



CLRAH
Centro Logístico Regional de
Asistencia Humanitaria

The CLRAH in Images

January—February
2020



The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, for and in Representation of the Ministry of Government, participated before the very first Logistics Cabinet for the year 2020.

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Connecting the World, Serving the Region

THE HUMANITARIAN 2020

Key Interest Points

- Logistics Cabinet
- Disaster Relief Action
- Building Strategic Alliances

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The CLRAH in Images

The First Logistics Cabinet 2020

The Ministry of Government (MINGOB), through the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH), participated for the very first time, as a permanent member of the Logistics Cabinet of the Republic of Panama.

During this third ordinary session of the Logistics Cabinet held in the province of Colon, Alberto Sierra, Executive Director of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH, for its acronym in Spanish), ensured that communication and cooperation with other entities will be strengthened through the aforementioned Center; which will result in less time spent on transport and coordination of humanitarian aid, in our country.

At this conference led by Jose Alejandro Rojas, Minister-Counselor for the Facilitation of Private Investment, issues related with the transparency and traceability of the Panamanian Logistics Hub were discussed.

In addition to the Ministry of Government, the Logistics Cabinet was comprised by State Officials from the different State Institutions of the Republic of Panama, such being the following: Ministry of the Presidency, Ministry of Housing & Land Management, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Economy & Finance, Panama Canal Authority, Panama Maritime Authority, Civil Aviation Authority of Panama, Customs Authority Panama, Department of Transportation, National Secretariat of Science & Technology, Colon Free Trade Zone and Tocumen, S.A.



Port of Manzanillo, Province of Colon

Logistics Cabinet

LOGISTICS CAPACITY ASSESSMENT (LCA) PANAMA

The CLRAH continues with its effort to develop the Logistics Capacity Assessment Panama Project which to date is 70% complete and is found at it's second-phase of Data Collection. This was possible thanks to the effort and the support of member bodies that comprise the Logistics Cabinet Bureau (solely created for this Project), and likewise for the parallel support had from other linking bodies engaged in logistics.

At this phase, CLRAH contacted over twenty State institutions. The aforementioned institutions being the following: National Customs Authority, Tocumen, S.A., Ministry of Agricultural Development, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Public Works, GA Tech Investigation Center of Panama, Logistics Business Council, Panama Maritime Authority, National Civil Protection System of Panama, Cold Chain, National Authority of Public Services and Secretariat of Energy.

The Capacity Assessment Panama project, is to be the very first report in the humanitarian context that will greatly contribute to the development of immediate response strategies. An extensive range of variables have been contemplated, and hence, incorporated to efficiently tackle a disaster nationwide or in neighboring countries of the region. Likewise, the cited Assessment also contributes greatly to reinforce response operations counting on immediate updated data retrieval as an integral prep measure before any disaster.

CUSTOMS INTERNAL TRANSIT (IT) FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

In compliance to requirements specified for application of said new trait, on 23 December 2019, the Cabinet Council unanimously approved to amend Cabinet Decree No. 12 of 2016, ruling provisions on supplies subject to the laws on humanitarian aid embarkments.

The *Internal Transit for Humanitarian Assistance* jointly with said Decree, will allow to count on real-time data on humanitarian cargo movements, and likewise will allow to migrate to an immediate electronic process, reducing as such, significant hours spent on red tape.

The National Customs Authority is amid the process of making adjustments to its system known as SIGA (Integrated System of Customs Management), which will allow to implement these new Customs provisions for humanitarian assistance.

PROCESS MEETINGS

- * Introduction and Follow-Up of the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) with different State institutions, such as MITRADEL, MIDA, MOP, MICI, Secretariat of Energy, MIRE, IMA and COEL)

03, 23, 27, 29, 30 January 2020 and 11 February 2020

- * Meeting with Enot Arauz so as to expand the technical requirements needed in order to enable Panama Pacific Airport to handle humanitarian cargo movements.

07 January 2020

- * Meeting to establish the very first Humanitarian Roundtable through a combined effort from the Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Panama, with the City of Knowledge Foundation.

16 January 2020

- * Meeting to identify investment opportunities for the CLRAH by means of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry of Panama (MICI).

28 January 2020

- * Follow-Up Meeting to sign the Cooperation Agreement had between the Ministry of Government with the Logistics Business Council.

29 January 2020

- * Visit on behalf of the OFDA-USAID Senior Advisor Tim Callaghan and his staff to establish ties of cooperation.

02 February 2020

- * Briefing with the Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Panama, pertinent to the first Humanitarian Business Roundtable programmed to be held at Expocomer 2020.

03 February 2020

- * Business Meeting with UNDP Resident Representative at UN Development Programme, Linda Maguire to establish strategic alliances with the CLRAH.

06 February 2020

- * Meeting with the President of Red Cross Panama, so as to fortify ties of cooperation and logistics facilitation with the CLRAH.

11 February 2020

- * Visit from the Directors of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MICI) to establish strategic alliances.

Meeting with the Executive President of the City of Knowledge Foundation



Governmental Institutions, which are part of the City of Knowledge Foundation.

Inasmuch, the Executive Director of the CLRAH, Alberto Sierra, as well as the Executive President of the City of Knowledge Foundation, Jorge Arosemena, mutually agreed to establish an alliance based on Knowledge Exchange concerning humanitarian assistance and logistics,

Sierra, stated that the future alliance with the City of Knowledge Foundation, will give way for CLRAH, to initiate conversations with international organizations and educational institutions, in order to enhance and sustain updated information concerning transfers of equipment, bare necessities, and the kind. It would also paves the way for a precise deployment of professionals On-Site of the disaster stricken areas.

Furthermore, Jorge Arosemena, shared his willingness to reach a cooperation agreement with the CLRAH, for being the Humanitarian Assistance a matter strongly linked to the United Nations and to Non-

14 January 2020

Action Plan Review with AEC and CEPREDENAC

The CLRAH via Videoconference achieved a technical and operative review of the Action Plans, inasmuch of the Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America and the Dominican Republic (CEPREDENAC), and of the Association of Caribbean States (AEC), whereby the different tiers of action and compromise were evaluated by each cited party, concerning the execution of tasks and activities linked to the integrated risk management system, including humanitarian assistance & logistics; meaning, services rendered mainly by a Humanitarian Hub.

Both work meetings highlighted the importance of these international organizations and their link with the CLRAH and its Users for a greater, better and more efficient operation of humanitarian assistance and logistics provided from Panama to the region.



16 January 2020

The Vice Minister of Government visits the CLRAH



capacity to respond, should disaster strike.

The Vice Minister of Government, H.E. Juana Lopez, paid a visit to the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH), accompanied by the Deputy Director of Foreign Economic Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Camilo Valdelamar and Alberto Sierra, director to the aforementioned Humanitarian Hub.

The tour began at the Warehouse of the National Civil Protection System (Sinaproc), visiting their Emergency Operations Center (COE), wherein a briefing was provided to the Vice Minister about the monitoring that actually takes place there. The outing further lead to the warehouse of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and ended at the warehouse destined for the United Nations Response Depot.

Ms. Lopez, further emphasized the importance of counting on a Humanitarian Hub, not only to benefit Panama, but rather the entire region as well. She furthermore stressed the compromise acquired by the Ministry of Government to create worldwide awareness of Panama's

17 January 2020

Action on Disaster Relief 2020

For second occasion, Panama held yet another “5th annual Action On Disaster Relief,” forum organized by GRV Global an independent business-to-business event organizer with headquarters in the United Kingdom; a showcase which not only establishes strategies to create permanent and sustainable alliances on matters of integrated disaster risk management, but further promotes Experience Exchange. The forum also provide valuable insights on how to strengthen ties of cooperation and assistance from the private and public sectors.

During the event, participation was had from the Director General of the National Civil Protection System of Panama, Carlos Rumbo, as well as from the Executive Director of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, Counsel Alberto Sierra as host for and in representation of the National Government.

The action for Disaster Relief (ADR2020), offers a unique opportunity to key players of the public and private sectors to come together to share experiences and knowledge exchange, in order to develop best practices and showcase new technologies & services, in order to improve the region's disaster relief efforts.

CLRAH's participation exposed a comprehensive presentation about their objectives, and likewise about the facilities they offer. Furthermore providing an interactive visit of their installations and its warehouses, along with valuable information about our participation at the roundtable, which was organized by the coordinators of said event.



Counsel Alberto Sierra, Director of the CLRAH, exposes before the ADR 2020

VISITING the CLRAH

Business Roundtable with the CLRAH



From 4 to 6 February 2020

UR Central America 2020

UR or Understanding Risk, was hosted in Costa Rica from 12 to 14 February 2020 at their Convention Center located in San Jose. The purpose of the conference was to build strategic alliances between experts, organizations, academic institutions and other key players, in order to be able to transition from risk understanding to disaster resilience action.

The three-day programme included four thematic axes with plenary sessions, workshops and interactive sessions that were “crowdsourced”; sharing innovative approaches for disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and building resilience, wherein the Executive Director of the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, Alberto Sierra, participated as part of the Panamanian delegation.



Preparing for the Humanitarian Business Roundtable



The Vice Minister of Government, H.E. Juana Lopez, thanked the participants for their support towards this joint venture had from the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance in conjunction with the City of Knowledge Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Panama.

Through this event, Panama through the CLRAH affirms its commitment with the Americas and places its geographic position and its logistics capacity readily available for any emergency or disaster relief operation in a timely and coordinated manner.

The Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH), combines efforts inasmuch with the City of Knowledge Foundation, as with the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Panama (CCIAP), so as to achieve the very first Humanitarian Business Roundtable be held at the upcoming international event Expocomer 2020.

As such a “workshop” was created with representatives from the different entities engaged in the handling of Humanitarian aid, to promote their participation at this very first Humanitarian Business Roundtable. The prior leading to strengthen the Humanitarian Supply Chain involving procurement and availability.



13 February 2020

Our International Users:

IFRC

The activities undertaken by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) during the first two months of the year have been significant, consisting of the following:

- * Dispatch of 4 High Cube (HC) containers to the Dominican Republic containing 57 tons / 179m cube of humanitarian aid, detailed as follows: 1,500 tool kits; 3,850 Jerrycans; 3,850 tarpaulings; 3,850 mosquito nettings; 1,500 hygiene kits; 850 kitchen kits, and a cellar type tarp, as a pre-positioning prep strategy before any future disaster in the country or in the Caribbean.
- * Visit had from a group of students of higher education in Logistics Management & Supply Chain of the Centennial College Business School, Canada.
- * Visit from the newly commissioned President of Red Cross Panama who availed the opportunity to inspect the organization's pre-positioned stock stored at the IFRC Warehouse.
- * Visit on behalf of forty-eight (48) campaigners of the Action on Disaster (ADR) forum.



United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD)

The United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot, in coordination with World Food Programme (WFP) in its capacity as User of the CLRAH, during the months of January and February 2020, undertook a series of activities linked to the humanitarian management, such being the following:

- * Meeting with the President of the City of Knowledge Foundation;
- * Visit paid by AECID's, Director of Humanitarian Action, as well as from representatives of CCAA Castile & León, Canary Islands, Murcia, and La Rioja, to get to know the CLRAH.
- * Visit had from the participants of the Action on Disaster Relief forum, organized by GRV Global.
- * CLRAH, jointly with the UNOPS achieved an Inspection Visit to the future industrial unit or warehouse of the UNHRD.
- * Partaking, inasmuch at the *Action on Disaster Relief* forum, as at the *Business Roundtable* organized by GRV Global.



Our National User

The CLRAH's national user, SINAPROC or National Protection System of Panama, during the year 2019 -to- January 2020, moved over 220 tons of humanitarian cargo through the country's humanitarian depot; therefore rendering humanitarian assistance onto populations that were afflicted by adverse events.



Humanitarian Cargo Movement in Tons	
Month:	Total Weight in Tons:
July-19	3.5
August-19	193
September-19	4.2
October-19	3.4
November-19	8.6
December-19	4.5
January-20	2.6
Total	220

It is worth noting that during the month of August 2019, approximately 6000 bulks of bottled water were moved to West Panama by SINAPROC, due to the public clamor for drinking water in the districts of Arraijan and La Chorrera, whose water supply was disrupted due to an adverse event.

LOGISTICS CLUSTER TRAINING—WFP

From 26 to 28 February 2020, the Logistics Coordinator, as well as the Operations Officer of the CLRAH, Melissa Sanchez and Yair Torres, respectively, participated in the training of the Logistics Cluster, organized by the United Nations World Food Programme, the very first to take place in America.

The training was aimed at: understanding the mandate and scope of the Logistics Cluster's and to better understand the activation process and its key tools.

At this workshop practical interactive exercises took place with the participants; reinforcing as such, the goals of said training.



CTC in Action: Educational Tours from Universities and Visitors

The first group of higher education students from Canada paid the Humanitarian Hub a visit, thanks to the efforts had from the City of Knowledge Foundation in joint collaboration with the Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH) within the framework of the strategic Alliance being built between both organizations.

The visit was assigned to Ms. Melissa Sanchez and Mr. Rafael Bonilla, Logistics Coordinator and Cooperation Liaison, respectively. A briefing was provided during the visit about all the facilities the Hub offers and its potential; all achieved within the framework between the academy and the Humanitarian Hub.

Subsequently, an "On-Site" visit took place through the different Users' warehouses. The tour began at the warehouse held by the National Civil Protection System of Panama, and continued to the one occupied by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, finally concluding at the warehouse destined to the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot.

Upon finalizing the tour, the Logistics Management and Supply Chain Program Coordinator, Professor Vickie McInnis from the Centennial College School of Business, extended her gratitude on behalf of the Academy for all the attentions received and for having been provided with a complete and accurate rendition about all that takes place at the Regional Logistics.



19 February 2020

Recycling at the CLRAH

The CLRAH was awarded a Certificate in recognition of its recycling efforts achieved at the Humanitarian Hub, as stipulated within the process framework by such initiated. The former being a crucial step forward in benefit of the earth's overall health.

CLRAH's Users, including the National Civil Protection System, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (SINAPROC and IFRC) respectively, have participated in said process. Furthermore integrating the process of recycling as part of their operations, with the notion of converting Panama into a healthier and more sustainable country.



10 January 2020

Connecting the World, Serving the Region

The Regional Logistic Center for Humanitarian Assistance (CLRAH, for its initials in the English language), assigned to the Ministry of Government, was created by Law 80 of 14 December 2017, as a Logistic Platform for Humanitarian Assistance, whose end purpose is to facilitate the activities of reception, handling, storage and redistribution of supplies and equipment, as well as deployment of human resources before national and international emergencies that take place in the region; guaranteeing as such an efficient humanitarian assistance and logistics; consolidating as such the Humanitarian Hub of Panama.

Moreover, the National Civil Protection System, the International Federation of the National Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies, as well as the United National Humanitarian Response Deposit, form part of the CLRAH.



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Preparing Ourselves and Working in Humanitarian Aid Activities

