**Chartered Medical Evacuation Travel**

1. Chartered Medical Evacuation Travel (CMET) consists of obtaining highly specialized medical air ambulance services together with, as necessary, professional medical services to evacuate a critically ill staff member or dependent. CMET is to be used for the most critical emergencies and when commercial air transportation by the most direct and economical route (the normal mode for MET) is not sufficient to safeguard the staff member’s life.

1. All Heads of Office should be fully briefed on CMET procedures, have all relevant contact numbers of medical officers, approving officers, International SOS and HQ contacts and are expected to be capable of acting quickly and correctly outside normal working hours.

# Definitions

3. The following definitions apply in this policy:

1. Destination: Recognized regional centre/place of evacuation
2. Dependent: Spouse or children covered under the medical insurance plan
3. Evacuee: The staff member or authorized dependent
4. Recognized regional medical centre: Regional facilities designated by the UN Medical Director in different parts of the world for medical evacuations from countries with inadequate medical facilities

# Chartered Medical Evacuation Travel

1. Chartered air transportation may only be used in the event of an acute medical emergency, when:
   1. Local medical assistance or emergency hospital facilities are either unavailable or inadequate; and
   2. It is not possible to arrange normal medical evacuations, either because commercial means of transportation and facilities cannot be used or are inappropriate given the seriousness of the case (e.g. in field duty stations where airline schedules are infrequent or unreliable).

1. Chartered air transportation is very costly and should be used very cautiously.

# International SOS

6. UNDP has an agreement with International SOS (SOS), a private provider of emergency services worldwide, for emergency medical evacuations using its chartered air transportation services. A separate and similar agreement is in existence for UNFPA, UNICEF and UNOPS staff and their eligible dependents. The SOS services are very costly and should be used very cautiously. Normally, the minimum cost per airlift through SOS is between US$50,000 and US$55,000.

**Eligibility**

# Internationally recruited staff members

7. Internationally recruited staff members with appointments governed under the UN Staff Regulations and Staff Rules, their spouses and dependent children residing at the duty station may be evacuated in case of an acute illness or injury for the purpose of securing essential medical care or treatment which cannot be secured locally because of inadequate medical facilities. Internationally recruited staff members, their spouses and dependent children should plan all elective surgical, medical or dental procedures in conjunction with their home leave (HL) or family visit (FV) travel.

# Locally recruited staff members

8. Locally recruited staff members governed under the UN Staff Regulations and Staff Rules, their spouses and dependent children for whom the Organization has not assumed a responsibility for relocation to or from the duty station will normally be expected to use the facilities available locally. However, when an acute life-threatening medical emergency occurs, MET will be considered when the available local facilities offer an inadequate response.

# Former staff members

1. Former staff members, including retirees, are noteligible for MET.

1. Headquarters staff members travelling to the field on mission for whom MET is approved are all covered.

# Additional Information

11. For further information on CMET, please refer to the following:

1. [Annex A - Contact Information for UN Medical Services Division (UNMSD) New York](https://popp.undp.org/node/331)
2. [Annex B - Recognized Regional Medical Evacuation Centres](https://popp.undp.org/node/571)
3. [Annex C - International SOS – Alarm Center Directory- International SOS – Alarm Center Directory](https://popp.undp.org/node/5831)
4. [Annex D - Emergency Chartered Medical Evacuation Services](https://popp.undp.org/node/5836)