
Rationale

From a global perspective, the Logistics Cluster is a community of partners actively working to overcome logistics constraints, and to develop and share best practices and solutions. As indicated in the strategy 2016-2021, the Logistics Cluster stresses the importance of partnership: “the Logistics Cluster is built on partnership, and as such it strives to involve a diverse and representative group of humanitarian actors, on the global, regional and local levels, that steers its strategic direction, allowing true involvement and ownership by partner organisations.”

Where this partnership is essential for the Logistics Cluster, it also creates challenges:

- The Logistics Cluster is continuously **growing**
- **Decision making** during global meetings is increasingly difficult due to the high number of participants
- There is a growing interest in the work of the Logistics Cluster and a higher requirement for formalised input
- Being a community of partners, the Logistics Cluster is strongly reliant upon **shared ownership** which is in turn linked to **shared accountability and engagement**, using the strengths of the partnerships and the individual partners.

1. Scope of the GSAG and the GSAG ToR

- 1.1 The GSAG will have at least quarterly meetings, twice preceding or following the Global Logistics Meetings (GLM) in a face-to-face constellation, and twice at regular intervals in a face-to-face or remote constellation.
- 1.2 An ad hoc meeting of the GSAG can always be called by the GLC Coordinator or by a majority quorum of the GSAG voting members.
- 1.3 These ToR for the GSAG are to be reviewed every two years.
- 1.4 The reviewed ToR can only become valid upon endorsement by the plenary of a GLM by means of a majority vote. Until the ToR have been agreed to, the previous ToR remain valid.

2. Mandate of the GSAG

The mandate of the Global Logistics Cluster (GLC) Strategic Advisory Group (GSAG) is to represent the community of GLC partners through strategic support and guidance to the GLC, and to facilitate accountability to its partners.

It performs as an ambassador of the Logistics Cluster towards different stakeholders in the Logistics Cluster.

3. Objectives of the GSAG

- 3.1 The GSAG will drive the implementation of the strategy forward, and promote and advocate on behalf of the Logistics Cluster with donors and other stakeholders within the international community.
- 3.2 The GSAG will oversee the implementation and progress in implementation of the annual workplan as presented during GLMs, and advise the GLC Support Team (GLCST) in the planning and realisation of work and activities

- 3.3 The GSAG will, upon request, advise the GLC on priorities for global activities and the allocation of global funding resources. The GSAG will advise on GLC policies, key strategy, advocacy and fund-raising documents as requested.
- 3.4 The GSAG will endorse the creation of Working Groups if relevant for the GLC strategy, and ensure strategic support of these Working Groups.
- 3.5 The GLCST will inform and consult with the GSAG early in the process of engaging with possible strategic partners.
- 3.6 The GSAG will advocate internally to the community of GLC partners for active participation in GLC activities and operations.

4. Accountability to partners and reporting

- 4.1 Where the implementation of the strategy and the strategy implementation plan is a shared responsibility within the Logistics Cluster community, the GSAG will ensure that regular reporting on both takes place at GLMs as a joint effort between partners and the GLCST.
- 4.2 The GSAG will work closely with the GLCST on financial reporting to partners. This reporting can be initiated by both the GLCST and the GSAG.
- 4.3 The GSAG will ensure the effective distribution of GSAG meeting minutes to the community of partners.

5. Election of the GSAG

The election of the GSAG is organised by the GLCST during a GLM, following the below requirements:

- 5.1 The regular elections are announced latest two months ahead of the election date.
- 5.2 Voting takes place in the plenary of the GLM.
- 5.3 There is no quorum required for a vote to be valid at the plenary of the GLM. A remote voting system can be created by the GLCST.
- 5.4 A plurality voting system is foreseen whereby one representative per organisation can cast a single vote.
- 5.5 Organisations not represented at the meeting can vote in advance in writing or at the same time of the vote using pre-identified communication tools.
- 5.6 The vote is confidential and takes place in secret ballots.
- 5.7 The election is decided on a relative majority within each group as defined in §7.

6. Roles and requirements of GSAG members

- 6.1 Every active participant of the GLC can stand for election on the condition that the represented organisation has had an active participation in the GLC for at least 12 months prior to the election.
- 6.2 Candidates to become voting members of the GSAG are aware and agree to dedicate a minimum of 12 working days (excluding the days attending the biannual GLMs) to the GSAG and the promotion of the Logistics Cluster per year.

- 6.3 Membership of the GSAG is a non-remunerated engagement. No advantages are provided nor can be accepted.
- 6.4 A GSAG member is representing the entire Logistics Cluster, and as such strives for the best output for the Logistics Cluster and all its members. The members represent the Global Logistics Cluster community and not their respective organisations.
- 6.5 There is no limitation to the number of times a Logistics Cluster partner can stand for election or for the number of times one can be elected to the GSAG.
- 6.6 Deputation of GSAG seats is only possible in limited cases as indicated below. GSAG members who are of the opinion that they can no longer fulfil their role appropriately are to inform the other GSAG members in writing as soon as possible to ensure the efficiency of the GSAG.
- 6.7 Representatives of LET partners or other representatives of for-profit partners cannot become a GSAG member. An exchange amongst the partners on potentially changing this in a future ToR review is strived for.

7. Composition of the GSAG

- 7.1 The GSAG is composed of eight members, of which five are elected among the GLC partners (the other members being one from WFP as lead agency, the GLC Coordinator as Chair and one field Logs Cluster Coordinator as an observer).
 - 7.1.1 Unless otherwise stipulated, a GSAG member is elected for a duration of 2 years.
- 7.2 **The lead agency representative**
 - 7.2.1 The lead agency of the GLC has one permanent seat on the GSAG.
 - 7.2.2 The lead agency of the GLC has full voting rights.
 - 7.2.3 The lead agency endorses the need for continuity in the GSAG and engages itself to appoint an appropriate representative for an extended duration of time, preferably two years.
- 7.3 **The representatives of the partners from Non-Governmental Humanitarian Organisations (NGO representation)**
 - 7.3.1 For the purpose of this ToR, “NGO representation” hereby refers to National or International Non-Governmental Organisations with a humanitarian mandate, and also the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC), its country representations as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
 - 7.3.2 Three seats are allocated for NGO representation.
 - 7.3.3 The three NGO representatives have full voting rights.
 - 7.3.4 The NGO representatives cannot deputise their GSAG seat.
 - 7.3.5 In case the representative can no longer fulfil their engagement within the GSAG, the seat becomes vacant till the next GLM where a new election will take place.
- 7.4 **The representatives of the partners from Governmental Organisations (GO representation)**
 - 7.4.1 For the purpose of this ToR, “GO representation” hereby refers to International and Regional Inter-Governmental Agencies and Organisations, National Governmental Organisations and International Organisations.
 - 7.4.2 Two seats are allocated for GO representation.
 - 7.4.3 The two GO representatives have full voting rights.
 - 7.4.4 GO seats are held on a rotating basis. Each year one GO representative will vacate their seat on the GSAG.
 - 7.4.5 The GO representatives cannot deputise their GSAG seat.
 - 7.4.6 In case the representative can no longer fulfil their engagement within the GSAG, the seat becomes vacant till the next GLM where a new election will take place.

- 7.4.7 In case the representative on the GSAG changes to another organisation, the representative vacates the seat for the runner-up.

7.5 The Field Logistics Cluster Coordinator representative (FLCC representation)

- 7.5.1 To obtain the crucial link between the GLC community of partners and the field level, the GSAG will include a representation of the latter.
- 7.5.2 One seat is allocated to FLCC representation.
- 7.5.3 The FLCC representative has observer rights and no voting rights.
- 7.5.4 The FLCC representative will be elected among the Field Logistics Cluster Coordinators as organised by the GLCST.
- 7.5.5 The FLCC representative can deputise the seat to another Field Logistics Cluster Coordinator upon approval (per email) of a majority of the Field Logistics Cluster Coordinators.

7.6 The Chair of the GSAG (Chair)

- 7.6.1 The Chair of the GSAG is fixed and not up for election.
- 7.6.2 The GLC Coordinator performs as Chair of the GSAG.
- 7.6.3 The Chair function can only be deputised to the Deputy GLC Coordinator.
- 7.6.4 The Chair of the GSAG only has a vote when there is a tie between the GSAG voting members and a deciding vote is required.
- 7.6.5 The GSAG chair is responsible for:
- The timely and effective distribution of GSAG meeting minutes and information related to the GSAG or of interest to the GSAG.
 - The timely invitation and planning of GSAG meetings and phone calls.
 - The facilitation and organisation of GSAG meeting as far as other GSAG members are not providing this support.
 - Facilitating the documentation of discussions and decision making of GSAG meetings.

	Number	Elected Seat	Electing body	Voting rights
Chair	One	No, fixed for the GLC Coordinator	Not applicable	Tie breaker vote
Non-Governmental Organisations	Three	Yes, rotating one or two seats are vacated at each regular election	GLC Meeting	Yes
Governmental Organisations	Two	Yes, on a rotating basis one of both seats is vacated for each regular election.	GLC Meeting	Yes
Field Logistics Cluster Coordinator	One	Yes, among the Field Logistics Cluster Coordinators, as organised in agreement between the latter and the GLC Support Team.	Vote between the field logistics cluster coordinators by a simple majority.	No, observer
Lead Agency representation	One	No	Appointed by the lead agency for a longer duration, preferably 2 years.	Yes

8. Voting within the GSAG

- 8.1 The GSAG aims to obtain unanimity in its decisions. As last resort the GSAG can decide to put a matter up for voting
- 8.2 The voting rights of the GSAG members are defined under §**Error! Reference source not found.**.
- 8.3 There is a minimum quorum of 50%+1 for a valid vote within the GSAG to take place.
- 8.4 The GSAG can decide with a majority of the votes to request a vote from the GLC Meeting. The GSAG will agree by majority on the question to be voted upon.