

AAFI AFICS *Newsletter*

ASSOCIATION DES ANCIENS FONCTIONNAIRES INTERNATIONAUX - Genève
ASSOCIATION OF FORMER INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANTS - Geneva

8 June 2021

Dear friends,

We would like to welcome the initiative of our Pension Fund regarding vaccination worldwide. This information was transmitted by FAFICS.

It is true that for most of us, we have access to nationally organized vaccination (with some initial delays highly reported by the media, but things are now moving forward).

It is not the same for retirees scattered around the world who will welcome this initiative with some relief.

Please note that you have to enter the Web address in your browser if you cannot access directly by clicking on the info listed in the document.

Nous vous invitons à consulter régulièrement notre site https://afics.unog.ch/AAFI-AFICS_News_E.htm

Keep safe.

For AAFI-AFICS, Odette Foudral

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS FOR ELIGIBLE UN RETIREES

“Dear Marco,

The United Nations is rolling out a COVID-19 Vaccination Programme to UN personnel who are not covered by their host-country vaccination programmes within an acceptable timeframe or with a WHO-approved vaccine. Within this context, eligible UN retirees in affected countries can receive COVID-19 vaccinations through the UN system-wide vaccination initiative. In terms of eligibility, as per UN instructions, it is specified that **only former UN System staff who are now retirees and are in receipt of a periodic benefit payment from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) are eligible to be vaccinated through this initiative.**

In order to help our retirees take advantage of this opportunity, **we would like to seek your support to inform all eligible retirees where there is an AFICS about the deployment of the UN COVID-19 Vaccination programme** (emphasis added) so that these retirees can reach out to the Local Vaccine Deployment Coordinator (LVDC) in their country of residence to receive information on what steps they should take to complete registration in the UN vaccine registration platform. In this regard, please note the information provided below on how retirees can be registered for vaccination.

Please note that the Programme is primarily a workplace occupational health programme to allow UN Personnel to stay and deliver on mandates with confidence. As such, active workers in high-risk occupations will be prioritized, and retirees may not have access to vaccine in the first rounds.

The Fund’s role and activities

In order to help eligible UNJSPF retirees take advantage of this opportunity, the Fund is actively collaborating with the UN project team and has communicated with eligible UNJSPF retirees about the UN Vaccination Programme [whenever possible].

The UN COVID-19 Vaccination Programme is managed and coordinated by the UN Department of Operational Support. The UNJSPF is merely a data provider for this initiative and communicates with different entities like retiree associations and concerned organizations to relay information about the Programme deployment for eligible retirees. **The Fund is neither involved in the management of the Vaccination Programme nor associated decision-making. As such, the UNJSPF is not in a position to answer queries about the Programme** (emphasis added).

How can retirees be registered for vaccination

Eligible retirees can be registered for vaccination in one of the following two ways:

Retiree Pre-registration by the UNJSPF:

For those eligible retirees who have an email address on record with the UNJSPF, the Fund was able to include their names as part of the pre-registered retiree population data upload for the UN Vaccination Programme; their information is, thus, included in the COVID vaccine registration platform Everbridge. Once the UN vaccine deployment starts in their respective country of residence, they will receive a system-generated email from the registration platform with a link to complete their registration process in Everbridge. We have informed eligible retirees to regularly monitor their email including the spam folder.

We understand that once they complete their pre-registration in Everbridge and vaccines become available for retirees in their respective location, this retiree population will receive an email to schedule an appointment for vaccination based on priority. At this time, out of the 152 participating countries, 42 countries should have received the system generated emails to advise them on the next steps. This situation will evolve constantly as new countries get ready to deploy and eligible retirees in these countries will receive the system-generated email.

Retiree self-registration:

Retirees who do not have an email address on file with the UNJSPF cannot be pre-registered in the vaccination registration platform by the Fund, so they will need to self-register first in the registration platform. Upon local deployment, eligible UNJSPF retirees can self-register . Given that they could not be pre-registered due to lack of contact email on file, they cannot receive a system-generated email. Therefore, they should contact their UN Local Vaccine Deployment Coordinator (LVDC) on how to self-register; during self-registration they would also provide a contact email address or phone number in the system. When self-registration is completed, their information will be checked for eligibility for participation in the Programme by relevant UN entities. Once the LVDC has validated their data in the system, they will be added to the list of eligible retirees for vaccination and will be notified once vaccines become available based on priority.

Queries

Retirees should consult the UN administered COVID-19 Vaccination webpage and **all queries be directed to COVIDVACCINES@UN.ORG** (emphasis added).

Retiree resources

UN COVID-19 Vaccination Webpage

<https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/vaccination>

UN System-wide COVID-19 Vaccination Programme Factsheet for UN System Retirees

UN COVID-19 Vaccination Programme for eligible UNJSPF retirees

UN COVID-19 List of Local Vaccine Deployment Coordinators with contact details (LVDC)

(note that some countries might not have an LVDC appointed yet)

Signed: Rosemary McClean

Chief Executive of Pension Administration

United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund”