



WFP Aviation Exhibition

Side event on the margins of the annual session of the Executive Board

Monday, 18 to Friday, 22 June, 8:00 – 17:00

Exhibition Area next to the Red Café, Red Tower, WFP Headquarters

Context

The provision of passenger and cargo air transport services has become a critical component of WFP's service delivery and contribution to the wider humanitarian community. It is one of the most dependable and powerful models of the organization's unmatched ability and agility in emergencies.

In 2004, WFP established the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) at the request of the United Nations High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM). Over the last 14 years, hundreds of humanitarian organizations have increasingly relied on the air service to provide urgent relief to disaster victims. UNHAS as a common service, is an aid enabler that embodies the interdependencies and partnerships inherent in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is primarily a tool that contributes to WFP's commitment to SDG 17, "Partnerships for the goals", through which it provides passenger and light cargo air transport to United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, donors and all relevant stakeholders facilitating humanitarian response and or implementing development projects.

In addition to the common service, WFP Aviation provides dedicated airlifts, airfreight and airdrops in support of WFP country offices and other humanitarian organizations.

The Executive Board brings key stakeholders to Rome and provides an opportunity to create awareness of how the WFP-managed common service enables 750 organizations to access beneficiaries in some of the most logistically challenged locations in the world. It will also offer an opportunity to create awareness about the ancillary services highlighted above, such as airlifts, airfreight and airdrops of large quantities of relief materials.

Objectives

- To create awareness among the Executive Board membership and key stakeholders regarding the role of the WFP-managed UNHAS within the context of SDG 17. This is directed at reinforcing WFP leadership in humanitarian aviation, as the air service provider of choice to aid agencies.
- To highlight innovations and tools that will be driving passenger and cargo services in the coming years such as unmanned aerial systems (UAS), airships and C295 next generation aircraft.
- To raise awareness among staff on the work WFP undertakes through UNHAS and other ancillary services such as airlifts, airfreight and airdrops.

Format

- Exhibition stand with prototype airplanes and tablets to show WFP Aviation in action.
- Interactive real-time satellite tracking system for all UNHAS aircraft all over the world.
- Roller banner, to replicate the information displayed in the lifts during the annual session of the Executive Board.
- Aviation services staff to provide information as may be required.

This event is envisaged to kick-start the initiatives to strengthen the UNHAS brand as well as the ancillary air services provided by WFP on behalf of the international humanitarian community.