Supply Chain Task Force
Notes for the record
18 August 2020

Organizations in attendance
CARE, CHAI, DRC, FAO, IAEA, ICAO, ICRC, ICVA, IFAD, IFRC, IFRC, IMC, IMO, IRC, MSF, OCHA, Rescue, UNDOS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, WFP, WHO.

Action points
- Members to discuss a possible deadline for service provision and the appropriate modalities to slow down operations in the next Task Force meeting.
- Diagnostic consortium Lead to organize an in-depth update for the next Task Force meeting.

Opening remarks and follow up on action points (Task Force Co-Chair)
- Co-chair opened the meeting by updating the Task Force on discussions held the previous week at the Deputies Committee and at the Executive Committee and about the recommendations received, namely:
  o Convene an inter-agency data management workshop;
  o Carry out a review of the work done by the Task Force so far and look at the transition towards vaccine, therapeutics and diagnostics.
- Co-chair acknowledged the work done in setting up mechanisms to respond to highly disrupted markets, both in terms of demand and supply, and noted that global supply chains are now moving towards a trend of stabilization.
- It was however noted that there still is a need for visibility on the funded demand downturn (also as donors shift to vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics);
- Co-chair invited members to discuss these issues during the course of the meeting.

Updates (WHO, WFP, Consortia Leads)
Supply
- WHO presented the latest Power BI developed to show essential items availability, demand and delivery across the COVID-19 Supply Chain System (CSCS).
- The link to the dashboard has been shared with all Task Force members, members who did not receive the link or have any issue with it, can reach out to the SCICC.
- To date USD 277 million worth of products have been collectively delivered, of which the majority consists of PPE followed by Diagnostics.
- Additional USD 53 million worth of supplies are in transit and expected to be delivered by end of next week.
- The Diagnostic consortium has thus far delivered USD 15 million tests and another USD 2 million are under preparation.
• For PPE collective procured amounts to USD 0.5 billion individual pieces and progression is at around 67 percent of the plan.

Common services

Passenger

• WFP has now operated over 1,000 flights to 58 destinations (cumulative figure) and served 19,000 passengers. The top users remain to be MSF, the Red Cross and main UN partners.

• As commercial options become available, WFP will look at discontinuing some routes. Operations in West Africa are being scaled down, as major airlines operate regionally and as some of the services are resuming. In East Africa flights to South Sudan, Kenya, and a few other destinations have been suspended given the resumption of commercial operators. Nevertheless, operations have expanded to other destinations.

• WFP will start looking at the shape of the operations beyond September, as the service, originally planned for three months, is now on its fifth month and user trends remain high with the number of passengers continuing to increase on a weekly basis.

• Given the criticality of the service, WFP is taking measures to reinforce funding to maintain the service beyond September.

Cargo

• To date WFP has delivered a total of 35,000 m³ of cargo through free-to-user services on 633 flights reaching 152 countries for 36 organizations served.

• WHO and UNICEF remain the main users. Demand from UNICEF has picked up, increasing cargo dispatched on their behalf.

• Currently, 23,000 m³ of cargo have been booked into the system, while another 25,000 m³ of cargo have been communicated as pipeline. WFP has allocated and committed resources to fulfil these requests.

• WFP in concurrence with the co-chairs restated the shift in operation environment and funding and informed the task force to initiate discussions in understanding a cut-off timeline.

• Going forward WFP will need to assess, not only available funds, but also relevance of the services – if markets go back to normal, which is almost the case, logistics constraints are not there any longer, and commercial options become available.

• WFP requested members to provide guidance on a possible deadline for service provision and on the appropriate modality to slow down operations.

• Several participants voiced the relevance of both the passenger and cargo services and the reliance, especially for smaller organizations, on WFP service provision. While the need to start
looking at commercial options is recognized, participants highlighted the importance of keeping hard-to-reach locations.

PPE

- Eight LTAs were established, 55 POs placed and more negotiations are ongoing to establish LTAs for all items.
- The market has eased, and negotiations slowed down during the summer, but UNICEF will continue to lead the process.
- Having many contracts in place means mitigating the risk of running into a situation similar to what we faced in February/March with no suppliers available.

Diagnostic

- Thus far 14.6 million tests have been delivered to 93 countries and 4 million are in transit, in addition, 2.94 million sample collection kits have been delivered.
- The Diagnostic consortia is working towards negotiating and securing suppliers through flexible procurement strategies for volumes for the September-December period.
- The consortium is starting to develop a procurement strategy and product selection progression for antigen – based RDTS – and developed product selection criteria for manual PCR test.

Clinical care

- No update

AOB

- The next Task Force meeting will be held on 1 September.