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<b>LOCATION</b>	Remote meeting
<b>DATE</b>	5 March 2021
<b>CHAIR</b>	Pacific Logistics Cluster
<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Food Programme (WFP) and World Health Organization (WHO)
<b>ACTION POINTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WFP to facilitate flight to Palau if adequate amount of partners' cargo requires transport there.</li><li>• Partners are requested to continue sharing any issues or challenges around transport, warehousing or distribution of relief items to better inform the PLC's support.</li><li>• Partners are requested to continue sharing information on procurement and distribution plans over the coming months so that the PLC can tailor support services as necessary.</li></ul>
<b>AGENDA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Regional Situation Updates (COVID-19, cyclones, etc.)</li><li>2. Updates from partners (preparedness and response activities)</li><li>3. Pacific Logistics Cluster updates</li></ol>

## 1. Regional Situation Updates

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### COVID-19

- 57 new cases were reported in the Pacific region in the last 24 hours, including:
  - 15 cases in French Polynesia
  - 5 cases in Guam
  - 1 case in the Confederation of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)
  - 36 cases in Papua New Guinea (PNG)
- No confirmed cases yet of the new variants as they are being monitored.
- Vaccination programs are underway in some countries such as American Samoa, CNMI, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI),

### Natural Disasters

- Magnitude 5.4 earthquake in New Caledonia on 11 February. There has been no report on damages caused by the earthquake.

- Up to magnitude 8.2 earthquakes in New Zealand earlier today with strong aftershocks. Significant wave surges but no damage reported.

#### **Commercial Air and Sea Transport Services Situation**

- Availability of commercial air services seems to be on a down trend since January 2021 as states of emergency and border restrictions continue to be enforced.
- The shipping industry continues to be affected by crew restrictions. Charter rates have reached 13-year high due to port congestion.

## **2. Updates from partners**

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### **UNICEF**

- UNICEF recently dispatched USD 1.7 million worth of stock from Brisbane including ventilators, swabs and GeneXpert cartridges. A shipment for Fiji transported by the Australian Military was handed over to the Government of Fiji earlier in the week. There are shipments currently in transit to the Cook Islands, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, and Tokelau, which are expected to arrive within the day.
- An order of autoclaves will be shipped from Germany to the destination Pacific Island Countries or Territories (PICTs) shortly.
- The first batch (12,000 doses) of COVAX Astra Zeneca vaccines for COVID-19 is expected to arrive in Nadi on 6 March 2021. Syringes and safety boxes are arriving soon as well. Similar shipments for other PICTs are scheduled to arrive in the coming weeks . Vaccines provided through COVAX are consigned to Governments who assure they have adequate cold storage for up to 96 hours.

### **WHO**

- WHO procured around USD 2.4 million worth of medical equipment, some of which was sent by seafreight directly to the larger PICTs in February. The rest is being consolidated in Fiji and will be sent by airfreight via WFP Pacific Air Service.
- 12 of the 16 portable x-ray machines meant for PICTs are confirmed to have been received. WHO is waiting for confirmation regarding the rest.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) shipments have reached their destinations.
- Ongoing procurements:
  - Container laboratories for Fiji and Niue
  - Waste management system and mortuary equipment for Nauru
  - Infection prevention and control (IPC) equipment for Tuvalu
  - WASH items
- WHO has 12-13 cubic meters (cbm) of cargo that needs transport to Palau.

## UNFPA

- UNFPA's last batch of PPE is being dispatched to eight PICTs. There is a challenge in finding freight options for Palau, where sea transport has been suspended, and Chu'uk and Yap in the Federated States of Mironesia (FSM).

## 3. Pacific Logistics Cluster Updates

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### Coordination

- Meaghan Barry has ended her role as the Pacific Logistics Cluster Coordinator. Her replacement is still being recruited.
- The next coordination meeting will be held on 9 April 2021 at 1300 Suva time over Teams as usual.

### Common Services

- Three common services flights were conducted in February:
  - Brisbane to Nadi (via Pacific Humanitarian Air Service - PHAS) on 4 February 2021 to move approximately 12 mt of UNICEF's WASH and Education items for the Tropical Cyclones Yasa and Ana response operations
  - Nadi to Samoa and Tokelau (via PHAS) on 16 February 2021 to move approximately 5 mt (42 cbm) of medical supplies for UNICEF and WHO
  - Kuala Lumpur – Port Moresby – Nadi – Port Moresby – Kuala Lumpur (via the last WFP Global Passenger Air Service for the Pacific) on 24 February 2021 carrying 13 passengers (10 into Nadi and 3 outbound)
- The following flights are being planned by PHAS:
  - Cook Islands and Niue on 16 March
  - Tonga on 17 March
  - Kiribati (one cargo-only flight and one passenger flight)
  - RMI
  - Palau (to be confirmed if there is enough cargo)
- The transit warehouse is nearly empty as most of the cargo has been moved. Only 15 mt of stock is still in storage awaiting transport to the Cook Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Wallis & Futuna. Once that stock is moved and no great need for it remains, the use of the warehouse may be discontinued.

## Contacts

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