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航空组织

When replying please quote:

Ref.: NT-NS2-34.1 — **E.OSG-NACC90802 Rev.**

20 September 2021

To: States, Territories and International Organizations

Subject: **REVISED - URGENT Invitation –Virtual Meeting on the Aviation Recovery - Public Health Corridors (PHC) Implementation in the CAR Region**
23 September 2021, 9:00 – 10:30 am, Mexico City Time (CST)

Action

Required:

- a) Register participants by 22 September 2021**
- b) Comments to the Declaration of Intent by 15 October 2021**

Dear Director General:

Following our commitments and agreed actions for the timely and orderly aviation recovery in the CAR/NAM Regions, understanding the critical role of aviation and tourism to your States economy and the criticality of ensuring public (and other States') confidence in your aviation system, I wish to invite your Administration to participate in the Virtual Meeting on the Aviation Recovery – Public Health Corridors (PHCs) Implementation in the CAR Region. This will take place on 23 September 2021, from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM, Mexico City Time (CST) (Provisional Agenda in **Attachment A**). Under this meeting, we seek to continue the support and immediate assistance for all States, with a greater focus on building trust between passengers/tourists and governments on the Protocols that have been developed and implemented by the States of the NAM/CAR Regions.

This virtual meeting will focus on conducting an overview of the current aviation recovery activities in the CAR/NAM Regions, the States status of the implementation of the ICAO Council Task Force for Aviation Recovery (CART), and the discussion on the ICAO initiative for a regional expression of intention to support the deployment of the implementation of PHCs. It will serve to prepare the discussion for the implementation of the aviation recovery activities and presented them to the upcoming NACC/DCA/10 Meeting to be held in November 2021 in Martinique, French Antilles.

State CAA Director Generals and similar State decision-makers are expected to participate. In this sense, we seek to have your participation and confirmation by 22 September 2021. It is important to note that all participants need to have a Zoom account as all sessions scheduled by ICAO are only for authenticated users. In order to confirm your participation at this meeting and obtain the Zoom connection information, you need to register at the following link:

<https://icao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJrcuGsrjkrGdeLkJUEzTVQyvZXwLE95tH2>

.../2

In this regard, a draft Declaration of Intent (DoI) (**Attachment B**) is included (please note that although this document will not be “legally binding” it would be a document to create the confidence of States, governments and foreign citizens so as to have the actions of the NACC States recognized internationally, creating global confidence in the restart of aviation and tourism in each of the NAM/CAR States.

The goal would be to present this DoI at the NACC/DCA meeting (as well as other such forums). Your observations and comments to enrich this document and facilitate its acceptance in order to highlight the aviation recovery activities through the implementation of the PHCs will help create a document that all can sign and can provide the international visibility and confidence of the international traveling community. As you will see, the objective of the DoI is to express regionally the intention of all States to support aviation recovery activities affected by COVID-19 through the implementation of PHCs as established in the recommendations of Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART). We note that over 80% of our States are already accomplishing this.

Taking into account the results of this meeting, ICAO seeks to address everyone’s inputs or adjustments required for the acceptance of each of the NAM/CAR States and reflected with the signing of it by 15 November 2021. The Secretary General is expected to present the DoI together with the Directors General at the NACC/DCA meeting.

If your administration has any comments or observations to the DoI, please provide them by 15 October 2021.

Shall you have any further comments or doubts for this meeting, please contact me or my Deputy Regional Director, Mr. Julio Siu (jsiu@icao.int), or my assistant, Mrs. Claudia Riva-Palacio (criva-palacio@icao.int).

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A digital signature of Melvin Cintron, featuring a stylized signature in black ink over a blue circular seal. The seal contains the text 'OACI - ICAO' and 'International Civil Aviation Organization' in both English and Chinese. The words 'Digital Signature' are written in blue on either side of the seal.

Melvin Cintron
Regional Director
North American, Central American and
Caribbean (NACC) Regional Office

Enclosure: *As indicated*

ICAO



OACI

North American, Central American and Caribbean Office (NACC)
Oficina para Norteamérica, Centroamérica y Caribe (NACC)

Virtual Meeting on the Aviation Recovery - Public Health Corridors (PHC) Implementation in the CAR Region
23 September 2021, 9:00 – 10:30 am, Mexico CST

**ATTACHMENT A
PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

23 September 2021

09:00 – 09:20	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dr. Melvin Cintron, Regional Director- ICAO NACC Regional Office</i> Introduction of participating State CAA DG
09:20 – 09:40	<i>Overview of Aviation Recovery activities in the NAM/CAR Regions</i>
09:40 – 10:00	<i>Current Status of State implementation of ICAO CART Measures</i>
10:00 – 10:20	<i>Presentation and review of Declaration of Intent on Aviation Recovery – Public Health Corridor Implementation</i>
10:20 – 10:30	<i>Q&A / Next Steps</i>

ATTACHMENT B

DECLARATION OF INTENT FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH CORRIDORS IMPLEMENTATION AMONG NORTH AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES/TERRITORIES

FRAMEWORK FOR AVIATION RECOVERY

1. PREAMBLE

1.1 No binding DECLARATION of intent (DoI) to generate confidence among passengers/tourists and Governments on the Protocols that have been developed and implemented by States in the NAM/CAR Regions.

1.2 Today, NAM/CAR countries have the opportunity for a development and a growth that will overpass pre-COVID-19 numbers. Our region is blessed, among many things, also for having the largest source of tourism in its own yard (United States and Canada). Many of the Mandataries (Presidents and Prime Ministers) have already decreed and in several countries initiated through Ministers of tourism and others, large projects, which have aviation as their main support axis to achieve the expected success.

1.3 Data indicates that the United States has 60 million of its citizens who go tourism every year. It can be said that, among them, 30 million travel within this region and the other 30 million do tourism in the rest of the world. However, the opportunities offered by the recovery of aviation from COVID-19 are (and most institutions agree) that the first tourism trip that those other 30 million people make will not be on long flights, but the great possibility is that those people who would normally travel outside of this region would prefer to take flights of maximum 4 to 5 hours. This is naturally offered by our region and each of its countries. This means an initial increase in tourism in our region (there are already several countries that have had months in which they have exceeded their pre-COVID-19 numbers). It is clear that the tourist (of the new 30 million) who visits your State will be a tourist who will return.

1.4 In addition to this new reality, there is also European tourism, in which, according to its leaders, European citizens are ready and willing to restart their tourism in our region, but they make it clear that there must be strong security in our States that can provide that confidence of European citizens (naturally this applies to the United States, Canada, and other States that do tourism). To obtain this recovery potential in each of the countries, unquestionably these tourists and their States need to know that the restart of travel here will be under a scheme and protocols that give confidence in the operational safety and biosecurity of these citizens/tourists.

1.5 To create this reality and opportunity for the Countries/States of our region, the ICAO NACC Regional Office has taken the leadership and initiative to seek the most effective way to create that confidence in the actions that you are actually already taking as ICAO member States, aligned with the recommendations of the Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART). This will be clear so that governments can easily verify such actions and protocols through the ICAO COVID-19 Response and Recovery Implementation Centre (CRRIC) and in which you have already listed your actions.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NAM/CAR States/Territories have been seriously affected, which has also been reflected in the negative impact on aviation and air transport. Faced with this impact, ICAO has taken leadership of support and immediate assistance for all States of the NAM and CAR Regions. In this sense, ICAO established several recommendations, established in the CART Report, to support States and industry. around three pillars:

- address the challenges faced by States and the civil aviation industry due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the immediate term;
- facilitate the restart of aviation operations in a safe, sustainable and orderly manner as soon as possible, taking into account the evolution of the pandemic and the decisions of international and national public health authorities; and
- building a more resilient aviation system in the long term.

2.2 This requires rigorous monitoring of the recommendations and measures outlined in the CART at all levels: ICAO, in cooperation with all stakeholders and involved in civil aviation, should continue to monitor and assess the situation taking advantage of the opportunity to strengthen the aviation ecosystem.

2.3 Similarly, within the Systemic Assistance Program (SAP) of the ICAO NACC Regional Office to support States and the region during these current times of the COVID-19 pandemic, and mainly in their reboot, recovery and resilience of aviation, the following most relevant actions have been achieved:

- a) assistance, guidance and support have been provided to States on the implementation of CART measures, regional agreements for air travel through the COVID-19 pandemic and a strategy for the recovery of aviation in the NAM/CAR, updated to 16 June 2020, in line with CART recommendations
- b) the supply of ICAO Implementation Packages (iPacks) to States, carrying out iPacks on Safety, Aviation Security, Facilitation, Airport Operations Restart and now iPacks on the implementation of Public Health Corridors (PHC).

2.4 In response to the global crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the States that sign this DECLARATION of Intent (hereinafter referred to as the Parties) have demonstrated their interest in establishing PHC, expressing their commitment to establish a framework of commonly agreed measures for safe air travel between the Parties.

3. INTENT

3.1 Taking into account the strong air transport ties that support trade, tourism, investment, as well as human and commercial partnerships between the Parties and the serious impact of the COVID-19 crisis on these, the Parties have resolved to take advantage of mutual trust in the respective risk management frameworks for public health in order to restore economic and human flows for the benefit of its citizens and residents. Recognizing the unprecedented nature of the situation, the Parties wish to express their interest in concluding this Agreement of Parties on an exceptional and temporary basis for a limited time as necessary between the participating States.

4. APPLICABILITY

4.1 The requirements and base agreements for the implementation of the PHCs are evidenced and updated by each State in the region through the secure portal of the ICAO CRRIC. Taking into account that the States must update the information on the mitigation measures adopted in the CRICC, the information will allow monitoring the implementation of the PHC in the CAR region.

5. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INDICATORS

5.1 The signatory Parties agree to mutually recognize their epidemiological situations, as a precondition for the validity of this DECLARATION of Intent, by defining a Disease Translocation Risk Level (DTRL) according to the parameters established in Doc 10152 - *ICAO Manual on Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures*.

6. REQUIREMENTS OF THE PASSENGERS

6.1 To facilitate the implementation of PHC in the CAR Region and pursuant to this DECLARATION of Intent, all passengers who meet the requirements described in the **Appendix** to this DECLARATION will be eligible to travel under this PHC regardless of their nationality. and the purpose of your trip.

6.2 Likewise, travelers are also obliged to comply with the entry and visa requirements in force in the States involved in this DECLARATION.

7. MULTILEVEL RISK MITIGATION

7.1 To prevent the transmission of COVID-19 disease during air transport, the Parties agree to follow a multi-level risk mitigation strategy as described in ICAO Doc 10152 - *ICAO Manual on Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures*.

7.2 Notwithstanding specific measures, the Parties shall ensure that appropriate risk mitigation measures of general application are applied with respect to the following:

- Public education
- General hygiene
- Physical distancing
- Face covers and medical masks

7.3 Nothing in this DECLARATION of Intent shall exempt eligible travelers from the obligation to comply with the requirements of the mitigation measures for public health risks in force in the country of destination or connection. The Parties shall adopt reasonable measures to inform eligible travelers of said measures, which may include the prohibition of meetings, or the mandatory use of mandatory face covers, among others.

8. COORDINATION MECHANISMS

8.1 The Parties agree to establish a PHC Coordination Group integrated by a multidisciplinary team (Focal points) designated by each Party.

8.2 The focal points will coordinate with the local health authority and with other authorities involved, and will serve as a fundamental point of contact for the other Party on issues related to the management of this agreement and the timely and accurate exchange of data on the health situation.

9. AMENDMENTS

9.1 This DECLARATION will be amended by mutual consent between the Parties, which must be expressed in writing; The DECLARATION will be understood to be amended once the last confirmation of the Parties regarding the proposed amendment is received, which will enter into force.

10. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

10.1 Any controversy or dispute that arises between the Parties to this DECLARATION of Intent will be addressed in consultations and in the spirit of goodwill of the parties.

11. TERMINATION AND SUSPENSION

11.1 This DECLARATION of Interest will cease its effects by the simple will of the Parties and / or when the conditions that gave rise to it are extinguished.

12. ADHERENCE OF OTHER STATES

12.1 This DECLARATION of Intent will be permanently open for signature by other member States of the NAM and CAR Region of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). This accession will be verified by sending an official letter by e-mail addressed to the ICAO North American, Central American and Caribbean Regional Office (NACC), which will notify the other subscribing States of this adherence.

13. ENTRY INTO FORCE

13.1 This DECLARATION of Intent will apply from the date of signature by each of the Parties.

Drafted in _____ on _____ 2021.

14. AUTHORITIES SIGNING THE DECLARATION OF INTENT:

14.1 The ICAO NACC Regional Office and the Directors of Civil Aviation of the NAM/CAR States join in this DECLARATION of Intent as indicated by the signature of their duly authorized representatives:

[Civil Aviation Authority ...]

[Civil Aviation Authority ...]

[Name]
State Director General

[Name]
State Director General

[Civil Aviation Authority ...]

[Civil Aviation Authority ...]

[Name]
State Director General

[Name]
State Director General

[Civil Aviation Authority ...]

[Civil Aviation Authority ...]

[Name]
State Director General

[Name]
State Director General

ICAO NACC Regional Office

Melvin Cintron
Regional Director

— END —