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Ref.:   AN 5/28-21/8   29 January 2021

Subject: COVID-19 Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures

Action required: Complete the online survey on COVID-19 Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures no later than 21 February 2021

Sir/Madam,

1.   I have the honour to inform you that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) commenced Phase III of the Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) activities on 19 January 2021.

2.   The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a significant impact on air transport with the challenge of global distribution and transport of vaccines by air. Following the implementation of the ICAO *Manual on Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures* (Doc 10152, Electronic Bulletin 2020/62 published on 23 November 2020, refers), the ICAO Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) has developed a follow up survey of the first survey on testing and quarantine practices conducted in October 2020 (State Letter AN 5/28-20/97 published on 23 September 2020, refers).

3.   The objective of this survey is to obtain information regarding States' COVID-19 public health measures for purposes of providing information to CART Phase III and for the review and update of guidance provided in Doc 10152.

4.   Member States are requested to provide information about their current COVID-19 testing and cross-border risk management measures. The online survey, in English only, is available at the following link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/capsca-covid-testing-2021.

5.   The survey may also be completed using the attached form, responses of which should be returned by email to MED@icao.int. States are further requested to share available high-level unidentified information on testing results with ICAO by sending it to MED@icao.int.

6.   Pursuant to the above, I would be grateful if your Administration would encourage the completion of the online survey in consultation with relevant stakeholders, as soon as possible, but no later than **21 February 2021**.

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

Fang Liu
Secretary General

Enclosure:
    COVID-19 Testing and Cross-border
    Risk Management Measures

COVID-19 TESTING AND CROSS-BORDER
RISK MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Objective

Under the framework of the Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) programme, ICAO is requesting Member States to provide information about their current COVID-19 testing, quarantine and Public Health Corridor (PHC) practices. The responses to this survey will be used to provide information to the Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) Phase III and to update guidance material in the ICAO *Manual on Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures* (Doc 10152) ([ICAO Manuals](#)). States are further requested to share available high-level unidentified information on testing results with ICAO by sending it to MED@icao.int.

State:
Compiled by:
Entity: (e.g. CAA, PHA, other)

Questions 1- 3 below relate to risk management strategy

Q1: Which national departments collaborate with the Civil Aviation Authority in determining the national COVID-19 strategy pertaining to the aviation sector? Choose all applicable options.

Executive decision by President/ Prime Minister
Department/Ministry of Transport
Department/Ministry of Health
Department/Ministry of Customs and Immigration
Department/Ministry of Home Affairs
Department/Ministry of Foreign/International Affairs/ Relations
Civil Aviation Autority only
Other (specify)

Q2: Which of the methods below do you use to share information regarding your risk management measures with other States? Choose all applicable options.

Regular communication with States, including channels through existing air service agreements
Communication through diplomatic representations between States
Communication by means of regional frameworks
Communication with ICAO Regional Office
Use of COVID-19 specific agreements e.g. PHCs, travel bubbles, health corridors, air bridges etc.
Updating the ICAO COVID-19 Response and Recovery Implementation Centre (CRRIC) website
Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP)
Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC)
Notice to Airmen (NOTAM)
Other (specify)

Q3:   As of today, which of the following cross-border measures apply? Choose all applicable options.

Borders completely closed for all incoming and outgoing travel, with some exemptions
Borders completely closed for all incoming travel, with some exemptions
Borders open for all essential services, but closed for non-essential travel
Borders open for **some** essential services, but closed for non-essential travel
Borders closed for some flights from specified points of origin
Partially open (only returning citizens, returning residents, or by **special individual** exception)
Partially open (citizens, residents and **specific group exemptions** e.g. essential workers, students, etc.)
Open (no formal restrictions on entry by air, but specific travel policies in place e.g. mandatory testing or quarantines upon arrival)
Open (no restrictions)
Other comments

Notes:
1. **Please provide source to be accessed to provide most up-to-date information in terms of cross border measures, including website if applicable.**

2. **Do you expect changes to these requirements within the next 4 weeks? Please explain.**

3. **Please continue with questionnaire even though borders might be closed. In this case, provide answers as to which factors are being considered to open borders.**

Questions 4 - 13 below relate to passengers

Q4: Does your State currently require mandatory pre-travel COVID-19 testing in the country of departure?

No
Yes
Yes, but with exceptions (list)

Q5: If pre-departure testing is required, what type of COVID-19 test is required? Choose all applicable options.

Pre-travel PCR or other molecular test, 48 hours or less prior to departure
Pre-travel PCR or other molecular test, 72 hours or less prior to departure
Pre-travel PCR or other molecular test, more than 72 hours prior to departure
Pre-boarding antigen test, less than 4 hours prior to departure
Pre-travel antigen test, up to 4 hours prior to departure
Pre-travel antigen test, up to 48 hours prior to departure
Pre-travel antigen test, up to 72 hours prior to departure
Pre-travel antigen test, more than 72 hours prior to departure
Pre-boarding antibody test, less than 4 hours prior to departure
Pre-travel antibody test, up to 48 hours prior to departure
Pre-travel antibody test, up to72 hours prior to departure
Pre-travel antibody test, more than 72 hours prior to departure
If previous positive test or false positive test, proof of test and documentary evidence of having recovered
Either PCR or antigen test (specify time requirement)
Other (specify)

Q6: Does your State currently require mandatory COVID-19 testing post-arrival?

Yes – go to Q7
Yes, but with exceptions (list)
No – go to Q8

Q7: If testing is required post arrival, what type of COVID-19 test is required? Choose all applicable options.

Single PCR or molecular test (on the day of arrival)
Single PCR or molecular test (4 days after arrival)
Single PCR or molecular test (5 days after arrival)
Single PCR or molecular test (7 days after arrival)
Two PCR or molecular test (on the day of arrival and 4 days after arrival)
Single rapid antigen test (on the day of arrival)
Single rapid antigen test (4 days after arrival)
Single rapid antigen test (5 days after arrival)
Single rapid antigen test (7 days after arrival)
Two rapid antigen tests (on the day of arrival and 4 days after arrival)
Either PCR or antigen test (specify time requirement)
Other (specify)

Q8: If testing is not required due to practical considerations, what are these challenges? Choose all applicable challenges.

Absence of agreed protocols
Inadequate local infrastructure
Availability of tests
Insufficient public health capacity e.g. shortage of personnel
Inability to validate tests
Other challenges (specify)

Q9: Is mandatory <u>quarantine</u> part of the State's COVID-19 risk management strategy? Choose all applicable options.

No (test result not required)
No, upon proof on negative pre-departure test
No, if immediate post-arrival test is negative
Yes, 4-5 days if day 5 post arrival test is negative
Yes, less than 7 days (test result not required)
Yes, up to 7 days if day 7 post arrival test is negative
Yes, 7 – 10 days (test result not required)
Yes, up to 10 days if day10 post arrival test is negative
Yes, 10 - 14 days (test result not required)
Yes, more than 14 days (test result not required)
Yes, up to 7 days despite proof of negative test on arrival
Yes, up to 10 days despite proof of negative test on arrival
Yes, up to 14 days despite proof of negative test on arrival
Other (specify)

Q10: Is mandatory <u>self-isolation</u> part of the State's COVID-19 risk management strategy?

No (test result not required)
No, upon proof on negative pre-departure test
No, if immediate post-arrival test is negative
Yes, 4-5 days if day 5 post arrival test is negative
Yes, less than 7 days (test result not required)
Yes, up to 7 days if day 7 post arrival test is negative
Yes, 7 – 10 days (test result not required)
Yes, up to 10 days if day 10 post arrival test is negative
Yes, 10 - 14 days (test result not required)
Yes, more than 14 days (test result not required)
Yes, up to 7 days despite proof of negative test on arrival
Yes, up to 10 days despite proof of negative test on arrival
Yes, up to 14 days despite proof of negative test on arrival
Other (specify)

Q11: Where and which type of quarantine or self-isolation is required?

State-assigned facility with supervision
Hotel with supervision
Home with supervision
Hotel – no state supervision
Home – no state supervision
Other (specify)

Q12. If supervision is required, what does it include?

Supervision not required
Reporting by the traveler
Telephone calls from State officials
Scheduled visits from State officials
Random visits from State officials
Tracking through mobile applications e.g. ArriveCan
Other (specify)

Q13. Are there additional requirements apart from the stated time frame for release from quarantine e.g. early release or release at the end of the period?

No
Yes, one negative PCR or molecular test
Yes, one negative antigen test
Yes, two negative antigen tests 24 hours apart
Yes, two PCR or molecular tests days apart
Other (specify)

Questions 14 -15 below relate to aviation personnel

Q14: Are aviation personnel subjected to the same requirements as passengers?

Yes
No, pre-departure testing and post arrival testing only at home base
No, not necessary to repeat testing if PCR test within the last 72 hours was negative
No, mandatory quarantine only for the duration of the layover
No, quarantine on arrival can be applied upon direction of employer
No, quarantine for short turn-around flights are allowed on aircraft (specify duration)
Other (specify)

Q15: Choose all of the below statements that the national aviation authority considers should be applicable to aviation personnel:

Some categories of aviation personnel should be considered as essential/key/critical positions
There should be a standardized global protocol for such categories of personnel in terms of testing and quarantine requirements
Such categories should be considered for priority vaccination to ensure continuation of essential services e.g. transportation of vaccines
Vaccination should not be mandatory for aviation personnel
Specify type of aviation personnel to be considered as essential/key/critical positions

Questions 16 -20 below relate to implementation of the ICAO *Manual on Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures* (Doc 10152) and Public Health Corridors (PHC)

Q16: Did your State consider the guidance provided in the ICAO *Manual on Testing and Cross-border Risk Management Measures* (Doc 10152)?

No
Yes, but it has not yet been implemented
Yes, in process of implementation
Yes, but not suitable for implementation
If considered to be not suitable, specify reasons
Suggestions for improvement of the guidance material

Q17: Has your State implemented travel corridors[1] with other countries?
No
Currently under discussion
Yes (specify)

Q18: Is your State aware of the COVID-19 specific PHC guidance material and tools published on the ICAO CAPSCA website (Public Health Corridor (PHC) Implementation (icao.int)**?**

No
Yes, but it has not yet been implemented

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[1] A "travel corridor" or "Public Health Corridor" in ICAO documents is formed when two or more States agree to mutually recognize the implemented public health mitigation measures on one or more routes between their States within the objective, inter alia, to alleviate risk mitigation measures such as quarantine.

Yes, in process of implementation
Yes, but not suitable for implementation
If considered to be not suitable, specify challenges:
Specify which material and tools are considered to be helpful
Other comments

Q19: Is your State interested in obtaining the ICAO *Establishing a Public Health Corridor* **Implementation Package (PHC iPack) to assist with implementation?**

Yes
No
Not aware of the PHC iPack
Aware of the PHC iPack, but not interested (specify why)
Other comments

Q20. What other assistance would your State be interested in to manage the COVID-19 pandemic?

CAPSCA technical assistance (virtual)
CAPSCA technical assistance (physical visit if travel restrictions allow it)
Additional targeted training (specify)
Other (specify)

— END —