



**COVID-19  
RESPONSE  
VACCINES**

# UN SYSTEM-WIDE COVID-19 VACCINATION ELIGIBILITY

VERSION: 15 MARCH 2021

## PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

1. This document complements the [UN System-Wide Covid-19 Vaccination Framework document](#) and lists the categories of individuals who are eligible to receive Covid-19 vaccinations through the framework. As presented in the Framework, the UN programme is intended to supplement and complement national vaccination programmes and the COVAX initiative. As such, UN personnel, eligible family members and other eligible individuals are expected in the first instance to receive vaccinations through the respective host country national programmes when available, and individuals not explicitly covered in this document would be expected to be covered by those national vaccination programmes. Based on supply of vaccine and changing conditions in countries, this document may be updated as appropriate.
2. The categories of eligible personnel described in this document are the result of three distinct workstreams:
  - a. A Human Resources workstream led by the Office of Human Resources of the Department of Management, Strategy, Policy and Compliance in the Secretariat, and coordinated through the CEB HR Network.
  - b. The Group of Friends, chaired by the Kingdom of Morocco and supported by the Uniformed Capabilities Support Division within the Department of Operational Support, who made recommendations relating to the eligibility and administration of vaccine for uniformed personnel.
  - c. An INGO workstream, led by the World Food Programme, reviewing eligibility and administration issues for that community.

## CATEGORIES OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS

3. The UN System-wide COVID-19 Vaccination Programme intends to support the following categories of individuals - who are serving and/or residing in the duty stations in which the UN System-wide COVID-19 Vaccination Programme will be carried out:
  - a. UN System<sup>1</sup> personnel:
    - i. Staff members<sup>2</sup>,
    - ii. UN Volunteers,
    - iii. Interns,
    - iv. Consultants and Individual Contractors, and

<sup>1</sup> A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will govern the arrangements amongst participating organizations. Participating UN System entities will include the signatories of the MOU.

<sup>2</sup> Including Junior Professional Officers (Associate Experts); technical cooperation experts on non-reimbursable loans; and personnel provided to the organizations by governments or other entities responsible for the remuneration of their services.



- v. Other personnel holding a direct UN contract<sup>3</sup>;
- b. Eligible family members: spouses/partners and dependent children recognized under the staff regulations and rules of the respective UN system organizations, who are authorized to reside at the duty station with the staff member or who reside at a location where the UN is running a vaccination campaign.
- c. Accompanying eligible family members of non-staff personnel as defined by the UN system organizations' staff regulations and rules and policies, who are authorized to reside at the duty station with such personnel or who reside at a location where the UN is running a vaccination campaign.
- d. Military and police personnel deployed by the United Nations and accompanying eligible dependents (including troops of AMISOM)<sup>4</sup>.
- e. UN System Retirees in receipt of a pension benefit from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) or from the IMF Staff Retirement Plan (SRP), or the World Bank SRP who have established their normal place of residence in a country where the UN System-wide COVID-19 Vaccination Programme is carried out.
- f. All personnel of international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) that are engaged by UN system organizations in the implementation of their respective mandates, and the accompanying dependents of those international INGO personnel, provided they are sponsored and validated by a participating UN organization.
- g. Personnel of key institutional contractors<sup>5</sup> providing support in the countries concerned.
- h. Inclusion of additional categories of frontline personnel remains under discussion and active consideration.<sup>6</sup>

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3. This document includes *eligibility* of different groups of individuals; it does not address *prioritization* amongst those groups when supply of vaccine is insufficient. In line with the current approach of most countries, the intention of the UN System-wide COVID-19 Vaccination Programme is to cover in the first instance individuals actively delivering on mandates, and who fall into defined higher risk groups including UN front-line workers. For more information and guidance on such prioritization, see the [UN COVID-19 Vaccine Occupational Risk Groups Prioritization](#) document, which is intended to inform each country's local administration plan.
4. It should also be noted that COVID-19 vaccines are currently not approved for use in children under the ages of 16 or 18 depending on the vaccines' manufacturer. The UN System-wide COVID-19 Vaccination Programme will only administer vaccine doses to individuals approved by WHO to receive the particular vaccine available.

<sup>3</sup> For example, UN personnel holding a service contract.

<sup>4</sup> More details on uniformed personnel are included in the Group of Friends recommendations, which discusses both in-theatre vaccination and pre-deployment considerations.

<sup>5</sup> Examples of Key Institutional Contractors may include those providing aviation services, key life support functions (e.g. food and fuel) and security. Personnel of such contractors must be validated by a sponsoring UN Organization.

<sup>6</sup> Discussion is being led by a dedicated work stream chaired by WFP under the auspices of the FLOD/Vaccine Task Force. If appropriate, this document will be updated to reflect the results of that work stream.