Prioritization of free-to-user logistics services criteria for Covid19 response

The principles of prioritization are relevant only to the WFP-managed international cargo flights between the strategic consolidation hubs and regional staging hubs, and from the strategic consolidation hubs and regional staging hubs to affected countries, implemented under the Covid-19 Service Provision Plan & Global Humanitarian Response Plan.

The principles of prioritization will be reviewed on a periodic basis by the EDG, with WHO defining priority 1 COVID-19 elements. At an operational level, every attempt will be made to follow the below principles while recognizing the need to maximise use of available assets and operate within an emergency timeframe.

The structures and processes that will be utilized to implement these principles of prioritization during the provision of services will be described in the associated operational plan.

1. Scheduling Cargo Flights

The scheduling of cargo flights between international staging areas and regional hubs (i.e. what capacity/type of aircraft, what date of departure, what destination, etcetera) will be guided by: the demand for transportation of urgently needed humanitarian and Covid-19 response cargo (see “Priority Cargo” below); the readiness and availability of this cargo at the dispatching location; the readiness and availability of appropriate commercial air transport capacity. As the demand to move response cargo exceeds commercial readiness and capacity, dedicated flights will be scheduled.

The SCICC will support collation and analysis of the demand data and information from partners, to inform WFP’s operational planning of international air cargo flights as outlined above.

2. Priority Cargo

- “Priority 1 Cargo” are those materials required to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and decrease morbidity and mortality (Strategic Priority 1 of the gHRP).
  a. WHO will specify those materials critical to contain the spread of the COVID-19 (based on the published “Disease Commodity Pack”)
  b. WHO will establish a means to identify these materials across the supply chain (a common reference, ID #, or other solution)
  c. WHO will share a regularly updated list of these materials (including means for common reference) with response stakeholders
  d. Organizations requesting air transport will be required to identify their materials per the common reference (where applicable)

NOTE: In the event the quantity of “Priority 1 Cargo” exceeds available capacity, this cargo will be dispatched based on final destination and an evaluation by WHO of the health response in that location.

- “Priority 2 Cargo” are those materials required to decrease the deterioration of human assets and rights, social cohesion and livelihoods (Strategic priority 2 of the Global Humanitarian Response plan); or to protect, assist and advocate for refugees, IDPs, migrants and host communities particularly vulnerable to the pandemic (Strategic priority 3 of the Global Humanitarian Response plan).
  a. OCHA will consolidate and maintain a list of priority “sectors” for humanitarian, refugee, IDP and migrant response contexts based on existing response plans (as set by the EDG in the gHRP) and existing “sectoral” priorities established by HC/HCTS and RC/UNCTs.
  b. OCHA will share a regularly updated list of these priorities with response stakeholders.
  c. Organizations requesting air transport will be required to identify their materials by “sector” of intervention

NOTE: In the event the quantity of “Priority 2 Cargo” exceeds available capacity, this cargo will be dispatched based on final destination and an evaluation by the EDG of the response in that location.