

Hurricane Eta | Situation Report #1

Latin America & the Caribbean Response Plan 12 November, 2020, 12:00 ET

OUR RESPONSE

Airlink has activated its Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Response Plan in the wake of Hurricane Eta. Our team is working with the aviation community to actively identify viable avenues to move cargo and passengers into the affected areas in Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. To date, we've received 2 requests for passenger assistance and 7 requests for cargo movement, and we are working to match all of these with timely airlift.

Currently, a limited number of humanitarian flights are being operated into San Pedro Sula (SAP), and commercial traffic has resumed on an extremely limited basis into Tegucigalpa (TGU). As a result, Airlink may look to operate one or more dedicated flights to facilitate a response in the early days of this response, depending on demand.

THE SITUATION

Hurricane Eta made landfall on Nicaragua's eastern coast on November 2 as a Category 4 storm with maximum sustained winds of 150mph. The storm continued through Latin America, heavily impacting Honduras, as well as bringing substantial rain and wind to Guatemala and Belize, before reentering the Gulf of Mexico and passing through the southern US. More than 200 people are believed to have died as a result of the storm (with thousands unaccounted for), and more than 3 million people have been affected by this storm, including 1.8 million in Honduras. With weak WASH and health infrastructure and the specter of COVID-19 in congregant shelter settings, immediate humanitarian assistance is now required.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Personnel Flights

Airlink is supporting flights for emergency medical teams and other specialized personnel. Those traveling to Honduras and other affected countries must adhere to the COVID-19 regulations set forth by the countries.

Cargo Support

Airlink is supporting the humanitarian community through in-kind and discounted flights into Honduras (TGU, SAP), Nicaragua (MGA), and Guatemala (GUA).

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

As of November 6, the Honduran Foreign Ministry has requested international assistance and humanitarian community support is ramping up. Immediate needs include food, water, tarps and blankets, medications and medical supplies (including PPE) and hygiene kits.

RESPONDING PARTNER AGENCIES

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

Active NGOs:

- ADRA
- Convoy of Hope
- GlobalMedic
- Global Links
- Heart to Heart International

- IsraAID
- MedWish International
- Project HOPE
- World Hope International

Active Air Carriers and Logistics Entities:

- AeroMexico
- AmeriJet
- Avianca

- DHL Express
- Flexport.org
- United Airlines