



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**REPORT OF THE FIRST WORKSHOP/MEETING
OF THE MIDDLE EAST
COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT
FOR THE PREVENTION OF SPREAD
OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE
THROUGH AIR TRAVEL (CAPSCA)**

CAPSCA-MID/1

(Cairo, Egypt, 11-15 December 2011)

The views expressed in this Report should be taken as those of the Cooperative Arrangement for the Prevention of Spread of Communicable Disease through Air Travel (CAPSCA) Project and not of the Organization. This Report will, however, be submitted to the ICAO Council and any formal action taken will be published in due course as a Supplement to the Report.

Approved by the Meeting
and published by authority of the Secretary General

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
1. Place and Duration	1
2. Opening	1
3. Attendance.....	1
4. Officers and Secretariat.....	1
5. Language	1
6. Work Programme and Documentation.....	2
7. Conclusions	2-3
8. Technical Advisers Training/Demonstration of Assistance Visit	3-4
9. Closing of the Meeting	4
 Appendix A	
Work Programme	A1-A3
 Appendix B	
CAPSCA Terms of Reference	B1
 Appendix C	
Technical Advisers.....	C1-C2
 Attachment A	
List of Participants.....	A1-A7

CAPSCA-MID/1
Report of the Meeting

1. PLACE AND DURATION

1.1 The First Workshop/Meeting of the ICAO Cooperative Arrangement for the Prevention of Spread of Communicable Disease through Air Travel (CAPSCA) in the Middle East was held from 11 to 15 December 2011 at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Middle East (MID) Regional Office in Cairo, Egypt.

2. OPENING

2.1 The Workshop/Meeting was opened by Mr. Mohamed Khonji, Regional Director, ICAO Middle East Office who welcomed all the participants to the CAPSCA-MID/1 Workshop/Meeting. He reminded the participants of the goals of CAPSCA and that CAPSCA in the MID Region cannot be successfully implemented without communication and collaboration between different stakeholders, especially between the public health and aviation sectors, and public and private organizations. He thanked World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (WHO EMRO) for the support and commitments to CAPSCA programme. Mr. Khonji ended his opening remarks by wishing the Workshop/Meeting a successful productive outcome.

2.2 Dr. John Jabbour from WHO EMRO also presented opening remarks by welcoming the participants and stressed on the importance of the International Health Regulations (2005) as a legal instrument for attaining a global health security through timely containment and mitigation of public health events that might be of national, regional and international concern. Communication, collaboration, and coordination among all key partners are essential for IHR implementation and are crucial to enhance the surveillance and preparedness activities for joint response to public health events at all levels.

2.3 The Workshop/Meeting was chaired by Dr. Anthony Evans (ICAO), Chief Aviation Medicine and CAPSCA Project Manager, assisted by Dr. John Jabbour (WHO), Area Coordinator for International Health Regulations (IHR) of the WHO EMRO and Dr. Jarnail Singh (Singapore), CAPSCA Technical Advisor.

3. ATTENDANCE

3.1 The Workshop/Meeting was attended by a total of twenty seven (27) participants from nine (9) States and two (2) International Organizations. The list of participants is at **Attachment A** to this Report.

4. OFFICERS AND SECRETARIAT

4.1 Mr. Michiel Vreedenburgh (ICAO), Deputy Regional Director of the ICAO Regional Office for North America, Central America and the Caribbean (NACC) and CAPSCA Project Coordinator was the Secretary of the Workshop/Meeting, assisted by Mr. Jehad Faqir, Deputy Regional Director, ICAO Middle East (MID) Office.

5. LANGUAGE

5.1 Discussions were conducted in English and documentation was issued in English.

CAPSCA-MID/1
Report of the Meeting

6. WORK PROGRAMME AND DOCUMENTATION

6.1 The Workshop/Meeting Programme is at **Appendix A** to this Report. All the meeting documentation and presentations related to the Workshop/Meeting and the Arabic versions of ICAO guidelines and forms are available on the CAPSCA web site: www.capsca.org.

7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The meeting adopted the following Conclusions:

7.1.1 States are encouraged to prepare and update aviation public health emergency preparedness plans in collaboration with the Civil Aviation and Public Health Authorities, and perform exercises to test such plans, in compliance with related ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and WHO IHR (2005).

7.1.2 Participants unanimously supported the establishment of CAPSCA in the Middle East Region. As a follow up, States are encouraged to confirm participation in CAPSCA-Middle East (CAPSCA-MID) by their Civil Aviation Authorities and/or Public Health Authority to ICAO and/or WHO, respectively, by State letters.

7.1.3 States joining CAPSCA-MID are invited to designate a CAPSCA focal point(s) from Civil Aviation and/or Public Health Authorities and to volunteer technical advisers to be trained by ICAO and participate in assistance visits, by sending a letter to the ICAO Middle East Regional Office, Cairo.

7.1.4 States which join CAPSCA-MID are invited to request a CAPSCA Assistance Visit by sending a letter to the ICAO MID Regional Office, Cairo.

7.1.5 ICAO will send a letter to States' Civil Aviation Authorities (CAA) and to WHO for forwarding to States Public Health Authorities (PHA), inviting States to join CAPSCA-MID. A State's Civil Aviation Authority and/or Public Health Authority can join CAPSCA.

7.1.6 States' Civil Aviation and Public Health Authorities, airport operators, aircraft operators and air navigation service providers are encouraged to provide their Public Health Emergency Preparedness Plans for aviation to ICAO for posting on the CAPSCA website: www.capsca.org.

7.1.7 States and the aviation sector should undertake table-top, partial or full scale Public Health Emergency (PHE) exercises, as required by ICAO Annex 14 – Aerodromes. When a full-scale Public Health Emergency exercise cannot be conducted in the short-term, States should consider incorporating PHE elements into a full-scale exercise for other types of emergency, when possible.

7.1.8 States are encouraged to invite other States and Organizations, including ICAO and WHO, to observe aviation public health emergency exercises, in order to share experiences and lessons learned.

CAPSCA-MID/1
Report of the Meeting

7.1.9 National IHR focal points, in collaboration with national CAPSCA focal points, are encouraged to complete the on line assessment tool for the purpose of monitoring the progress in the implementation of core capacities at the point of entry (Designated airports) http://www.who.int/ihr/ports_airports/PoE/en/index.html.

7.1.10 WHO will request States Public Health Authorities to invite Civil Aviation Authorities to participate in WHO assessment visits, and inform the ICAO MID Regional Office which will follow-up with the State CAA to confirm participation.

7.1.11 States are encouraged to adapt the template of an Aviation Public Health Emergency plan to ensure compliance with ICAO SARPs and relevant articles of WHO IHR (2005).

7.1.12 ICAO is to consult with WHO regarding a possible additional future survey on the effectiveness and benefits of passenger screening in general and thermal scanning in particular be undertaken which includes adequate representation of States from all Regions to ensure the range of experiences are considered.

7.1.13 Terms of Reference for the CAPSCA-MID project were agreed to as presented in the **Appendix B** to this Report.

7.1.14 Transit passengers identified as suffering a communicable disease should be managed in the same way as arriving or departing passengers.

7.1.15 Dr. Hussein Mohamed Sultan, Director of Medical Affairs, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Egypt, was elected unanimously as Chairman of the CAPSCA-MID project.

7.1.16 Dr. Osama Abdullah A. Bahannan, Director, Aviation Medicine, General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA), Saudi Arabia, was nominated as Technical Advisers' Team Leader.

7.1.17 Jordan and Qatar tentatively expressed their willingness to host the next CAPSCA-MID meeting tentatively to be held from 3 to 5 September 2012.

8. TECHNICAL ADVISORS TRAINING/DEMONSTRATION OF ASSISTANCE VISIT

8.1 The Workshop/Meeting was combined with a training session for the nominated representatives from MID States as listed in **Appendix C** to this Report to be trained as Technical Advisers to conduct airport assistance visits in the MID Region. The trainees were provided with detailed information on the methodology, guidelines and requirements to conduct the assistance visit this include a detailed explanation of the check list used in the assistance visit that is used to ensure and to assess compliance with the ICAO guidelines concerning management of communicable disease, and the relevant articles of WHO International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005.

8.2 Special appreciations were expressed to the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Ministry of Health of Egypt for offering Cairo International Airport for the purpose of training and demonstration of an assistance visit for the future advisers.

CAPSCA-MID/1
Report of the Meeting

8.3 Prior to the airport walkthrough, representatives of the Quarantine Section in Cairo airport briefed the trainee advisers about the airport emergency plan which includes the preparedness plan regarding medical emergency situation in cases of arrival of an aircraft with a suspected case of communicable disease on board.

8.4 On arrival at the airport terminal one building, the group was guided to the Airport Operations Center (AOC). A briefing about the General Emergency Plan of the airport was presented by the Director AOC of Cairo airport. The briefing included the procedures used in case of medical emergency, the location of hospitals in the vicinity of the airport that are equipped to handle the infectious cases and the procedures used for parking aircraft suspected of carrying passenger with a communicable disease in a specially designated parking area.

8.5 A subsequent tour of the arrival terminal Medical Services Clinic was conducted.

8.6 Following the walkthrough a debrief was undertaken at the ICAO MID Regional Office, Representatives from the Egyptian Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Health and the Airport Quarantine sections were present. The following observations were made concerning areas where improvements were recommended:

- More collaboration required between Civil Aviation Authority (Ministry of Civil Aviation & Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority, Public Health Authority (Ministry of Health & Quarantine), Airport, Airline and other agencies and service providers.
- Airport Emergency Plan (AEP) needs to be revised to expand on Public Health Emergencies.
- Designated aircraft parking position should be reviewed.
- Passenger Locator Card not in compliance with Annex 9 template.
- Aircraft General Declaration not in compliance Annex 9 template.
- Designate a separate part of the arrival area for temporary accommodation, assessment and briefing of suspect cases and their contacts.

9. CLOSING OF THE MEETING

9.1 Dr. Anthony Evans thanked all participants for their active participation, cooperation and contribution that made the Workshop/Meeting productive and successful.

9.2 All representatives from States participating in the meeting have shown keen interest to support the launch of CAPSCA project in the MID Region and provisionally informed the meeting that their States would join CAPSCA-MID.



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE THROUGH AIR TRAVEL (CAPSCA)

PROGRAMME

1ST CAPSCA MIDDLE EAST WORKSHOP/MEETING

Day 1 (Sunday 11 December 2011)

- 0800-0900: Registration of delegates (Secretariat)
0900-0945: Opening of the meeting ICAO & WHO (ICAO – Mr. Mohamed Khonji;
WHO – Dr. John Jabbour)
0945-1000: Introduction to event: ICAO – Dr Anthony Evans
1000-1030: Coffee break
1030-1045: Participants self-introduction
1045-1130: ICAO and public health emergencies (Dr. Anthony Evans)
1130-1215: An introduction to the International Health Regulations (2005) (WHO – Dr. John Jabbour)
1215-1230: Development of the ICAO guidelines – a scenario based approach (CAPSCA/Singapore -
Dr. Jarnail Singh)
1230-1300: Coffee break
1300-1400: ICAO State Guidelines and Safety Oversight Audit Programme (Dr. Anthony Evans)
1400-1500: Airline Guidelines – (IATA - Dr Claude Thibeault)

Day 2 (Monday 12 December 2011)

- 0900-0945: IHRs - Application to Points of Entry and current status of implementation in the Middle
East Region (WHO/Egypt – Dr. Abd El- Rahman Farah)
0945-1015: Public Health Emergencies Preparedness Planning in the Aviation Sector: The CAPSCA
Story (Dr. Jarnail Singh)
1015-1045: Coffee break
1045-1115: CAPSCA Organization, Activities and Web Site (ICAO - Mr. Michiel Vreedenburgh)
1115-1145: Fukushima nuclear power plant accident – lessons learned (Dr Anthony Evans)
1145-1230: Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air, including radioactive materials/biological
specimens (ICAO - Dr. Katherine Rooney)
1230-1300: Coffee break
1300-1500: Response to Influenza A (H1N1) 2009: Experience of States/International Organizations
in the Middle East Region (WHO – Dr. Nasr Al Tantawi)

Day 3 (Tuesday 13 December 2011)

- 0900-0930: WHO core capacity checklist (WHO/Egypt - Dr. Samir El- Refaee)
0930-1030: Response to Influenza A (H1N1) 2009: Experience of States/International Organizations in the Middle East Region (States)
1030-1100: Coffee break
1100-1130: Template for an Aviation Plan for a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (Dr. Jarnail Singh)
1130-1200: Introduction to Table Top Exercise (Dr. Jarnail Singh)
1200-1300: Table Top Exercise Part 1 (Led by Dr. Jarnail Singh)
1300-1330: Coffee break
1330-1430: Table Top Exercise Part 2 (Led by Dr. Jarnail Singh)
1430-1500: Debrief of Table top exercise (Led by Dr. Jarnail Singh)
1500-1600: Reception for Participants

Day 4 (Wednesday 14 December 2011)

- 0900-0930: CAPSCA MID Organisation Terms of Reference (Dr. Anthony Evans)
0930-0945: Election of Chairpersons
0945-1030: State/Airport Assistance Visit Methodology (Mr. Michiel Vreedenburgh)
1030-1100: Coffee break
1100-1130: Volunteering of Technical Advisors and Appointment of Team Leaders (Dr. Anthony Evans)
1130-1200: Remarks by WHO
1200-1230: Work Plan and Next Steps; Close of CAPSCA workshop/meeting (Dr. Anthony Evans/Mr. Jehad Faqir)
1230-1300: Coffee break

Technical Advisor Training/Assistance Visit Demonstration
(meeting/workshop participants are welcome to attend)

Day 1 (Wednesday 14 December 2011) – Technical Advisor Training

- 1300-1500: Training of technical advisors (Dr. Jarnail Singh / Dr. Anthony Evans)
- 1500-1545: Debrief

Day 2 (Thursday 15 December 2011) - Demonstration of Assistance Visit to Cairo International Airport for trainee Technical Advisors

- 0900-0930: Pre-evaluation briefing by ICAO CAPSCA Assistance Visit Team (Dr. Jarnail Singh / Dr. Anthony Evans)
- 0930-1030: Presentation by State Public Health Agency: Overview of State level planning for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and incorporation of Aviation Public Health Emergency Plan into State plan
- 1030-1100: Coffee break
- 1100-1230: Presentations by Civil Aviation Authority, Port Health Authority, Airport Authority, ANSP and Airline (and other relevant stakeholders, if required)
- 1230-1300: Coffee break
- 1300-1500: Walk through visit to Cairo International Airport: (This should incorporate a scenario of an arriving or departing passenger suspected to have an infectious disease of public health concern)
- 1500-1600: Debrief and Gap Analysis.

COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE THROUGH AIR TRAVEL (CAPSCA)

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1 CAPSCA-MID is established in the ICAO Middle East Region to ensure that the Public Health Sector and the Aviation Sector in the MID Region collaborate to develop a national preparedness plan for aviation in compliance with the World Health Organization International Health Regulations (2005) and ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs).

1.2 CAPSCA-MID is chaired by a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson elected by the representatives of CAPSCA member States present in the meeting when the election is held, representing sub-regions and languages, if applicable, normally for a period of 3 years, or until the project is completed, whichever is earlier.

2. WORK PROGRAMME

- a. Meets annually, and in conjunction with the Global Coordination Meeting when held in the MID Region.
- b. Contribute to the ongoing review of all guidelines, including those for States, airport and aircraft operators, and air navigation service providers, and submit recommendations for revision to the corresponding organisations through ICAO and WHO.
- c. Interprets and disseminates guidelines for applicability in the region.
- d. Is open to any representative who can further the objectives of CAPSCA, including International Organizations, as determined by the ICAO CAPSCA Project Manager.
- e. Provides ongoing assessment, planning advice and assistance visits to States.
- f. Contribute to the ongoing review of the ICAO CAPSCA checklist for assistance visits to States and airports.
- g. Trains technical advisors designated by States to carry out assistance visits to States in accordance with ICAO provisions and WHO International Health Regulations (2005), and associated guidelines.

3. COMPOSITION

3.1 CAPSCA-MID is comprised of representatives from:

- States that have joined the CAPSCA project (Civil Aviation Authorities and Public Health Authorities);
- Donors (States and Organizations);
- ICAO, WHO and other partner UN, Aviation and Health related Regional and International Organizations; and
- other representatives as necessary, as determined by the ICAO CAPSCA Project Manager.

TECHNICAL ADVISERS

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
<u>STATES</u>	
EGYPT Dr. Shereen Farouk Amin Amer	Director of Prevention Med & Occupational Health Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority 3 Mosa El Kazym St. El-Hay 7, Madinet Nasr Cairo - Egypt Fax: 202 2267 5781 Tel: 202 2268 5427 Mobile: 011 14922210 Email: shereenfar2004@hotmail.com
JORDAN Dr. Khalil Khalil	Head of Aviation Medicine & Medical Services Department Senior AME (CARC) & (FAA) Civil Aviation Regulatory Commission P.O.Box 963014 Amman 11196 Jordan Fax: 962 6 489 4352 Tel: 962 6 489 2282 Ext. 3407 Mobile: 962 795555781 Email: dr.khalil@carc.gov.jo drkmkhalil@gmail.com
OMAN Ms. Rahma Nasser Saud Al-Sharji	Specialist of Public Health Ministry of Health P.O.Box 3215 P.C. 111 Muscat International Airport Sultanate of Oman Mobile: 95429559 Email: rahma_85@hotmail.com
QATAR Ms. Sheila C. Cantos, CBRM	Senior Officer Emergency Planning Emergency & Safety Department Doha International Airport P.O.Box 24659, Doha – QATAR Fax: 974 4462 2044 Tel: 974 4465 6880 Mobile: 974 66113165 Email: scantos@qatarairways.com.qa

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
<p>SAUDI ARABIA</p> <p>Dr. Osama Abdullah A. Bahannan</p>	<p>Director, Aviation Medicine Safety and Economic Regulations General Authority of Civil Aviation Kingdom of Saudi Arabia P.O.Box 887, Jeddah 22421 Fax: 966 02 685 5323/966 02 685 5840 Tel: 966 02 685 5759 Mobile: 966 0506859991 Email: obahnan@gaca.gov.sa bahannanos@yahoo.com</p>
<p>SUDAN</p> <p>Mr. Salah Ibrahim Mohamed Balas</p>	<p>Duty Manager Khartoum Airport Civil Aviation Authority Khartoum Airport P.O.Box 430 Khartoum - SUDAN Fax: 249 183 786883 Tel: 249 183 786886 Mobile: 249 123499272 Email: salahballas@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Mrs. Wigdan Yousif El Tayb</p>	<p>Air Transport Senior Inspector Sudan/Civil Aviation Authority Air Transport Directorate P.O.Box 430 Fax: 249 183 786883 Tel: 249 183 786886 Mobile: 249 912818811 Email: wegdan75@hotmail.com</p>

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
<u>STATES</u>	
<p>Congo Dr. Malekani Saghasa Dieudonne</p>	<p>Medical Advisor DRC Civil Aviation Authority and CAPSCA Technical Advisor Head of Delegation 7th Rue Industrielle, 23/13, Avenue Eureka- La Grace, Kinshasa/Limete – Republic Democracy of CONGO Tel: 243 89 646 3429 Mobile: 243 99 927403 Email: dieumalekani@yahoo.fr</p>
<p>EGYPT Dr. Abd El-Rahman Farah</p>	<p>General Director of Quarantine Ministry of Health Cairo-EGYPT Fax: 02 2792 1065 Tel: 02 279 21090 Mobile: 0100 2752514 Email: goda2066@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Dr. Hussein Mohamed Sultan</p>	<p>Director of Medical Affair Ministry of Civil Aviation 163 Sleem St. Helmiat El Zaytoun Cairo - Egypt Fax: 2267 5781 Tel: 2268 5427 Mobile: 012 3725742 Email: husseinsultan1@hotmail.com</p>
<p>Capt. Alaa El-Din Mahmoud Orabi</p>	<p>General Director of Air Traffic Planning & Operation Monitoring National Air Aviation Services Company (NANSC) Cairo International Airport Cairo - Egypt Tel: 202 2267 8889 Mobile: 0100 6666128 Email: alorabi@hotmail.com</p>

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
Dr. Samir El-Refaey	Director of Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit 3 Magless El Shaab St., Cairo-EGYPT Fax: 279 23683 Tel: 279 51598 Mobile: 0103400155 Email: samir.esu@gmail.com
Dr. Shereen Farouk Amin Amer	Director of Prevention Med & Occupational Health Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority 3 Mosa El Kazym St. El-Hay 7, Madinet Nasr Cairo - Egypt Fax: 202 2267 5781 Tel: 202 2268 5427 Mobile: 011 14922210 Email: shereenfar2004@hotmail.com
IRAQ Dr. Amer Naser Mohammed	Flight Surgeon - Member of Civil Aviation Medical Council Ministry of Health Airports Medical Services Dept. Al Adeel Dist Reg. 649 - St., 78 - No. 2 Baghdad - Iraq Mobile: 964 7811539295 Email: aviation.dept@yahoo.com a.igelli@yahoo.com
Dr. Basima Nashaat Jameel	Director of Airport- Medical Services Section Medical Operations and Specialized Services Directorate Ministry of Health Mobile: 964 7901926026/7705480849 Email: aviation.dept@yahoo.com sandy_bill76@yahoo.com
Dr. Faris Abbas Abdulatteef	Flight Surgeon - Head of Civil Aviation Medical Council Al Muthanna District Reg. 714-Street 21-No. 14/1 Baghdad - Iraq Mobile: 964 7905214908 Email: dr_faris_22@yahoo.com

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
Dr. Haitham Hussein Jasim	Flight Surgeon Baghdad International Airport Medical Center - Baghdad International Airport Ministry of Health Medical Center Baghdad - Iraq Mobile: 07801789479 Email: haithamhussein70@yahoo.com
JORDAN Dr. Khalil Khalil	Head of Aviation Medicine & Medical Services Department Senior AME (CARC) & (FAA) Civil Aviation Regulatory Commission P.O.Box 963014 Amman 11196 Jordan Fax: 962 6 489 4352 Tel: 962 6 489 2282 Ext. 3407 Mobile: 962 795555781 Email: dr.khalil@carc.gov.jo drkmkhalil@gmail.com
OMAN Mr. Abdulhakim Al-kiyumi	Aerodrome Safety Director Civil Aviation Authority Muscat, Postal Code: 111 P.O.Box 1 Sultanate of Oman Fax: 968 2451 8212 Tel: 968 2451 9225 Mobile: 968 99318788 Email: hakeem@caa.gov.om
Ms. Rahma Nasser Saud Al-Sharji	Specialist of Public Health Ministry of Health P.O.Box 3215 P.C. 111 Muscat International Airport Sultanate of Oman Mobile: 95429559 Email: rahma_85@hotmail.com
Mr. Said Sulaiman Salim Al-Maskari	First Health Supervisor Quarantine Section Ministry of Health Sultanate of Oman Fax: +968 2451 9589 Tel: +968 2451 9589 Mobile: +968 9334202 Email: abumajer@hotmail.com

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
QATAR Dr. Khalid Abdulla Al Nasiri	Head of Airlines Affairs Air Transport & Airport Affairs Civil Aviation Authority P.O.Box 3000 Doha - State of Qatar Fax: 974 4455 7249 Tel: 974 4455 7282 Mobile: 974 55807060 Email: khalid.alnasiri@caa.gov.qa
Ms. Sheila C. Cantos, CBRM	Senior Officer Emergency Planning Emergency & Safety Department Doha International Airport P.O.Box 24659, Doha – QATAR Fax: 974 4462 2044 Tel: 974 4465 6880 Mobile: 974 66113165 Email: scantos@qatarairways.com.qa
Dr. Soha Al Bayat	Head of Medical Services in Qatar Airways Qatar Airways 22550 Doha - QATAR Fax: 00974 44620975 Tel: 00974 44496795/99/78 Mobile: 00974 66008951 Email: salbayat@qatarairways.com.qa nazamani@qatarairways.com.qa
Dr. Hamad Eid Al-Romaihi	Head of Surveillance and outbreaks Supreme council of Health Qatar Fax: +974 440 70812 Tel: +974 440 70188 Mobile: +974 77322227 Email: halromaihi@sch.gov.qa
SAUDI ARABIA Dr. Osama Abdullah A. Bahannan	Director, Aviation Medicine Safety and Economic Regulations General Authority of Civil Aviation Kingdom of Saudi Arabia P.O.Box 887, Jeddah 22421 Fax: 966 02 685 5323/966 02 685 5840 Tel: 966 02 685 5759 Mobile: 966 0506859991 Email: obahnnan@gaca.gov.sa bahannanos@yahoo.com

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
<p>SINGAPORE</p> <p>Dr. Jarnail Singh (CAPSCA Adivser)</p>	<p>Technical Advisor CAPSCA/Chairman CAMB Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore Singapore Changi Airport P.O.Box 1 Singapore 918141 Fax: 65 6545 6519 Tel: 65 6541 3013 Mobile: 65 97600703 Email: jarnail_singh@caas.gov.sg</p>
<p>SUDAN</p> <p>Mr. Salah Ibrahim Mohamed Balas</p>	<p>Duty Manager Khartoum Airport Civil Aviation Authority Khartoum Airport P.O.Box 430 Khartoum - SUDAN Fax: 249 183 786883 Tel: 249 183 786886 Mobile: 249 123499272 Email: salahballas@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Mrs. Wigdan Yousif El Tayb</p>	<p>Air Transport Senior Inspector Sudan/Civil Aviaiton Authority Air Transport Directorate P.O.Box 430 Fax: 249 183 786883 Tel: 249 183 786886 Mobile: 249 912818811 Email: wegdan75@hotmail.com</p>
<p><u>ORGANIZATIONS</u></p>	
<p>IATA</p> <p>Dr. Claude Thibeault, MD</p>	<p>Medical Advisor International Air Transport Association IATA - 800 Place Victoria P.O.Box 113 Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H4Z 1M1 Fax: 1 514 874 2662 Tel: 1 514 390 6810 Mobile: 1 514 516 0717 Email: thibeaultc@iata.org</p>

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
Mrs. Eman Ebrahim Nasr	Occupational Health, Safety & Environment Manager Airport Road Egyptair Airlines South Building Cairo – EGYPT Fax: 02 2696 4961 Tel: 02 2696 4861 Ext. 3063 Mobile: 0100 6195020 Email: eman.nasr@egyptair.com
WHO Dr. Hala Esmat Tolba	Scientist - International Health Regulation Unit World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean World Health Organization St. P.O.Box 7608, Nasr City Cairo 11371, EGYPT Fax: 20 2 2276 5456 Tel: 20 2 2276 5271 Mobile: 20 1 0197 5176 Email: tolbah@emro.who.int
Dr. John Jabbour	Epidemiologist, DCD/IHR Regional Adviser, International Health Regulation Unit World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean World Health Organization St. P.O.Box 7608, Nasr City Cairo 11371, EGYPT Fax: 202 2276 5456 Tel: 202 2276 5276 Mobile: 010 8556816 Email: jabbourj@emro.who.int
Dr. Nasr Tantawi	Medical Officer - International Health Regulation Unit Eastern Mediterranean Region Abdul Razzak Al-Sanhouri St. P.O.Box 7608, Nasr City Cairo - EGYPT Tel: 277 943 607 Mobile: 012 24629001 Email: eltantawyna@egy.emro.who.int

NAME	TITLE & ADDRESS
<p>ICAO Headquarters Dr. Anthony D. B. Evans</p>	<p>MBChB, MSc, DSc, MFOM, DipAvMed Chief of Aviation Medicine Section Air Navigation Bureau International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) 999 University St., Montreal, Quebec H3C 5H7 Canada Fax: 1 514 954 6759 Tel: 1 514 954 8150 Email: Aevans@icao.int</p>
<p>Dr. Katherine Rooney</p>	<p>Technical Officer, Flight Operations Section, Air Navigation Bureau International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) 999 University St., Montreal, Quebec H3C 5H7 Canada Fax: 1 514 954 6759 Tel: 1 514 954 8099 Email: krooney@icao.int</p>
<p>ICAO NACC Regional Office Mr. Michiel Vreedenburgh</p>	<p>ICAO Deputy Regional Director/CAPSCA Project Coordinator ICAO North American, Central American and Caribbean Office Avenida Presidente Masaryk 29-3, Polanco Miguel Hidalgo Mexico City, D.F. 11570, Mexico Fax: +52 55 52032757 Tel: +52 55 52503211 Email: mvreedenburgh@icao.int</p>
<p>ICAO Middle East Office Mr. Jehad Faqir</p>	<p>Deputy Regional Director ICAO Middle East Office P.O.Box 85, Cairo Airport Post Office Cairo, EGYPT Fax: 202 2267 4843 Tel: 202 2267 4841 Email: jfaqir@cairo.icao.int</p>