return the form, only trucks that arrive at the border in the morning are able to cross the border the same day. Trucks that arrive at Salloum in the afternoon will cross the border the following morning.</p>

		As there are no waiting areas on the Libyan side of the border, trucks awaiting clearance stay overnight in Salloum port. This situation may lead to traffic jams in Salloum if the volume of traffic should increase.
	Average number of trucks per day	On average, 400 trucks can cross through Salloum border daily. If the traffic volume increases, more personnel will be deployed to speed up clearance of the trucks crossing through.
	Specialized equipment available	There are cargo scanners available in Salloum. A small one is located in the customs hall and a scanner-truck for inspection of containers and cargo loaded on trucks is also available.
	Commodities that take the longest to cross the border	Permission is required from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) to export rice and sugar of Egyptian origin, as these commodities are considered critical for Egyptian food security. There is no problem with the export/transit of sugar and rice procured outside Egypt. There should be no problem for small quantities of rice and sugar procured in Egypt (up to 2 mt) to cross the border without MFA permission.
	Possibilities for accelerating the crossing procedure	The authorities can activate additional customs clearance lanes/booths and deploy additional personnel.
Additional Information	Other agencies present at the border crossing	There are representatives from DFID, ECHO, ERC, IMC, IOM, OCHA, UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO present at the border crossing. They monitor the humanitarian situation and assist the displaced population in Salloum. WHO personnel have assisted NGOs with custom clearance of the humanitarian aid passing through the border (especially for medical equipment and supplies).
	Potential bottle necks if border traffic increases	If the crisis persists and commercial transport returns to normal levels, the passage of humanitarian cargo across the border may be slowed down.
Locality infrastructure and environment	What can be done to remove the bottlenecks?	The port authorities may prioritize clearance of the trucks carrying humanitarian aid over the commercial trucks if officially requested to do so.
	Influx of third country nationals (TCNs) to the border area	The influx of TCNs to the border crossing in Salloum has declined. IOM has a processing desk in the customs hall.
	Additional facilities available at the crossing point.	There are toilets at the border crossing (some permanent and some established by UNICEF). There are sufficient parking areas for the trucks at the border crossing. There is a hotel/restaurant base in Salloum town, which is several kilometers from the border crossing on the Egyptian side. However, truck drivers who get stuck at the border typically sleep under their vehicles. Vehicle workshops are available in Salloum, although army and police present at the border crossing have their own facility on-site.

Director Manager of the Salloum Border port
rotating duty every two weeks
General Magdy : Phone : 0118920330 and
General Medhat : mobile : 0166695029 /
0123953609

Ministry of Interior

Customs Department Head of
Salloum Customs: rotating duty every
two weeks
Mustafa Kamel, and Ahmad Saeed
Office : 04648000040, mobile :
015117601205

Narcotics (Drugs
department) -
prevention of drug
trafficking

Traffic Department
- control of traffic
within border
premises

Passport Office for
Egypt
departures/arrivals

Border Security
Head of Security at Salloum
land port: rotating duty every
two weeks
Brig. Adel Khalaf : phone
0123957210 , Brig:
Muntassar Issam :
0123957228

Health Authorities
1- Quarantine
2- Veterinary control

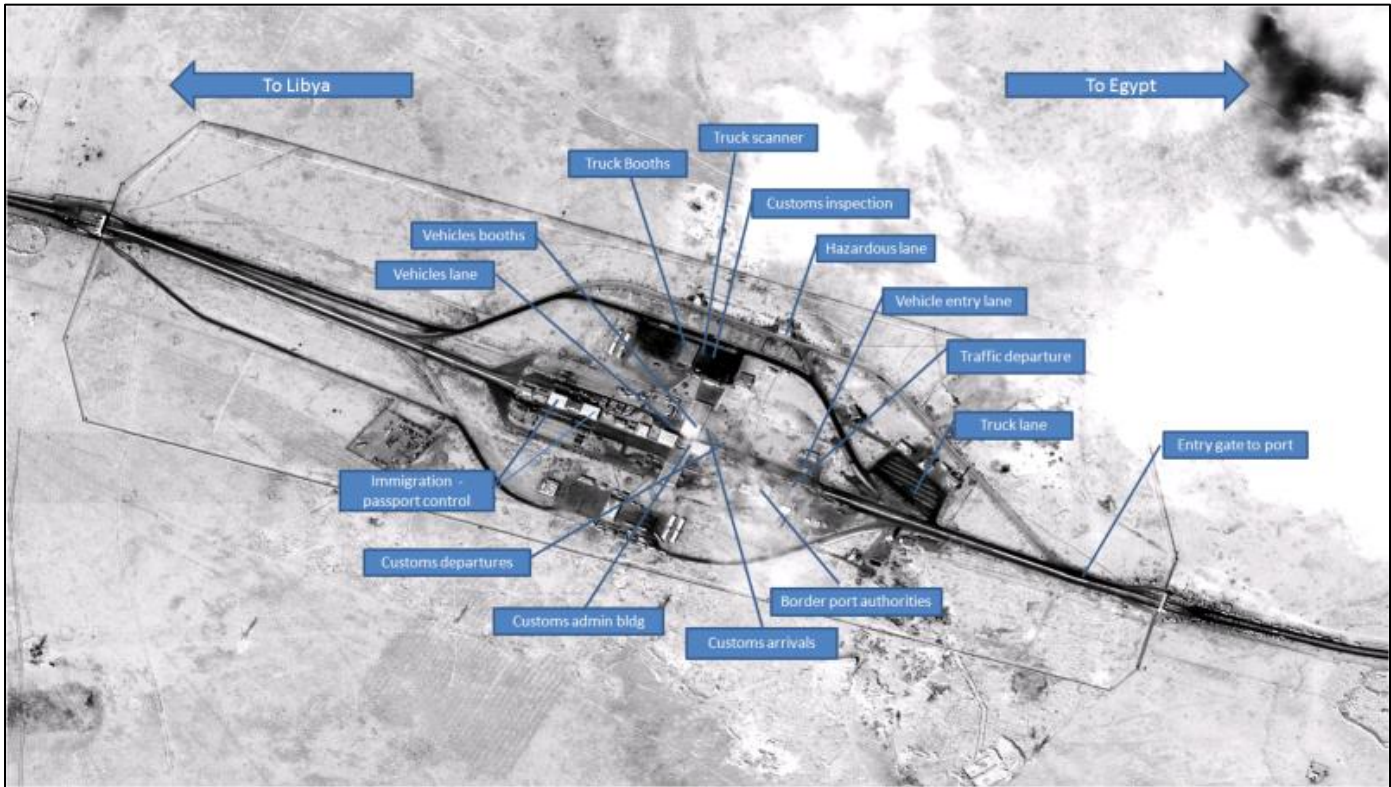
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Manager of Customs Arrival
to Egypt / Imports
Mr Amjad Abu Majed Mob:
0122967377

Custom Coordination Manager
Mr Medhat Rajab
0105192580 and 0183010829

Manager of Customs
Departures/ Exports
Mr Ali Shaaban Mobile
0171401937

Border authorities



Salloum border crossing overview