

UNJLC

DRC Logistics Bulletin # 8

December 1st, 2005

1. **AVIATION**
2. **Geographic Information Systems(GIS)**
3. **LAND**
4. **COORDINATION**

1. **AVIATION**

- The Aviation Safety evaluation, planned to start on 10 December 2005, has been delayed by one day due to the late arrival of the IATA evaluators, depending on airline schedules into Kinshasa. However, the preparations are still on going.
- The UNJLC aviation coordinator is visiting the Managing Directors of the companies to be evaluated, as well as the Director of the DRC CAA (Direction de l'Aéronautique Civile) in order to receive feedback of their progress in the preparation of the exercise.
- Discussions with the government of the Republic of South Africa (RSA) are ongoing regarding a possible participation of inspectors of the RSA CAA in the evaluation.

2. **Geographic Information Systems(GIS)**

Data collection to prepare for the updating of basic GIS files within the GIS working group

- The data collection and exchange in the GIS Working Group is ongoing.
- 21 out of 24 organisations have already made available their data. Receipt of data from the remaining organisations is expected in due course.
- During the last meeting held at the "OCHA villa" in Kinshasa on Wednesday 30 November, participants discussed standards to be used.
- Technical problems specific to the updating of databases, were raised regarding three main items: administrative subdivision, city and village networks as well as transport and communication networks.
- In order to handle the problem, three meetings coordinated by UNJLC have been scheduled:

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1. The sub-group working on administrative subdivision will meet at the OCHA villa on Wednesday 7 December at 02.30 P.M. That sub-group's work will be chaired by the MONUC GIS unit.
2. The sub-group working on city and village networks will meet at the OCHA villa on Wednesday 14 December at 02.30 P.M. The meeting will be chaired by the OSFAC-CARPE GIS unit.
3. The sub-group working on communications and transport will meet at the OCHA villa on Thursday 15 December at 02.30 P.M. The meeting will be co-chaired by the UNJLC and OCHA GIS units.

The aim of these meetings is to set up a schedule for the GIS database harmonization and updating, that work will be completed with information provided by the DRC administrative bodies.

Platform of information exchange and dissemination

WFP's Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM) unit and the Regional Post-Graduate Training School on Integrated Management of Tropical Forests (ERAIFT) have proposed to publish some of their maps on the UNJLC website as well as links to their own websites.

Presentation of the UNJLC GIS coordination project at the UNESCO/ERAIFT Workshop on Teledetection

A workshop on « the role of Teledetection and GIS in the management of ecosystems and water resources as a contribution of UNESCO to the reconstruction of the DRC », took place from 28 to 30 November at "Centre d'Accueil Protestant" in Kinshasa.

The UNJLC GIS coordination project was presented to the workshop participants. Collaboration with the UNJLC GIS working Group was seen as a way to optimize and synergise the various GIS projects currently undertaken in the DRC.

3. LAND

Rail transport

A train accident occurred on Monday 29 November, 200 Km south of Kindu (Maniema Province). The train bound to Lubumbashi (Katanga province) was crossing a bridge on the Lufulu River. At least 60 people were killed when they were swept off the roof of the train into the river.

The Railway line linking Kindu to Lubumbashi remained closed during the war from 1998 to 2002. It has been reopened since then and it stands as the only commodity supply way for the landlocked province of Maniema.

Road Network

UNJLC is in the process to gather data on road infrastructure in the DRC, various bodies have provided information. In that respect, a table summarizing the DRC Ministry of Public Works road rehabilitation programme is available at www.unjlc.org/DRC/news.

4. LOGISTICS COORDINATION

Kinshasa

- JLC Kinshasa co-chaired with WFP the 1st Kinshasa Logistics Working Group, gathering UN agencies, NGOs as well as MONUC Logistics officers. The meeting was held on 30 November 2005.
- The meeting aimed at setting up a humanitarian logistics coordination framework in the DRC.
- All the participants stressed the importance of logistics and transport information exchange among the humanitarian community. Thus, the DRC Logistics Working Group meetings will serve as a platform of information sharing. This exercise is a mandatory step prior to taking common actions.
- Participants agreed to meet every two weeks.
- The next Logistics Working Group meeting will be held at WFP Kinshasa (5th floor of the UN "Losonia" building, Boulevard du 30 Juin) on 21 December 2005 at 04.15 P.M.
- The items on the agenda will be as follows:
 1. The set up of a workplan of different logistics areas where agencies can cooperate.
 2. Discussion about each agencies logistics capacity.

Goma

- A JLC Goma Logistics Coordination Meeting was held at the OCHA Goma office on 29 November 2005.
- The UNJLC concept and mandate were presented to newcomers and participants were briefed on the progress of the projects currently coordinated by JLC Goma. The topics discussed during the meeting were:
 1. Air Transport

At the request of agencies, MONUC proposed to soon make available a document summarizing its procedures on passengers and cargo air transport procedures.

In order to provide the information required by most of the participants, UNJLC recommended that UNHAS participate in the coordination meetings facilitated by UNJLC. UNHAS experts would help in solving various issues concerning aviation that agencies are faced with.

2. Warehousing

UNJLC emphasized the fact that warehousing questionnaires have to be returned as soon as possible. A working group on warehousing is to be created, for which UNICEF will be the focal point.

3. Workshop and spare parts supply

Agencies were requested to return the questionnaires on vehicle fleets, required to identify the agencies need for spare parts.

4. Customs and immigration

Agencies have explained in greater detail the issues they are faced with, regarding visa for their staff travelling within the country.

OCHA is the most experienced and appropriate agency to handle these issues. UNJLC presented the procedure to get the "Communaute Economique des Pays des Grands Lacs (CEPGL)" Visa, which allows travelling to Burundi, Rwanda and DRC for 15 USD.

Applying for a Rwandan Visa in Kigali (Rwanda Bureau for IO and NGOs) is the most advisable solution for staff who transit to Rwanda.

Agencies that have not yet returned the UNJLC questionnaires are requested to do it as soon as possible. They can be e-mailed to drc.info@unjlc.org.