Enhanced access to headquarters’ premises for Permanent Representatives
All Language Versions

Access to headquarters’ premises for Permanent Representatives is to be significantly enhanced following considered assessment by the Crisis Management Team of the evolving COVID-19 epidemiological situation, and in response to the interest expressed by Members.

As of 1 November 2021, accredited Representatives of Members may enter FAO headquarters without prior approval, with unfettered access to a designated free circulation zone. This enhancement represents a paradigm shift in the freedom of entry and movement since the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, and will be introduced concomitant with measures to boost the physical presence of employees at headquarters.

Specifically, Permanent Representatives will be able to arrive at and enter FAO Rome premises without appointment, and circulate unimpeded throughout the ground floor areas of the entire headquarters complex. This will enable access to concessionaires and catering facilities on the ground floor, such as bank branches, the FAO Shop, the Eden and Polish bars, and an external marquee restaurant set up in lieu of the 8th floor refectory.

In order to facilitate this enhanced access, building passes of Permanent Representatives will be automatically re-activated as of 1 November 2021.

While the new measures are designed to boost physical presence, activity and functioning of the Organization at headquarters, the health and safety of all persons attending the premises remains of paramount importance. Accordingly, existing related protocols will continue to apply, including with regard to physical distancing, use of surgical medical masks, temperature control, and quarantine, as well as presentation of valid certification at the point of entry of one of the following three conditions:

(i) full vaccination against COVID-19, completed within a period of at least nine months prior to entry. In this regard, any COVID-19 vaccine that is recognized by the World Health Organization, or is under routine approved use by an FAO Member national health authority is accepted; or

(ii) negative test result, undertaken in a period of at least 48 hours prior to entry for rapid antigen tests, and 72 hours for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests; or

(iii) recovery from COVID-19, in a period of six months prior to entry.

Access for Permanent Representatives to all areas other than the ground floor of headquarters will continue to be strictly regulated in accordance with measures announced on 30 August 2021. This includes physical participation in meetings of Governing Bodies and Statutory Bodies, bilateral meetings with Senior Managers, and face-to-face meetings amongst Permanent Representatives, which will remain subject to prior review and approval, as appropriate.