



OUR RESPONSE

Airlink has activated its Asia Pacific Regional Response Plan following landfall of Super Typhoon Rai (Odette) in the Philippines. Please reach out to ops@airlinkflight.org if your organization has a request for transportation assistance. Airlink has deployed one assessment team to-date, with plans to support further passengers and cargo as needed by the NGO community.

THE SITUATION

Typhoon Rai made initial landfall on Siargao Island, in the province of Surigao del Norte in Caraga region, northern Mindanao on 16 December 2021. It carried gusts up to 270 km/h with maximum sustained winds of 195 km/h near the center of the storm making it the strongest storm to make landfall in the Philippines this year. The typhoon affected an estimated 16 million people across the six worst-hit regions, leaving about 2.4 million people in need of assistance. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), it killed at least 258 people, injured 568 people, and displaced 631,000 people as of 23 December across ten regions.

On 20 December, the Government declared a state of calamity in Region IV-B, VI, VII, VIII, X (Northern Mindanao) and XIII for a period of one year. The declaration provides authorities with access to emergency funds and the ability to reprogram other funds for disaster response activities. At the same time, the Government accepted the United Nations OCHA Humanitarian Country Team's offer of assistance in augmenting locally-led response efforts commensurate to the needs on the ground, and has requested international assistance.

Personnel Movement (CIQP): The Philippines is listed under Level 2 travel advisory by the U.S. Department of State due to security risks and moderate risk of COVID-19. All passengers must provide proof of negative COVID-19 RT-PCR or antigen test taken within the last 72 hours prior to boarding flights, and comply with mandatory quarantine requirements. Quarantine and testing requirements vary depending on the country of origin's green/yellow/red status as per the Bureau of Immigration's classification system. More information about testing and quarantine requirements can be found in the Bureau of Immigration website [here](#). In compliance with Cebu Provincial Executive Order No. 49 issued on December 20, only Cebuano Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and Returning Overseas Filipinos (ROFs) shall be allowed to enter Cebu Province from December 23, 2021 to January 3, 2022. More information can be found [here](#).

Visa: Visas are required for all foreign citizens visiting the Philippines.

Cargo Movement: The air cargo market is extremely constrained at this time as a result of the effects of new COVID-19 restrictions, the e-commerce boom, and peak air freight season. As a result, commercial freight prices are 200-400% higher than pre-pandemic levels, and cargo airlift cannot be secured less than one week in advance.

Customs Clearance: Non-government organizations (NGOs) duly registered, licensed or accredited by the appropriate government agencies may apply for Tax Exception Indorsements (TEIs). Items eligible for tax and duty exceptions include food, medicine, equipment and materials for shelter, vehicles and other means of transport that are donated or leased to government institutions and accredited private entities, for free distribution to the affected population or for use during relief and rescue operations in disaster-affected areas. The application for tax and duty exemptions and the registration process can be found online at <https://teslite.dof.gov.ph>. The IMPACCT Bulletin # 1 on customs, immigration, and quarantine procedures is available [here](#).

Air Transportation: According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), five out of the seven airports previously reported to be nonoperational have already resumed operations in MIMAROPA and Region X. Mactan - Cebu International Airport (CEB) and Ninoy Aquino International Airport (MNL) are fully operational.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Personnel Flights

Round-trip passenger flights to Manila (MNL) and Cebu (CEB) are available from the US and elsewhere in the world.

Cargo Support

Airlink is supporting the humanitarian community with airfreight service for emergency cargo into MNL and, capacity permitting, CEB..

For questions related to Airlink's response, please contact us at ops@airlinkflight.org.



RESPONDING PARTNER AGENCIES

If you don't see your organization listed and are responding, please email ops@airlinkflight.org.

Active NGOs:

- AmeriCares
- ChildFund International
- Convoy of Hope
- GlobalMedic
- IsraAID
- NetHope
- Medical Teams International
- Mercy Corps
- Relief International
- Save the Children
- World Central Kitchen

Active Air Carriers and Logistics Entities:

- Cathay Pacific
- DHL Express
- Flexport.org
- Global Logistics Cluster
- United Airlines