OVERVIEW

UNHAS Sudan has established a regular flight service and set up airbridges between Nairobi, Kenya and Port Sudan, Sudan, as well as between Amman, Jordan, and Port Sudan, Sudan. UNHAS flights currently operate twice weekly from Jomo Kenyatta Airport, Nairobi and once a week from Queen Ali International Airport, Amman supporting the humanitarian community transporting passengers and light humanitarian cargo.

A list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) is compiled below to provide guidance on the use of the airbridges and other UNHAS Sudan standard procedures.

The FAQs are not exhaustive and further queries must be addressed to unhas.sudan@wfp.org.

1. ELIGIBILITY

1.1. Who can use the flight service of UNHAS Sudan?

The air service is intended for the use of the humanitarian and development community engaged in relief operations and operating with the agreement of the Government of Republic of Sudan. As such, all organizations registered with the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) and UN agencies, donor and diplomatic missions and NGOs endorsed by the Steering Committee are entitled to use the service after completing UNHAS Sudan user registration process.

1.2. Can Personal Travel be booked on UNHAS Sudan Airbridge flights?

No. Personal or private travel by staff of user organizations, that is, staff not travelling for official business may not be facilitated on the current airbridge service.

1.3. Are National Staff and their Dependents eligible to use UNHAS Sudan Airbridge flights?

No. The UNHAS Sudan Airbridge service will only transport humanitarian workers travelling on official business.

Also, evacuations supporting national staff and their dependents are not supported by this service.

Any exception to the rule, appropriately justified may only be authorized by the Head of UNHAS Sudan or Officer in Charge.

2. FLIGHT SCHEDULE & DESTINATIONS

2.1. How can I access the current UNHAS weekly flight schedule?

The current schedule is easily accessed by all UNHAS registered user organisation Booking Focal Points and employees authorized to access the UNHAS main on-line platform, the Humanitarian Booking Hub or an e-mail request may be sent to unhas.sudan@wfp.org.

Any revisions, changes or extensions to the weekly flight schedule will be communicated directly by UNHAS.SUDAN to user organization focal points and published on the Humanitarian Booking Hub.

Due to the uncertain security situation and short-term clearances issued by local authorities, UNHAS will publish a weekly schedule 7 workdays prior to the beginning of the following month. Bookings are therefore only permissible from month to month.

2.2. What locations are currently served by UNHAS Sudan?

Nairobi – Port Sudan – Nairobi: On Sundays and Thursdays, flight departures from Nairobi, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (NBO) are at 08:30 local time, arriving at Port Sudan, Sudan (PZU) at 13:00 local time. Departures from Port Sudan (PZU) are at 14:00 local time, arriving in Nairobi (NBO) at 20:30 local time.

Amman – Port Sudan – Amman: On Tuesdays, flight departures from Amman, Queen Alia International Airport (AMM) are at 09:30 local time, arriving at Port Sudan, Sudan (PZU) at 11:15 local time. Departures from Port Sudan (PZU) are at 12:15 local time, arriving in Amman (AMM) at 16:00 local time.

Refer to the Humanitarian Booking Hub for the current locations.

2.3. What are the standard requirements for a passenger using the airbridge flights?

To book with UNHAS and to board UNHAS aircraft, valid travel documents (Passport/UNLP) + work ID / Letter of Introduction and valid visas where applicable, are required.

Acquisition of valid visas is the responsibility of the traveller.

2.4. What are the requirements for a passenger flying to Port Sudan, Sudan?

A valid travel document and valid visa are required. A Sudan visa is mandatory for all travellers whose destination is Sudan.

2.5. What are the requirements for a passenger flying to Amman, Jordan?

A valid travel document and valid visa, where applicable are required.

For Jordan, a UNLP holder does not require a visa to enter/transit in Jordan and most national passport holders may acquire a visa on arrival. If in transit for less than 10 hours no visa is required.

Refer to the link for Jordan visa accessibility: https://moi.gov.jo/EN/Pages/Restricted_and_Non_Restricted_Countries_Nationals

2.6. What are the requirements for a passenger flying to Nairobi, Kenya?

A valid travel document and valid visa, where applicable are required.

For Kenya, a UNLP holder does not require a visa to enter Kenya. A passenger with a direct transfer/connecting flight without leaving the airport does not require a transit visa.

Passport holders travelling to Kenya are divided into 3 categories. Category 1, Nationals and Persons who do not require visas to enter Kenya; category 2, Nationals and Persons who require visas to enter Kenya and Nationals issued with visas on application. Process time is 48 hours; category 3, Countries and Persons who require referred visas and processed within 10 working days. Visa eligibility is detailed through this link - https://evisa.go.ke/eligibility.

2.7. Is there a booking fee for the airbridge flights to and from Port Sudan?

Yes, a partial cost recovery of USD two hundred ($200) will be charged per passenger booking (one way), and USD three ($3.00) per 1kg of light Humanitarian Cargo.

The booking fee is subject to change as endorsed by the Steering Committee.
Sudan Airbridge Operations - Frequently Asked Questions

2.8. Can I pay with cash for the flight?
No. Cash payments are not accepted.

3. FINANCE PROCEDURES

3.1. How do I pay for a flight?
Each eligible user organization has a customer account created by UNHAS Finance Unit where an initial deposit of USD 2,000 is made and thereafter ensures an account balance above USD 600, kept to permit bookings.

The account is deducted automatically when bookings are made.

A designated focal point or authorized person may contact unhas.sudan@wfp.org to request from UNHAS Finance, their account balance/statement, however monthly statements are distributed to all users by the tenth day of the following month.

3.2. Which bank should the initial deposit or top-up of funds be made for?
Due to the critical situation in Sudan local banks are not reliable and, in most cases, not operating.

UNHAS Finance requests that transfer is made using the two options offered below:

Option 1: Local payment through WFP Kassala Area Office
- User Organization makes USD cash payment to WFP Kassala Finance
- Bank transfer is made from organization’s Blue Nile Mashreg Bank (BNMB) account to WFP Kassala BNMB account below:
  ACCOUNT NAME: WFP Sudan Sub-Imprest Kassala Account
  ACCOUNT NUMBER: 67370163
  CURRENCY: USD
  BRANCH: Kassala
  BANK: Blue Nile Mashreg Bank

Option 2: Transfer to WFP HQ Bank Account below:
CITIBANK NA
CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHarf, LONDON, E14 5LB, UK
USD ACCOUNT: 13321517
SORT CODE: 185008
SWIFT: CITIBGB2L
IBAN: GB43CITI18500813321517
BENEFICIARY NAME: WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The description of transfer must read: UNHAS Sudan

Detailed guidance on user accounts and/or bank transfers must be sought through the available Finance Contacts listed on the very last page of the FAQs.

3.3. How do I access the on-line platform?
To gain first-time access to the on-line platform a user organization must register with the UN Booking Hub using their corporate e-mail accounts or create and register their personal e-mail accounts with the UN Booking Hub.

A user organization must provide UNHAS their up-to-date Focal Point Assignment Form (endorsed by the Head of agency) with full names, titles, specimen signatures, e-mail addresses, and other contact details in order for UNHAS to record and synchronize its systems, thereby permitting authorized persons access to the Humanitarian Booking Hub.

4. PASSENGER BOOKING, CONFIRMATION AND CANCELLATION PROCEDURE

4.1. How do I book an UNHAS flight?
Passenger bookings are to be made on-line through the Humanitarian Booking Hub by designated agency focal points at least 3 working days (Sundays - Thursdays) prior to the date of flight.

Reservation must be made by Wednesday for Sunday flights, Sunday for Tuesday flights, and Thursday for Tuesday flights to keep within the deadline.

Any queries related to the Booking Hub should be addressed to unhas.sudan@wfp.org.

4.2. What documents are needed to ensure facilitation of the booking process?
A copy of bio data page of valid passport and applicable visa are documents which are mandatory during the on-line booking process, and required as well for check-in protocols and travel.

The UNHAS Booking Manual along with recorded Trainings are available on the UN UNBOOK Hub for the Travel Focal Point to be guided on how to access UNHAS flights, book passengers, excess luggage, cancel reservations and more.

4.3. What is the passenger luggage and carry-on baggage weight limit?
All passengers are requested to have at the maximum, 23kgs checked luggage (up to 2 pieces) and a maximum of 7kgs hand luggage (1 piece only), a total of 30kgs.

Users may book excess luggage/weight up to 30 kgs at an extra cost of three USD per 1 kg. Note that items must be for the passenger’s personal use only.

Excess luggage for a passenger must be booked by the Travel Focal Point during the on-line passenger booking process.

4.4. What is the maximum number of bookings allowed for an organization per flight?
A maximum of five (5) bookings per flight may be requested by the same User Organization and any additional seats may be facilitated on stand-by basis and allocated subject to space availability. The user organization will be advised of any passengers/cargo on the waiting list.

4.5. How can the user organization book more than five passengers on the same flight?
Should there be a special need by an organization for above five passengers to be booked on the same flight, a request in writing with justification shall be submitted to UNHAS unhas.sudan@wfp.org at the time of booking.

A final decision on additional seats is subject to the availability of seats or, approved by the discretion of the Head of UNHAS Sudan or designated officer. The Booking Focal Point will be advised accordingly for further appropriate action to be taken.

4.6. Is there a cancellation deadline for passenger reservations?
Cancellations may be made on-line or communicated by the user organization focal point to unhas.sudan@wfp.org by 10:00 hrs, 2 working days (Sunday-Thursday) prior to the initial reservation to prevent charge of the nominal booking fee.
Sudan Airbridge Operations - Frequently Asked Questions

4.7. When will tickets be issued for the current flight schedule?

UNHAS will send e-tickets to e-mails as noted by the reservation made by Thursday for Sunday flights, by Sunday for Tuesday flights and on Tuesday for Thursday flights to confirm the flight of the passenger and any booked excess baggage.

4.8. How do I contact UNHAS outside of work hours or workdays, for an emergency request?

Requests for a Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC), a Security Evacuation, or other Emergency flights outside of official office hours and/or workdays (Sunday-Thursday), UNHAS may be reached through the numbers +249 91 230 5973 / +249 91 216 7099.

An immediate e-mail to follow-up for initiation by UNHAS must be sent by the user organization’s authorized employee or Booking Focal Point in writing to unhas.sudan@wfp.org giving full details related to the emergency request.

4.9. How do I book a passenger with a special need?

UNHAS refers to special passengers as those with special needs such as a MEDEVAC, a pregnant passenger, an adult travelling with an infant, a VIP passenger, a passenger with a disability/impairment or other, not mentioned.

The Booking Focal Point will select “Special Requirement” during the booking process on the Humanitarian Booking Hub.

After initiation of special requirement booking on-line by the Travel Focal Point, UNHAS must review and accept to enable the booking to be processed.

UNHAS may request additional information to facilitate a special needs passenger and recommends that a customer informs UNHAS, when a wheelchair is required, a VIP lounge has been arranged by the user organization or, other pertinent information, by sending an e-mail to unhas.sudan@wfp.org during the booking process.

There is no additional charge for a special needs passenger, such as a wheelchair passenger or a medevac passenger booked on UNHAS regular flights as the nominal booking fee is charged.

4.10. How do I make a late booking/reservation beyond the booking deadline?

A Booking Focal Point must submit an e-mail request with a brief explanation and attached manual Passenger Booking Request Form duly complete with official stamp and authorized signature to unhas.sudan@wfp.org for UNHAS consideration.

Due to various operational procedures and protocols in place by the various local authorities, late bookings may not be facilitated.

5. CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

5.1. What documents must a passenger show at UNHAS Check-in?

For UNHAS international airbridge operations, each passenger must show a valid travel document (Passport/UNLP) + work ID / Letter of Introduction, a valid Visa where applicable, and their Ticket.

A passenger must report to UNHAS Check-in 2 hours (at the very latest) prior to the flight departure. Check-in counter closure time will be indicated on the ticket. For example, the below flight will close check in at 12:30 pm local time.

5.2. When is a Letter of Introduction required for a passenger?

A letter of introduction is used by a registered user organization to sponsor a non-staff member and whose travel relates to humanitarian operations.

Acceptance of the passenger is subject to UNHAS receipt of a Letter of Introduction signed by the Head of user organization and uploaded by the Booking Focal Point during the on-line reservation process. The document serves the purpose, to replace an organisation’s ID card.

The Letter of Introduction template is found in UNHAS Forms on the Humanitarian Booking Hub.

5.3. When is a passenger considered a no-show?

A passenger arriving late, after check-in closure or a late passenger cancellation or a passenger who does not show up for check in is considered a no-show and will not be accepted on the flight.

No-shows are charged the full nominal fee.

A request to waive the late cancellation policy can be made in writing by the Head of the Agency to the Head of UNHAS Sudan or his/delegate for consideration.

5.4. What happens if a flight is cancelled?

Passengers should immediately contact the UNHAS Booking Office by email at unhas.sudan@wfp.org to reconfirm the seats for the next available flight.

When a flight cancellation is experienced due to weather, security, or operational reasons, UNHAS will inform passengers via SMS and by e-mail, once contact details were accurately inserted by focal point while booking.

However, due to unforeseen technical problems, UNHAS may be unable to inform passengers in advance.

Accommodation and other related expenses are borne by the passenger and under no circumstance are paid for by UNHAS.

6. CARGO BOOKING, CONFIRMATION AND COLLECTION PROCEDURE

6.1. How do I book cargo on UNHAS Flights?

Cargo may only be facilitated for a registered user organization, as no commercial cargo is allowed.

A Cargo Movement Request Form (CMR) Cargo_Movement_Request_Form.pdf duly complete with organization’s stamp and authorized signature must be sent to unhas.sudan@wfp.org. The CMR must be accompanied by a Packing list.

An e-ticket cargo confirmation shall be sent by UNHAS two workdays prior to the flight and/or an e-mail sent to Travel Focal Point and other pertinent persons to advise if further action is required, i.e., customs pre-entry clearance approvals.

Passengers have priority over cargo, unless cargo is deemed to be of life-saving nature, such as urgently needed medical supplies.

All other queries related to the safe transport of cargo on UNHAS, such as, Portable Electronic Devices (PEDs), Lithium batteries, Communication equipment, Medical supplies, Dangerous Goods etc., must be requested from UNHAS at unhas.sudan@wfp.org, for specific guidance.
It is the responsibility of the requesting agency to obtain all necessary cargo clearances and provide approved shipping documents to unhas.sudan@wfp.org.

All UNHAS Request Forms and Cargo request forms (CMR, Shipper Dangerous Goods Declaration, passenger’s Excess Luggage Form) may be accessed by the Booking Focal Point on the Humanitarian Booking Hub.

6.2. As a User Organization, what are my responsibilities in terms of cargo movement?

Cargo packing and labelling, as well as all customs and other applicable formalities at the origin and destination.

Cargo must conform to the description, weight, and volumetric dimensions detailed on the CMR/Packing List to ensure carriage.

UNHAS transports light cargo and the maximum weight per package should not exceed 30kgs unless the cargo cannot be broken down.

Specific procedures for booking cargo must be followed by the requesting organization to facilitate the smooth air delivery by UNHAS under the airbridge operation.

Pre-clearance requirements by authorities for each cargo shipment entering Sudan must be arranged by the requesting user organization. The following must be supplied:

1. Packing list
2. Invoices
3. Certificate of Origin
4. Air waybill (AWB). Note that the original AWB used in the previous transportation of cargo (e.g., from other international destination to Nairobi) may be used for the transportation by UNHAS to Sudan.

All documents in the list above must be submitted through the requesting user organization’s Customs Broker in Port Sudan.

After approvals are granted, the documents must be shared with UNHAS for the cargo transportation process.

What arrangements must be made to uplift incoming cargo?

UNHAS will issue an e-ticket confirmation to the user organization focal point, showing the date of flight and the estimated flight departure and arrival times.

The cargo consignee must be at the airport on arrival of the flight to receive their cargo along with all applicable paperwork should the authorities require to inspect or open the cargo.

Note that currently, UNHAS does not have storage facilities.

7. TRANSPORTATION OF FIREARMS AND WEAPONS

7.1. Are firearms and weapons allowed on UNHAS aircraft?

The transportation of firearms and weapons is not permitted on UNHAS flights. Some exceptions may be made for the transportation of VIPs, who require to be accompanied by armoured close protection team. In such cases, UNHAS booking office must be informed at the time that the passenger booking is being processed.

8. OTHER SPECIAL INFORMATION

8.1. Does UNHAS Offer a Pouch Service on the international airbridges?

Yes. UNHAS Sudan offers a Pouch service, free of charge, to its users. A Cargo Movement Request Form (CMR) duly complete with organization’s stamp and authorized signature must be sent to unhas.sudan@wfp.org. The CMR must be accompanied by a Packing list.

Like a diplomatic pouch, the pouch must be a light canvas bag that contains items addressed to specific individuals/users. Items are typically official documents and light-weight items, not exceeding three (3) kilograms, and is not intended for valuables, including money.

UNHAS will send an e-ticket confirmation two workdays prior to the flight and provided details on the drop-off, screening, clearing, pick-up and other protocols to enable a seamless facilitation.

8.2. Can a user organization request a charter flight?

Yes. UNHAS aircraft may also be made available for security relocations, medical evacuations, and special flights, upon the request of a user organisation. All non-scheduled flights are charged at full cost recovery, subject to the availability of an aircraft and operational clearances.

UNHAS will provide the cost of the proposed charter flight, for acceptance by the customer.

The user organization must submit a request to unhas.sudan@wfp.org with details such as the reason for the request, the origin and destination, the number of passengers, weight/type of cargo, the proposed date and time of the flight etc., for UNHAS review and consideration.

Medical evacuations and Security evacuations are UNHAS priority, and a regular flight already planned may be disrupted or cancelled.

For a medical or security emergency UNHAS will do so in accordance with special protocols and receipt of required documents.

9. SECURITY RELOCATION / EVACUATION

9.1. What are the overall guidelines for requesting a security evacuation?

The authority to approve the use of UNHAS aircraft for security evacuations lies with the Designated Official (DO) for Security; in Sudan it is the Humanitarian Coordinator who will decide if a relocation or evacuation is necessary.

Any such flights will be coordinated by UNHAS in direct collaboration with the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) or the NGO Security Forum.

A relocation refers to a flight from one location to another location within Sudan, whereby an evacuation refers to a flight from Sudan across border(s) to another country.

10. MEDICAL EVACUATIONS

10.1. What are the main responsibilities when requesting a medical evacuation flight?

A Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) refers to the evacuation of an individual on medical grounds from the “field” to the closest health centre. In the current context of UNHAS Sudan operations, the medevac patient will travel from Port Sudan to Jordan or from Port Sudan to Nairobi.
UNHAS Users may request a MEDEVAC for their staff. At the field level the senior person of the organization requesting the MEDEVAC should contact the UNHAS Officer, or in his/her absence, the UN Security Officer.

The UNHAS Medical Evacuation Request/Authorization and Medical Doctor’s Fit-to-Fly statement Form must be used. MEDEVAC_REQUEST_FORM.pdf duly complete with official stamps and authorized signatures, and sent to unhas.sudan@wfp.org.

The requesting organization is fully responsible for the accuracy of statements made about the patient’s condition.

10.2. Are UNHAS aircraft equipped with medical equipment?

No. UNHAS aircraft are not equipped as air ambulances but may facilitate a stretcher. Also, the aircraft entry door is not wide enough for patient/s to enter the aircraft in a horizontal position.

The user organization is fully responsible for the patient’s transportation to the aircraft at the airport of departure and from the aircraft, upon arrival at destination and must arrange:

1. An ambulance, if required at the disembarking destination,
2. Any other form of assistance (e.g., wheelchair), which may be required at the disembarking destination and
3. To have a representative to assist with Immigration and Health formalities, if required.

A MEDEVAC request must be initiated through UNHAS Booking Office at unhas.sudan@wfp.org and if initiated online, UNHAS must give the approval to enable further process of the booking by the Booking Focal Point.

11. CONTACTS AND SUPPORT

11.1. How do I contact UNHAS?

The UNHAS Sudan Customer Service Team will be pleased to respond to all requests or queries sent to the generic e-mail unhas.sudan@wfp.org.

Through unhas.sudan@wfp.org, users are encouraged to submit any concerns, complaints, suggestions, or compliments through this address.

User participation in UNHAS surveys and passenger feedback support UNHAS in enhancing the service.

UNHAS SUDAN CONTACTS:

**UNHAS CUSTOMER CARE & BOOKING OFFICE**

unhas.sudan@wfp.org
T +254 11 235 5293

**HEAD / CHIEF AIR TRANSPORT OFFICER**

jared.komwono@wfp.org
T +249 91 230 5973

**DEPUTY CHIEF AIR TRANSPORT OFFICER**

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T +249 91 216 7099

**OPERATIONS FOCAL POINT**

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