

READINESS OF MALAYSIA AIRPORTS (AERODROME OPERATOR)

ON COLLABORATION ARRANGEMENT FOR
THE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS IN CIVIL AVIATION

Airports in Malaysia that are operated, managed and developed by Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd





INTEGRATED COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Airport Emergency Plan (AEP)

In the event of an aircraft accident/incident, the primary objective is to save lives

AEP Section 9: Malaysia Airports Integrated Communicable Diseases Preparedness Plan

Objective: To provide a preparedness and response plan for communicable diseases to ensure timely and coordinated inter-sectorial and inter-agencies actions in reducing the morbidity, mortality, social and economic disruption.





Integrated Communicable Diseases Preparedness Plan Committee Members are the Airport Emergency Committee;

- Malaysia Airports (Aerodrome Operator)
- DCA
- Medical Department
- Royal Malaysian Police
- Town Brigade
- Royal Malaysian Air Force
- Civil defense department
- Royal Customs
- Meteorological Dept.
- National Disaster Management Agency (Prime Minister's Dept.)
- Airlines
- Aircraft operators
- Ground handlers
- Postal services
- Electricity Supplying Corporation
- etc.



Roles of Communicable Diseases Committee Members

- Coordinate, implement and monitor the communicable diseases actions plan;
- Provide appropriate, timely, authoritative and up to date information to any dept. or agencies concerned as required;
- Ensure that the essential health services and other services are maintained, and to minimize the disruption of normal daily life;
- Handle and manage ill or sick travelers;
- Communicate effectively with the passengers, crew, airport staff, airport users, public and media.
- Decision on the "Activation" and "Termination" of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) when advised by the Ministry of Health.
- Ensure that the airport operations is not disrupted;
- Record and report the chronology of the events.

ROLES OF AERODROME OPERATOR

Roles of Malaysia Airports as an Aerodrome Operator

- Establish the Integrated Communicable Diseases Preparedness Plan, present to all stakeholders and CA authority, and distribute to all crisis management team;
- Provide and maintain the EOC room with complete facilities, and activate the EOC whenever advised by the Ministry of Health;
- Provide a suitable location for entry and exit screening point, wash rooms, aircraft parking bay,
 boarding gates and arrival gates;
- Provide the required SOPs, guidelines, procedures, etc.;
- Joint media release with the Ministry of Health;
- Take the necessary actions as per our own SOP/procedures;
- Ensure that the airport operations is not disrupted;
- Record and report the chronology of the events.



ROLES OF AIRPORT HEALTH OFFICE

Roles of Airport Health Office as stated in the AEP

- Advise the Airport Manager to activate the EOC;
- Activate the Airport Health Office Operations Room;
- Provide travel advise to the travelers, airport staff, airport users and public;
- Run the entry and exit screening as advised by the Ministry of Health;
- Supervise the airlines/ground handlers on disinfection of aircraft with suspected or probable case;
- Disinfection of ambulance, rooms, equipment and other items/facilities/equipment that are exposed or in contact with the suspected or probable case;
- Provide information and awareness on communicable disease to passengers, crew, visitors, airport users, airport staff and airport stakeholders;
- Keep the record and contact number of suspected or probable case;
- Joint press release with the aerodrome operator, if required;
- Take the necessary actions as per their own SOP/procedures;
- Ensure that the airport operations is not disrupted;
- Record and report the chronology of the events.







Roles of DCA ATC as stated in the AEP

- Instruct all aircraft arriving from affected area to be parked at the dedicated aircraft parking bays or dedicated wings or gates
- Not to allow affected aircraft to depart from airport or to move to other aircraft parking bays unless approved by the health authority;
- Take the necessary actions as per their own SOP/procedures;
- Ensure that the flight operations is not disrupted;
- Record and report the chronology of the events.

ROLES OF IMMIGRATION DEPT.

Roles of the Immigration Department as stated in the AEP

- Deploy officers at communicable disease examination room to carry out the border clearance procedure, and to be equipped with the required PPE;
- Facilitate the screening process at the entry and exit points;
- Coordinate the movements of arriving and departing foreign workers;
- Assist to identify sick passengers that pass through the Immigration check points;
- Tighten the issuance of visa/temporary visa for travelers from affected countries;
- Render assistance and cooperation as required by the Health Department;
- Take the necessary actions as per their own SOP/procedures;
- Ensure that the flight operations is not disrupted;

ROLES OF ROYAL MALAYSIAN CUSTOMS

Roles of the Royal Customs as stated in the AEP

- Deploy officers at communicable disease examination room to carry out the border clearance procedure, and to be equipped with the required PPE;
- Facilitate the clearance of baggage and luggage at entry points;
- Assist to identify sick passengers that pass through the Royal Customs check points;
- Render assistance and cooperation as required by the Health Department;
- Take the necessary actions as per their own SOP/procedures;
- Ensure that the flight operations is not disrupted;
- Record and report the chronology of the events.



Roles of the Veterinary Dept. as stated in the AEP

- Monitor and control the import of pets from affected countries;
- Activate their operations room if required;
- To take the necessary actions as per their own SOP/procedures;
- Provide advice on veterinary matters to passengers, crew, visitors, airport users, airport staff and airport stakeholders
- Take the necessary actions as per their own SOP/procedures;
- Ensure that the flight operations is not disrupted;
- Record and report the chronology of the events.



ROLES OF AIRLINES, AIRCRAFT OPERATORS & GROUND HANDLERS

Roles of the airlines, aircraft operators and ground handlers as stated in the AEP

- To take the necessary actions as per their own SOP/procedures;
- Provide advice to passengers, crew, visitors, airport users, airport staff and airport stakeholders;
- Assist to identify sick passengers at the check-in counter area, boarding and arriving gates;
- Joint press release with the Ministry of Health and aerodrome operator, if required;
- Ensure that the flight operations is not disrupted;
- Record and report the chronology of the events.



Exercise to test the Integrated Communicable Diseases Preparedness Plan

- Series of meeting were arranged before the exercise and all committee members were briefed on the roles;
- Scenario was created;
- Site visit was arranged before the exercise, all committee members too part;
- The exercise was arranged at KLIA using life aircraft provided by Malaysia Airlines
- The exercise was participated by all committee members;
- The aircraft was parked at designated aircraft parking bay and not close to other aircraft;
- Manpower and logistics were deployed timely and orderly;
- Referees were appointed to provide feedback and comment;
- Post mortem was conducted after the exercise;



Experience on handling communicable diseases at airports

- Malaysia Airports handled few communicable diseases cases;
- Airports involved were KUL, PEN, BKI, KCH, LGK, SZB, MYY, SBW, BTU, SDK,
 LBU and TWU;
- The Emergency Committee Members are now familiar with their roles and responsibilities;



Improvement

- The Integrated Communicable Diseases Preparedness Plan was revised and updated;
- Established the BCP;
- HIRARC and training;
- Registered the risk of communicable diseases in MAHB ERM System.



CONCLUSION

- Involvement of international bodies such as ICAO, WHO, ACI and IATA is vital;
- Contracting states, aerodrome operators, airlines, aircraft operators, passengers and general public should cooperate and collaborate to control and minimize the impact of communicable diseases;
- Laws, regulations, policies, procedures, guidelines, SOPs to be revised if necessary to enhance the prevention and control measures/methods;
- Table top exercise/dry drill should be arranged to test the effectiveness of communicable diseases preparedness plan, facilities, equipment and the readiness of committee members;
- Awareness, campaign and training should be arranged frequently to prevent and control the spreading of communicable diseases.
- Risk Management should analyse how employees, agents and customers might be affected by a public health emergency, ensure that the insurance coverage is available, the senior management is aware of potential liabilities and emergency response procedure is available.
- Control the impact of communicable diseases on airport operations

