

Challenges & Experiences in the Implementation of the IHR & Preparedness Planning for the Aviation Sector

**Briefings by Civil Aviation & Airport
Authority, Public Health Authority and
other Stakeholders - Nepal Team**

Civil Aviation history

- In 1957, the Department of Civil Aviation was formally established
- Nepal obtained the membership of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in 1960
- Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) was established as an autonomous body on 31 December 1998
- CAAN has been set up with the objective of making aviation safe, regular, standard and efficient, Its prime goal is to ensure flight safety and sustainability of civil aviation

References

- ICAO Annexes 6, 9, 11, 14, 18 SARPs, PANS-ATM (Doc 4444) & Facilitation Manual (Doc. 9957)
- WHO IHR (2005)
- ICAO, WHO, ACI & IATA guidelines

Past activities on PHE

- SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) pandemic back in 2003 was settled down efficient way mainly by global coordination and cooperation by ICAO, WHO and Aviation Industries
- Aviation Pandemic Influenza (H1 N1 Virus/ Swine Flu) in 2009 & H1 N5 (Bird Flu) were suppressed by the global collaboration of International Civil Aviation and Government concerned by ICAO, WHO & PHA

Assistance Visit

- CAPSCA AV (6 Member team) to conduct visit in Nepal & Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu on 10 – 11 December 2012



State's Participating Organisations

- Civil Aviation Authority (aviation medicine, aerodromes, air traffic services, flight operations/standards/safety, Air Navigation Services Provider (ATC))
- Aircraft operators (airlines)
- Public Health Authority including IHR National Focal Point
- Airport (immigration, customs, quarantine, medical, security, operations, public information & media relations, handling agents, Tourism Industry & different stake holders)
- National emergency/disaster response agencies
- Total number of participants were 66

Some Observations on Assistance Visit

- PHEs not incorporated in AEP and not enough awareness, training and exercises - *incorporated, FSE Exercise on PHE*
- Designated aircraft parking position inconvenient for access or operations - *relocating in progress*
- Template of General Declaration adopted differently by different airlines & Public Health Passenger Locator Card not adopted- *resolved/ adoption of same GD & PLC*

- Insufficient communication, cooperation, coordination & collaboration between aviation and public health sectors- *Designated Health Desk established in TIA*
- Little participation in the development and harmonization of each other's plans and preparedness, Inadequate knowledge of each other's standards and IH Regulations- *documentation /SOP/ Plan of action Are prepared*
- No clear cut Preparedness Emergencies plan of action for Public Health Emergency – *developed National Aviation Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan on Communicable Disease, 2013*

Actions taken after CAPSCA AV

- On the basis of Report/Recommendation several meetings conducted in-between concerned entities to resolve the problems/challenges, 2013 (to till now)
- Participated 7th CAPSCA Regional meeting in Colombo, Srilanka, 2014
- Take necessary steps on Ebola virus mitigation, 2014 on National level

implementation of the IHR and preparedness planning for the aviation sector

- CAPSCA focal person- 2 *Officials*
CAA Nepal & EDCD(PHA)
- Public Health Authority has formulated following Documents
 - **Infectious Disease Control Guideline, 2016*
 - **Early Warning and Reporting System(EWARS) Guidelines, 2016*
 - **Infectious Disease Control Act, 1963*
 - **National Health policy, 2014*
 - **Plan of Action & SOP for implementation of IHR 2005 is in developing phase*

- Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal has developed
 - * *National Aviation Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan on Communicable Disease, 2013*
 - * *Incorporated Notification for suspected Communicable disease in Manual of Air Traffic Services & in ATS Operational Manual (by December 2016)*
 - * *Revised & Incorporated ALERT 12- Medical Emergency & ALERT 13 -Public Health(Communicable Disease Through Air Travel) Emergency in Tribhuvan International Airport Civil Aviation Office Emergency Plan (TIAEP) 2015*

- Development & strengthen of National IHR Core Capacity- *a designated Public Health Desk is established in Tribhuvan International Airport on August 17, 2014 by Public Health Authority, Nepal*
- National Operating Procedure - *SOP by Airline Operator & Ground Handler for an arriving affected aircraft is under development phase by 2016 December/ other stake holders; custom/immigration/security etc*

- Screening for travelers- *Thermal Screening / Hand held thermal scanner in arrival zone by PHA*
- National PHE Preparedness Plan- *not yet formulated but developed National Aviation Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plan on Communicable Disease, 2013*
- Completion of Airport vector control survey (Zika virus) 25th Oct, 2016- *will register soon on website*

Airport vector control survey (Zika virus)



Challenges/Conclusion

- Assistance visit brought all the different entities in one common place for common goal of PHE with one voice
- Documentation is started but implementation part is still need to improve
- Should Strengthen Manpower & develop infrastructure on designated Health Desk (PoE)
- CAA Nepal will conduct Full scale Emergency Exercise on PHE (Alert phases) sooner in close coordination with concerned entities
- Need Training on Technical Advisor

Thank you