No.21023/09/2023-PP 2 70
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
[Police Division-II]

North Block, New Delhi, 110001 Dated 29 April, 2025.

To

- 1. The Director General of BSF, RPF
- 2. Commissioner Delhi Police
- 3. The Director General of Police of Punjab, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan

# Subject: Deployment of Individual Police officer to UNMISS (South Sudan) -regarding

Madam/Sir.

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 14.08.2024 and copy of facsimile No. IND-UNMISS-53663 dated 02.05.2024 and travel authorization (**copy enclosed**) received from Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations and Police Division of UNHQ on the above mentioned subject and to inform that UN Police Division through PMI has conveyed deployment authorization in r/o of the following officers as Individual Police Officers (IPOs) for 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025 to the UNMISS(South Sudan).

S.No.	UNSAAT Rank	Name	Gender	State/org/dept
1	2	MUNISAMAIAH, Ashwini	M	Karnataka
2	6	SUNITI	F	Uttar Pradesh
3	8	SHARMA, Rakesh	M	RPF
4	10	RAJNISH KUMAR	M	Punjab
5	12	ARORA, Subhash Chander	M	Punjab
6	13	SINGH, Binod Kumar	M	Delhi Police
7	15	THAKUR, Ratikant	М	BSF
8	17	YADAV, Sushila	F	Rajasthan

- 2. Therefore, it is requested to relive the officers with the direction to report to the National UNCIVPOL Center, ITBP, New Delhi on 07<sup>th</sup> May, 2025 to complete the travel formalities on time and ensure smooth deployment to mission UNMISS (South Sudan).
- 3. The officers may please be informed that he should do online E-protect course before joining mission. The course is mandatory and the medical unit will also be looking for the Ebola E-protect course.
- 4. The concerned officers may be requested to note the following points and to go through the attached documents carefully which contain various instructions/guidelines and activities to

be undertaken by the officer. The officer may also be advised to go through the facsimile received from UN Police division carefully (copies enclosed):

- i. CASH: They must bring sufficient cash (USD) to sustain two (2) weeks during the induction in a regional Centre or the Mission Area (at least \$100 per day). Officer's can't expect to receive MSA on the day of arrival and need to be able to pay for food and hotel. The MSA payments, including the final one are hindered with the lack of required national banking details of the UN Police officers back home. During the check-in, UN Police officer must provide the details of bank accounts in their own country i.e. Account Name, Account Number, Account Type (checking or saving), Bank Name, SWIFT code, IBAN number (if available) bank address, including city and country.
- **ii.** Travel Arrangements have been requested and are subject to travel authorization and ticketing process by the field mission, and flight availability. The travel unit in Entebbe will issue e-tickets, as well as other documentation for the officer and will communicate directly to the officer.
- iii. VISA: Officer must carry valid visa.
- iv. Vaccination Certificate Yellow Fever vaccination and malaria vaccination are mandatory and proof of immunisation must be produced at entry for all travellers.
- v. Malaria: Malaria Prophylaxis is required. Please see the Guidelines for UN Police Officers on assignment with peace keeping operations and the Travel Advisory.
- vi. Fragmentation VEST & HELMET:- With reference to the guidelines for UN police officers on assignment with peace keeping operations and to the equipment list for police officers (list attached), each Police officer must bring a fragmentation vest and Kevlar helmet for his/her personal protection. Failure to meet this requirement may result in the denial of the deployment.
- vii. In-Mission test in Language & Driving Police Officers are subject to in-mission assessment in driving skills. Police officers must have at least two years recent driving experience, and must be in possession of valid national or international civilian driving licenses. Police officers must present their valid national driving licences upon arrival in the mission area., The license should be valid during their service.
- viii. Online Courses: Please be advised that the following online courses are mandatory for newcomer(s), and certificate will be needed for the check-in formalities upon their arrival. Certificates must be printed upon completion of courses, if a printer is not available, all staff may be able to log-on at one of the Mission computers to print the certificates upon arrival (Links given below):

Courses Title	Updated Link
BSAFE (Security in the Field)	https://training.dss.un.org/course/detail/19948 (English) https://training.dss.un.org/course/detail/19949 (French)
Ethics and Integrity at the United Nations	http://portals.unssc.org/enrol/index.php?id=13
Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Abuse by UN Personnel – Working Harmoniously	http://portals.unssc.org/enrol/index.php?id=80 (English) http://portals.unssc.org/enrol/index.php?id=81 (French)

- ix. The Check-In formalities: In order to facilitate the Check-in process, all Police officers should bring the following documents and have them available upon arrival"-
  - National Passport (official ) with at least two years validity period
  - Travel authorisation
  - Visa authorization letter where applicable

- "To Whom it May Concern" letter
- National driving licence with at least two years validity period
- Home Banking account details (swift code, e-bank, address, account, etc)
- COVID vaccination certificate (all doses)
- Certificate of required vaccinations and malaria prophylaxis when required
- **x.** The original receipt certifying depositing of their personal passport with the issuing authority in case of any passport held earlier. They must carry out a hard copy of MOFA and the same passport which is indicated in Visa (MOFA), only in civilian clothes.
- **xi.** Relieving order/NOC issued by the **HOME DEPARTMENT** at the time of reporting at National UN CIVPOL Centre.
- xii. Original Official Passport.
- xiii. Recommended clothing & equipments and mandatory documents as per the list.
- **xiv.** In case any officer(s) fails to accept the offer for appointment, he/there will be debarred for 03 years for further deployment/detailment with any UN assignments /foreign courses.
- 5. The UN only pays subsistence allowance during the period of deployment within UN Mission area. The pay and allowances are to be paid by the lending authority. The officers may also be allowed to retain Government accommodation/telephone etc., if any held by them.
- 6. It must be ensured that the above police officers have rendered 08 years of police service including training period and is clear from vigilance angle. They have to compulsorily get the uniform and bear the cost of uniform from his personal saving. They are entitled to carry 100 Kg. total baggages, including hand/Cabin baggage.
- 7. It is, therefore, requested that the officers may be relieved to report to the Commandant, National UN CIVPOL Centre, 22<sup>nd</sup> Bn ITBP, Opposite Batra Hospital, New Delhi on/before **07.05.2025** to complete their travel formalities before departure to the mission area (UNMISS) on expected date of deployment **(07.05.2025)**.

**Encl: As Above** 

(Juhi Verma)

23093301

Yours faithfully,

Director (Pers-Coord)

Copy to :-

- 1. The Commandant, CIVPOL Centre, 22<sup>nd</sup> BN ITBP, Tigri, Madangir, New Delhi. It may please be ensured that all the police officers during his deployment with UNMISS will wear single pattern of uniform only and an undertaking to this effect may be obtained from the officer.
- 2. JS (UNP), Ministry of External Affairs, Room No. 2029, A Wing, Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan, New Delhi-11.
- 3. **SO (IT), MHA**, North Block- with the request to upload on MHA website.(UN SAAT 2024-2026/ Police-II Division)

# Fwd: India: Deployment Authorization: 08 Police officers on 17/05/2025 to UNMISS

KC

Kailash Chander <maoff1.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in>

Fri, 25 Apr 2025 12:46:50 AM +0530 •

To "Shashi Bodh Mishra" <us-polfin6@mha.gov.in>, "Sushma Chauhan" <dirpers@mha.gov.in>

Cc "Military Advisor PMI" < ma.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in>

Dear Sir.

Please find attached the deployment of 8 Police Officers scheduled for deployment to UNMISS on 17 May 2025.

Best Regards,

(Kailash Chander)
Attache (PS) to Military & Police Adviser and First Secretary (Legal)
Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations
New York
+ 1-212 4909660-217, + 1 646 641 0521

From: "agnessa ryabikina" <agnessa.ryabikina@un.org>

To: "Kailash Chander" < <a href="maoff1.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in">mea.gov.in</a>>, "Military Advisor PMI"

<ma.newyorkpmi@mea.gov.in>

**Cc:** "murat isik" < <a href="murat.isik@un.org">murat.isik@un.org</a>, "hossameldin abdelmonem" < <a href="murat.isik@un.org">hossameldin.abdelmonem@un.org</a>, mugishal@un.org, yenigun@un.org, "ngoc nguyen2" < ngoc.nguyen2@un.org>

Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2025 2:16:47 PM

Subject: India: Deployment Authorization: 08 Police officers on 17/05/2025 to UNMISS

### Dear Permanent Mission of India,

I hope this message finds you well.

Please find attached the Deployment Authorization for eight police officers from India scheduled to deploy to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) on 17 May 2025. These officers have been medically cleared, authorized for travel, and issued entry visas to South Sudan (please refer to the attached list for details). One remaining officer from the same visa batch is pending medical clearance (Mr. Alex Thomas) and will be deployed once cleared.

We would appreciate your support in facilitating all necessary internal arrangements to ensure the timely release of these officers for deployment.

The UNMISS Travel Unit in Entebbe, will issue e-tickets and other required documentation and will contact you directly in due course.

#### **Important Instructions for Travelers:**

- Officers must carry printed copies of their visa documentation and vaccination certificates for inspection upon arrival in Juba.
- Officers and national authorities are kindly requested to carefully verify all travel documents—particularly
  the spelling of names, travel dates, ticket details, and other critical data—and promptly report any
  discrepancies directly to the issuing party.

# **Preparation and PPE:**

We kindly request that the relevant national authorities be informed of these arrangements and encouraged to

complete the officers' formal pre-deployment preparations. This includes ensuring they are equipped with COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as outlined in the attached instructions.

## **DHL Shipments to the Mission Area:**

Should officers wish to send DHL packages to the mission area, it is essential that prior notification is sent to the relevant UN unit. All correspondence related to DHL should be directed to: <a href="mailto:mugishal@un.org">mugishal@un.org</a>.

# **Accommodation and Settling-in Considerations:**

Due to the ongoing relocation of UNMISS from Tomping Camp—where newly arrived IPOs previously received free accommodation for their first 14 days—transit accommodation may no longer be available. In such cases, newly arrived officers may be required to stay at UNDSS-cleared hotels at their own expense, in line with standard practices in other peacekeeping missions.

Officers are strongly advised to follow the instructions provided by the Human Resources Management Unit (HRMU) and other relevant sections. They should also ensure that they have sufficient funds to cover initial settling-in costs before the issuance of their first Mission Subsistence Allowance (MSA).

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation and continued support in facilitating this deployment. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out.

# We kindly request acknowledgment of receipt of this email.

Thank you in advance.

To: UNMISS Colleagues

Subject: Deployment of Indian Police Officers – Facilitation and Clearance Follow-Up

## Dear Colleagues,

For your information and necessary action please.

Kindly ensure that all mandatory clearance documents for the incoming Indian police officers, including visas and SAs, are valid and accurately reflect the officers' information. Please bring any discrepancies or concerns to our immediate attention well in advance of deployment.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

# Respectfully,



 $\odot$  **3 Attachment(s)** • Download as Zip • Add To  $\rightarrow$ 

Annex C DHMOSH guidance... .pdf 135.1 KB • 🗸

MoFA 005.pdf 1.4 MB • ♡

Deployment authorization I... .pdf 243.7 KB  $\bullet$   $\circlearrowleft$ 

#### **United Nations**

# DEPARTMENT OF PEACE OPERATIONS



# Nations Unies DÉPARTEMENT DES OPERATIONS DE PAIX

# UN POLICE DIVISION SELECTION AND RECRUITMENT

Date: 24	-Apr-2025	Ref: INI	D-UNMISS-53671				
To:	Permanent Mission of India	From:	Commissioner Faisal SHAHKAR				
	to the United Nations		Police Adviser and Director of the				
Attn:	Police/Military Adviser		Police Division				
		I	OROLSI/DPO				
			United Nations Headquarters,				
			New York				
			Zanf				
Info:	UNMISS Police Chief of Staff	UNMISS	S Recruitment Officer				
Info:	Police Chief of Personnel	UN Police Division, Selection and Recruitment					
		Section					
		FAX: 1-	197-367-2222				

Subject: UNMISS - Approval for deployment of IND-UNMISS-53671 UN Police Officers (UNPOL) 1. This is to confirm that after careful review of the nominations you provided, the following candidates have been selected for deployment to UNMISS. For planning purposes, the expected date of deployment is 17-May-2025:

	Names	Gender	Index Number	Vacancy	SGF
1	YADAV, Sushila	F	10318188	Police Officer	OPS
2	ARORA, Subhash Chander	M	10318187	Police Officer	OPS
3	SUNITI, *	F	10318203	Police Officer	OPS
4	SHARMA, Rakesh	M	266511	Police Officer	OPS
5	THAKUR, Ratikant	M	10318189	Police Officer	OPS
6	RAJNISH KUMAR, *	M	170931	Police Officer	OPS
7	MUNISAMAIAH, Ashwini	M	10318196	Police Officer	OPS
8	SINGH, Binod Kumar	M	647946	Police Officer	OPS

- 2. Travel arrangements have been requested and are subject to travel authorization and ticketing process by the field mission, and flight availability.
- 3. As part of the deployment process the Permanent Mission of India is kindly requested to inform the selected officers about their responsibilities to facilitate a smooth deployment and to ensure that all required documents are provided at Check-In / arrival.
- a). Pre-deployment training requirements: The following online courses are mandatory for all incoming Individual Police Officers. Printed certificates must be presented when checking-in to the mission. Registration requires use of the assigned index number shown above.

Courses Title	Updated Link
BSAFE (Security in the Field)	https://training.dss.un.org/course/detail/19948 (English) https://training.dss.un.org/course/detail/19949 (French)
Ethics and Integrity at the United Nations	http://portals.unssc.org/enrol/index.php?id=13
Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Abuse by UN Personnel – Working Harmoniously	http://portals.unssc.org/enrol/index.php?id=80 (English) http://portals.unssc.org/enrol/index.php?id=81 (French)

- b). Check-in: In order to facilitate the Check-in process, all personnel should bring the following documents and have them available upon arrival:
  - a. National Passport with at least two years validity period
  - b. Travel authorization
  - c. Visa authorization letter where applicable
  - d. "To Whom it May Concern" letter
  - e. National driving license for automobiles with at least two years validity period
  - f. Home banking account details (Swift code, e-bank, address, account, etc.)
  - g. Certificate of required vaccinations and malaria prophylaxis when required
- c). Cash: Police Officers must bring sufficient cash (USD) to sustain up to two (2) weeks during the induction in a Regional Center or the Mission area (we suggest US\$100 per day). Officers can't expect to receive MSA on the day of arrival and need to be able to pay for food and hotel.
- d). Fragmentation vest and helmet: With reference to the guidelines for UN police officers on assignment with peace keeping operations and to the equipment list for police officers, we must stress that police officers have fragmentation vest and Kevlar helmet available.
- 4. The Police Division wishes to remind the Permanent Mission that incoming police officers are subject to in-mission assessment in driving skills and Mission Language if they have not been cleared by a UN SAAT team. Please be advised that if any of them fails such assessments he/she will be repatriated at the expense of the national Government. Alternately, if he/she had successfully passed SAAT tests earlier, only his/her driving skills will be re-examined. The officers, who return to the mission area within the 24-month period after their departure from that mission, are considered as SAAT cleared.

Best regards,

Recruitment Officer UNMISS	Authorized by: Chief Selection and Recruitment
UN Police Division, Selection and Recruitment	Section, UN Police Division /OROLSI/DP
Section	

16 JAN 2025 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation **Directorate of Protocol & Public Relations** 

Date: 14th January, 2025

Director General Directorate of Civil Registry, Nationality, Passports & Immigration Juba

Ref: RSS/MFA&IC/J/3/DPPR/01/25/25

# Subject: Request for Entry Visas upon Arrival

Reference to the above mentioned subject, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has the honor to forward to your esteemed office the enclosed Note Verbale from the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) with Ref No :UNMISS/DMS/HRM.25/JL/25.005 dated: January 2024, requesting the issuance of entry visas for Eighty-Five (85) Individuals, they have being assigned to UNMISS. The estimated period of arrival is between 10<sup>th</sup> January – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025. (as per the attachment).

Therefore, the Ministry would be grateful if your esteemed office could approve visas issuance to them upon arrival at Juba International Airport.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Amb. Martin Issa Mizani Director of Passports and Visas

For/ Undersecretary

BRIG. GEN. MADOL SAMUEL RIN

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION DCRNPI RSS

# UNITED NATIONS United Nations Mission in the South Sudan



Mission des Nations Unies en Soudan du Sud

visa & passpoot

**UNMISS** 

# Ref: UNMISS/DMS/HRM.25.01/JL/25.005

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan ("UNMISS") presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation ("MOFA") of the Republic of South Sudan.

UNMISS wishes to inform MOFA that the Eighty-Five (85) individuals on the attached list are being assigned to UNMISS and therefore requests the Government to permit their entry into the country in accordance with the provisions of the Status of Forces Agreement ("SOFA") between the United Nations and the Government of the Republic of South Sudan concerning the United Nations Mission in South Sudan dated 8 August 2011. Estimated Arrival Date: Between 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of South Sudan the assurances of its highest consideration.

13 JAN 2025
TRAVEL & VISA UNIT

The Undersecretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Government of the Republic of South Sudan
Juba, Republic of South Sudan



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# LIST OF EIGHTY-FIVE (85) INCOMING POLICE OFFICERS TO UNMISS

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1
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S445220
PASSPORT NO.



10/01/2025 - 30/11/2028	01673714	Police Advisor	India	Kalpana DONG	54.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	01605789	Police Advisor	India	RAJNISH KUMAR	53.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	01672766	Police Advisor	India	Devender SINGH	52.
	O1606234	Police Advisor	India	Rakesh SHARMA	51.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025 MIS	01672767	Police Advisor	India	Alex THOMAS	50.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	01672768	Police Advisor	India	Sreebala Devi BOLLAVARAPU	49.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	01613753	Police Advisor	India	Ashwini MUNISAMAIAH	48.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	O1606233	Police Advisor	India	Sanjeet Singh THOKCHOM	47.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	01673746	Police Advisor	India	Syed Yasir QADRI	46.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	01613752	Police Advisor	India	Nisha JAMES	45.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	O1603113	Police Advisor	India	SUNITI	44.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	U15596327	Police Advisor	Turkey	Esmahan OZKAN	43.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	Z35093565	Police Advisor	Turkey	Enes Burak CETINKAYA	42.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	S25959861	Police Advisor	Turkey	Okan OZTURK	41.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	S21131659	Police Advisor	Turkey	Ali Riza CELIK	40.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	S35903045	Police Advisor	Turkey	Tugrul TURK	39.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	N115041	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Riadh BARGAOUI	38.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	N151097	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Mohamed BATRI	37.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	N165590	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Nader CHOUCHENE	36.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	J591244	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Amor MAJBRI	35.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	J232386	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Mohamed BACHA	34.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	N198178	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Issam CHERIF	33.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	1925723	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Samir BELHADJ AMOR	32.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	H300177	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Mehdi MESSAI	31.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	N263320	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Montassar ATOUANI	30.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	N124240	Police Advisor	Tunisia	Hassene BEN SADOK	29.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	S445145	Police Advisor	Indonesia	Ni Made Happy HERLINA	28.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	S445425	Police Advisor	Indonesia	Yuni MINZURIYATINA	27.
10/01/2025 - 30/11/2025	S445176	Police Advisor	Indonesia	Hery Simon Armando NAPITUPULU	26.



12	78.	77.	76.	75.	74.	73.	72.	71.	70.	69.	68.	67.	66.	65.	64.	63.	62.	61.	60.	59.	58.	57.	56.	55.
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Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Bangladesh
Police Advisor	Police Advisor	Police Advisor	Police Advisor	Police Advisor	Police Advisor	Police Advisor
E00161721	E00159443	E00136715	E001596920	F00000270	B00062242	E00158945
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16 JAN 2025 AIRPORT MINISTRATIO

# USE OF PPE & CLOTH FACE COVERINGS FOR UN PERSONNEL IN NON-HEALTHCARE SETTINGS IN AREAS OF COVID-19 COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION

#### 8 June 2020

# **Introduction**

Personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g. medical masks<sup>1</sup> and N95 or equivalent respirators<sup>2</sup>) should be prioritised for health care workers/carers of COVID-19 patients. Additionally, medical masks are shown to be effective as source control for symptomatic COVID-19 patients.

In this context, this document provides guidance on the use of PPE and cloth face coverings for all UN personnel who engage in work tasks that require close and frequent interaction with people whose infectious status is unknown<sup>3</sup>. (Such individuals could include uniformed personnel, security personnel, patrol units, receptionists, drivers, personnel involved in food distribution, humanitarian workers...etc.) Please note that all task-specific requirements and existing SOPs for wearing protective equipment and taking general precautions would still apply, and should not be superseded by this guidance.

This guidance focuses on personnel working in a non-healthcare setting, and in areas of significant community transmission of COVID-19<sup>4</sup>.

The recommendations in this document should be adapted to the context in which you are working, and you should take into account your local health authorities' advice. Where cloth masks and other PPE are mandated by the government, all UN personnel should abide by such regulations. The implementation of this guidance should also abide by the findings of the risk assessment done in your duty stations as part of response to COVID-19.

# **Evidence for Masks Use**

COVID-19 is thought to spread via two main routes of transmission<sup>5</sup> – respiratory droplets and contact (directly with the patient or indirectly with fomites/environment). In settings in which procedures that generate aerosols are performed, airborne transmission may be possible and this is an ongoing area of study.

Studies show that an infected/ill person who wears a medical mask<sup>1</sup> can prevent the spread of infectious droplets from that infected person to someone else. WHO<sup>6</sup>,<sup>7</sup> states that at present there is no high quality or direct scientific evidence on the effectiveness of universal masking of healthy people in the community to prevent infection from respiratory viruses including COVID-19. However,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Medical masks are also known as "surgical" or "procedure" masks

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> E.g. N95 or FFP2 or FFP3 respirators

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Such persons may not be a confirmed or suspect case of COVID-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> If needed, please contact your local medical service and/or local WHO office to check if your duty station meets the criteria. Further PPE guidance specific to healthcare settings is available at the "UN Medical Directors COVID-19 Pandemic Guidelines" available at <a href="https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/reference-documents-administrators-and-managers">https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/reference-documents-administrators-and-managers</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Respiratory droplets are generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Any person who is in close contact (within 1 m) with someone who has respiratory symptoms (coughing, sneezing) is at risk of being exposed to potentially infective respiratory droplets. Droplets may also land on surfaces where the virus could remain viable; thus, the immediate environment of an infected individual can serve as a source of transmission (contact transmission).

<sup>6</sup> https://www.who.int/publications-detail/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <a href="https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak</a>

given a multitude of factors, the WHO has updated its guidance to advise that **to prevent COVID-19 transmission effectively in areas of community transmission, governments should encourage the general public to wear masks in specific situations and settings as part of a comprehensive approach to supress transmission.** See <a href="https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak for more information.

# In summary, WHO advises that:

- In settings with known or suspected wide spread transmission with limited or no capacity to implement public health measures or in high density population where public health measures described cannot be implemented (eg. Camp-like setting, refugee camps, other cramped conditions) then non-medical mask should be considered for a potential benefit of source control.
- In other situations where physical distancing cannot be achieved such as general public transport, or specific working conditions where the individual is in close contact with others, a non-medical mask can be considered.
- For high risk populations where physical distancing cannot be achieved and risk of infection or outcome of infection is high the WHO says to consider medical masks in these individuals in addition to those with symptoms (source control).

# Universal Precautions for UN Personnel Working in Non-Health Care Settings

Use of PPE or masks is insufficient by itself and should not be relied on alone as a primary prevention strategy. All UN personnel working in close contact with others should follow the following **standard precautions which include hand hygiene, cough etiquette and physical distancing** to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus, including:

- Hand hygiene: Perform hand hygiene frequently. Perform hand hygiene with alcohol based hand rub (minimum 60% alcohol) for at least 20 seconds, or with soap and water for at least 40 seconds. Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
- Physical distancing: Avoid close physical contact with others, including shaking hands and hugging. Maintain physical distance of at least 2m distance between yourself and others, especially those with respiratory symptoms (e.g., coughing, sneezing). Whenever possible, install physical barriers such as plexiglass. Place physical barriers to help maintain at least a 2m distance such as tables, chairs, cordon of areas. Use signs/stickers to show appropriate distancing.
- Respiratory hygiene (cough etiquette): Cover their nose and mouth with a bent elbow or paper tissue when coughing or sneezing. Dispose of the tissue immediately after use, and perform hand hygiene.

# Recommended PPE and Cloth Face Coverings for UN Personnel According to Activities

The following table outlines recommendations related to use of PPE and cloth face coverings for UN personnel who come into contact with the general public as part of their work duties. The recommendations consider both standard precautions principles, as well as specific COVID-19 related masks/PPE guidance from WHO.

Note that PPE shortages are anticipated in every category during the COVID-19 response, and <a href="PPE">PPE</a> should always be critically reserved for health care workers and symptomatic patients.

Please note that all task-specific requirements and existing SOPs for wearing PPE and taking general precautions would still apply, and should not be superseded by this guidance.

Table 1: Recommended PPE and Cloth Face Coverings According to Activities Undertaken

Category No.	Activities Undertaken by Personnel	Type of PPE / Cloth Face Covering Required to Reduce COVID-19 Exposure
1	Able to maintain at least 2m distance from others	No PPE required.  Cloth face covering can be considered for use. (Not generally needed if maintaining 2 meter distance).
2	Not able to maintain at least 2m distance from others  No physical contact with others	Cloth face covering can be considered for use.
3	Not able to maintain at least 2m distance from others  Have direct physical contact with others	Cloth face covering and gloves can be considered as local supply allow.
4	Not able to maintain at least 2m distance from others  Anticipate splashes or exposure to bodily fluids.	Cloth face covering, medical mask, eye protection, and gloves and can be considered as supply allows and as per one's risk assessment of situation.

# **Specifications for Cloth Masks**

The WHO has recently included guidance around cloth masks, though they are not considered as a medical device, or PPE. A non-medical mask standard was developed by the French Standardization Association (AFNOR Group) to define minimum performance for filtration, breathability details of which are found at: <a href="https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak</a>

**Alternatives to Cloth (non-medical) Mask:** In the context of non-medical mask shortages, face shields may be considered as an alternative noting that they are inferior to masks with respect to prevention of droplet transmission. Shields would need to have a proper design that covers the side of the case and goes below the chin.

# **Management of Masks**

Always remember that mask usage cannot replace other critical public health measures like physical distancing and hygiene.

If an individual decides to use cloth face coverings, below are useful resources on non-medical masks:

**IFRC**: http://prddsgofilestorage.blob.core.windows.net/api/sitreps/3972/Cloth\_mask\_guidance\_IFRC\_Covid.pdf

CDC: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html

WHO: <a href="https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak">https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak</a>

For any type of mask, appropriate use and disposal are essential to ensure that they are effective and to avoid any increase in transmission. Pay attention to the correct use of masks as follows:

- Masks are effective only when used in combination with frequent hand washing with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water
- Place the mask carefully, ensuring it covers the mouth and nose, and tie it securely to minimize any gaps between the face and the mask.
- Avoid touching the mask while wearing it.
- Masks should be changed whenever they become dirty or moist.
- Replace masks as soon as they become damp with a new clean, dry mask.
- Remove the mask using the appropriate technique: do not touch the front of the mask but until it from behind.
- After removal or whenever a used mask is inadvertently touched, clean hands using an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Do not re-use single-use masks.
- Discard single-use masks after each use and dispose of them immediately upon removal.
- Cloth face coverings should be washed frequently and handled carefully, and changed if soiled or wet<sup>8</sup>.
- Cloth face coverings should be completely dry after washing before using them.
- Cloth face coverings should not be shared with others
- See WHO guidance on details on how to wash masks

For any questions, please contact dos-dhmosh-public-health@un.org

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html