

UNJLC
DRC Logistics Bulletin # 10
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1. AVIATION

Aviation Safety Evaluation

The safety evaluation of six air carriers (Hewa Bora Airways, Wimbi Dira Airways, Air Tropiques, Filair, Malu Aviation, Business Aviation) by a team of four international experts (2 x IATA, 2 x WFP Air Safety Unit) and two inspectors of the DRC Civil Aviation Authority (DAC) has been concluded.

Initial findings of this evaluation have been made available to the Humanitarian Coordinator. A final report is expected to be made available by the evaluation team leader IATA within two weeks.

2. COORDINATION

The 2nd Kinshasa Logistics Working Group meeting took place on Wednesday 21 December at the WFP Country Office in Kinshasa. It was chaired by WFP. The minutes of this meeting will be posted on www.unjlc.org as soon as finalised. Following information was shared by the participants.

2.1 Surface Transport

Trucking capacity available for Katanga: The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) informed that its repatriation programme of Angolan refugees from Zambia has come to an end. As a result and for a temporary period, a limited number of trucks are available to humanitarian organisations for the transportation of humanitarian commodities in the neighbouring Katanga province of DRC. Agencies and organisations interested in making use of this opportunity should contact Mr Noel Craven from IOM. Tel: 0997017670; email: crnoel01@yahoo.co.uk

2.2 Port Operations

Congestion in the port of Matadi: agencies importing cargo through the port of Matadi suffer from delays due to the congestion at that port. A main reason for this congestion seems to be the insufficiency of handling equipment. It was reported that three out of the four cranes normally operating in that port were out of order since October. Two Private companies (SDV Agetraf, COTRACO) have installed their own cranes which are now in use in the port of Matadi.

New measures come into force: ONATRA (Office National des Transports), the authority in charge of the management of the port has enforced new procedures to reduce the congestion the port is faced with.

- **The port now accepts only containerized cargo; other cargo has now to be unloaded at the sea port of Boma.**
- **The process of moving containers from the port of Matadi is being enhanced: Containers not yet cleared four days after the departure of the vessel they were transported in are either moved in OFIDA bonded warehouses or at the ONATRA Container Terminal of Kinshasa.**

The next Kinshasa Logistics Working Group meeting will take place on Wednesday 11 January 2006 at 16H15 at the WFP Country Office, Immeuble des Nations-Unies, Boulevard du 30 Juin, Kinshasa (Gombe).

3. Geographic Information Systems(GIS)

Within the framework of the GIS project coordinated by UNJLC, three sub-group (administrative division, cities and villages and transport and communication network) meetings took place during the reporting period:

3.1 Meeting of the administrative division sub-group chaired by MONUC on Wednesday 7 December at Villa OCHA.

During this meeting the following decisions were taken:

- The common database to be used by the participants of the GIS working group has been identified.
- Within this common database, specific files have been selected for harmonization. The harmonization will, in agreement with the National Institute for Statistics and the National Institute of Geography, include a correction of incorrect codes used by different actors. It was agreed that the codification used by the Working Group for the DRC's administrative divisions complies with the Decree of 8 October 1997 on Administrative Divisions. The National Institute for Geography and the National Institute for Statistics have made available the list of the administrative entities (from provinces to sectors). The National Institute for Statistics has started an investigation on the counting of the villages. The harmonization shall also include a standardization of data and thematic layers.

For more information check www.unjlc.org or send an e-mail to drc.info@unjlc.org

3.2 Meeting of the *cities and villages network subgroup* chaired by OSFAC-CARPE Wednesday 14 December at Villa OCHA

The existing MONUC database has been chosen as the reference file for general updating of databases. This database has the most accurate GPS reading of settlement locations. Some updating of this file is however required. Once this is finalised, it will be complemented with information from various other data bases.

3.3 Meeting of the *communication and transport network subgroup* co-chaired by UNJLC and OCHA on Thursday 15 December at Villa OCHA

The MONUC data base has been identified as the most accurate existing one and therefore chosen as reference data base. However, this data base also requires some updating which is planned to be carried out in close collaboration with the Office of Roads, the National Rail Transport Company (SNCC), the Civil Aviation Authority (DAC) and the NGO Air Serv. Other sources for the updating of this data base include the Infrastructure Division of the Ministry of Public Works and Infrastructure and various UN agencies.

The categorization of roads adopted is in compliance with the Ordinance N0 71/023 of 26 March 1971, according to which roads of general use are divided into national and regional roads (i.e. primary and secondary).

In view of the planned activities of the working group as mentioned above, it is understood that all their work shall be validated by the involved national institutions with authority in GIS. After the harmonisation of agreed upon data base has been carried out, partners are encouraged to further update the commonly used data base with specific information from their respective thematic areas of work,

The next GIS meetings coordinated by UNJLC will take place by the end of January 2006 and should enable a first assessment of the updates.

4. ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

UNJLC is collecting data on road infrastructure rehabilitation in the DRC. The FAO has provided a file to UNJLC on its programme of road rehabilitation in the country. This document is available at <http://www.unjlc.org/DRC/land/roads/faoroad>

5. BORDER CROSSING

The DRC government has reopened the land, river, lake borders as from Monday 19 December after a closure during the referendum on constitution which took place the previous week end.

In the coming week, no bulletin will be provided. The next DRC logistics bulletin will be posted in January 2006.
