

WHO Guidelines on Public Health Emergency Planning at PoEs



**3rd CAPSCA MIDDLE EAST MEETING
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Why do we need to be prepared?

NOT ONLY, aircraft emergencies, sabotage including bomb threats, unlawfully seized aircraft, dangerous goods occurrences, building fires and natural disasters. **BUT ALSO**, public health emergencies

8.16 (Annex 9): A Contracting State shall establish a national aviation plan in preparation for an outbreak of a communicable disease posing a public health risk or public health emergency of international concern.

Note 2.— Annex 11 — Air Traffic Services and Annex 14 — Aerodromes, Volume I — Aerodrome Design and Operations require air traffic services and aerodromes to establish contingency planning or aerodrome emergency plans, respectively, for public health emergencies of international concern.

Past experiences clearly demonstrated that acute public health events and emergencies will continue to occur, despite the nature of unpredictability...

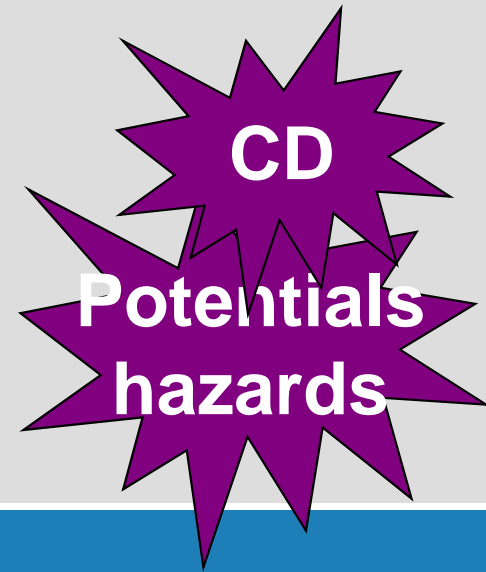
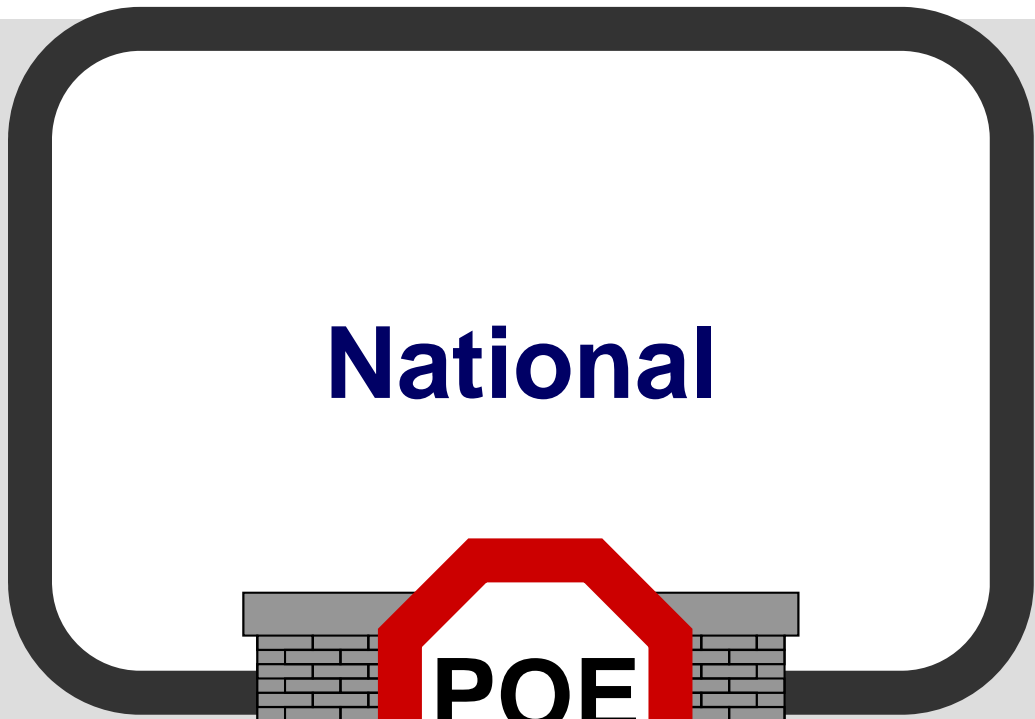
Role of POE in public health emergency response will depend on the nature of disease/event : May range from *limited role* to *vitaly important role*

Lesson learned from Pandemic (H1N1) 2009: Effective preparedness planning minimizes negative impact on health, economic and social disruption



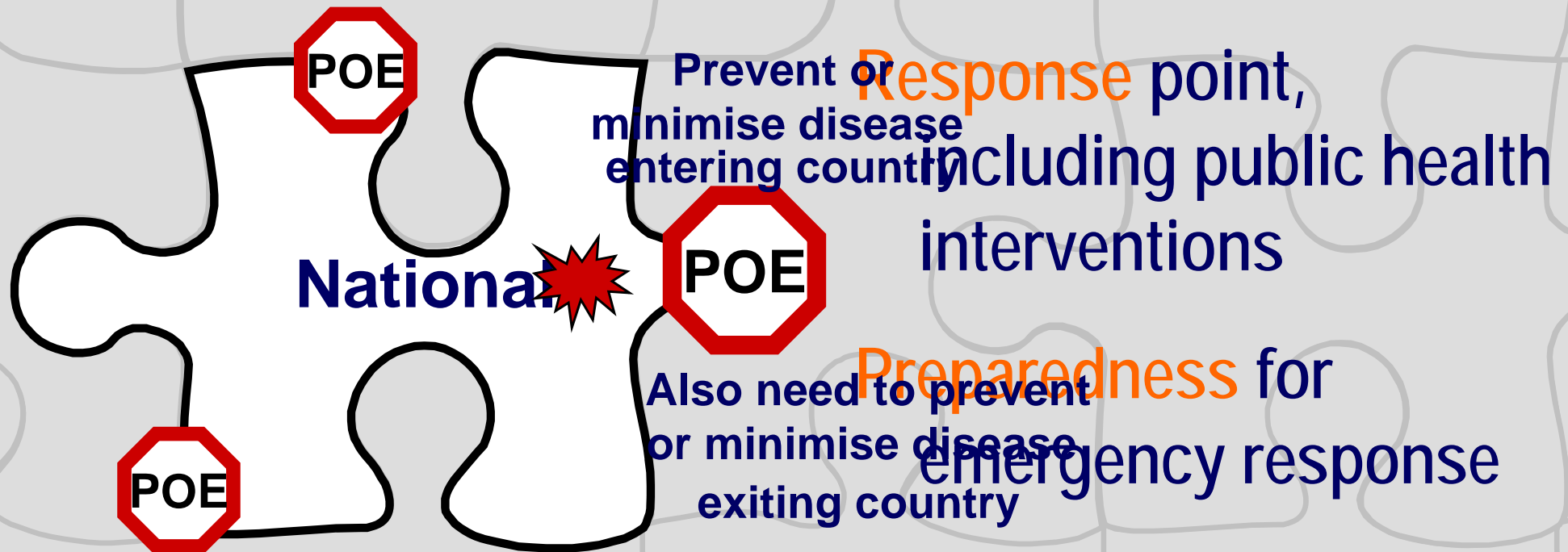
**'Old' IHR
1969**

International



'New' IHR 2005

Sentinel site to contribute
to **surveillance**



International

New role, new responsibilities

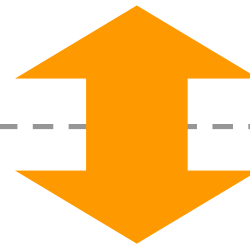
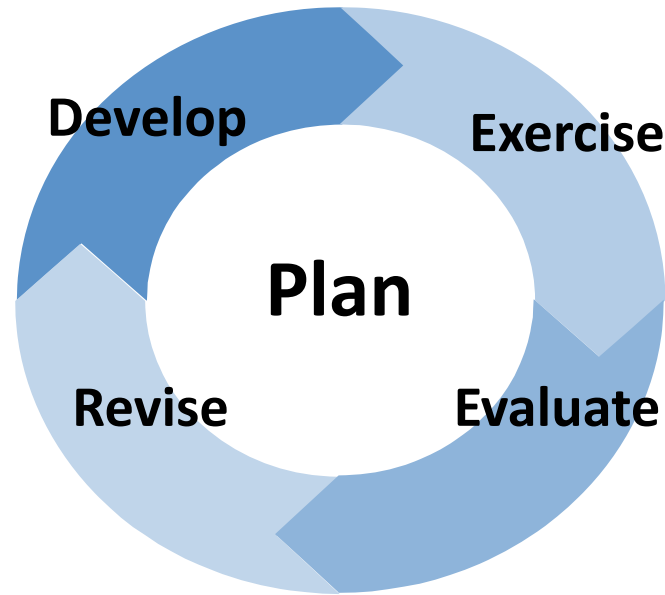


World Health
Organization

Two-Tiered Approach for PHEP

FIRST TIER

Emergency
Planning



SECOND TIER

Increasing Readiness

- Actions specific to **events**
- Actions based on **routine activities**

IHR Definition of “PHEIC”

PHEIC - *“Public health emergency of international concern”*

means an extraordinary event which is determined, as provided in these Regulations:

(i) to constitute a public health risk to other States through the international spread of disease

AND

(ii) to potentially require a *coordinated international response*

Core themes of the PHEP

Simplicity – *to be understood easily and quickly by everyone involved*

Proportionality and practicality – *One size does not fit all*

Minimum disruption – *The nature of POE work...*

Collaboration – *a multi-sector approach*

Communication – *effective communication is perhaps the greatest determinant of the success or failure of emergency response*

3R's of Emergency Management (*Readiness, Response and Recovery*)

Guiding Principles...

Be *flexible*

Ensure broad consideration and *linkage* – *POE PHECP fits into the BIG picture of overall national public health emergency preparedness and response*

Plan to develop *surge capacity*

Ensure full respect (*e.g. human rights of international travellers...*)

Place equal focus on *readiness and recovery*

Ensure regular *exercising*, refreshing and maintenance

Key planning consideration...

Relationships (*strategic and operational*)

Command and control

Decision support (required information...)

People (skilled staff with clear roles and responsibilities)

Multiagency coordination

Interoperability of plans

A set of clear definitions

Relationships

Public health emergency response requires “real-time” information sharing, decision-making and implementation of measures

Many agencies, organizations and service providers may involve in the process

Two kinds of relationships:

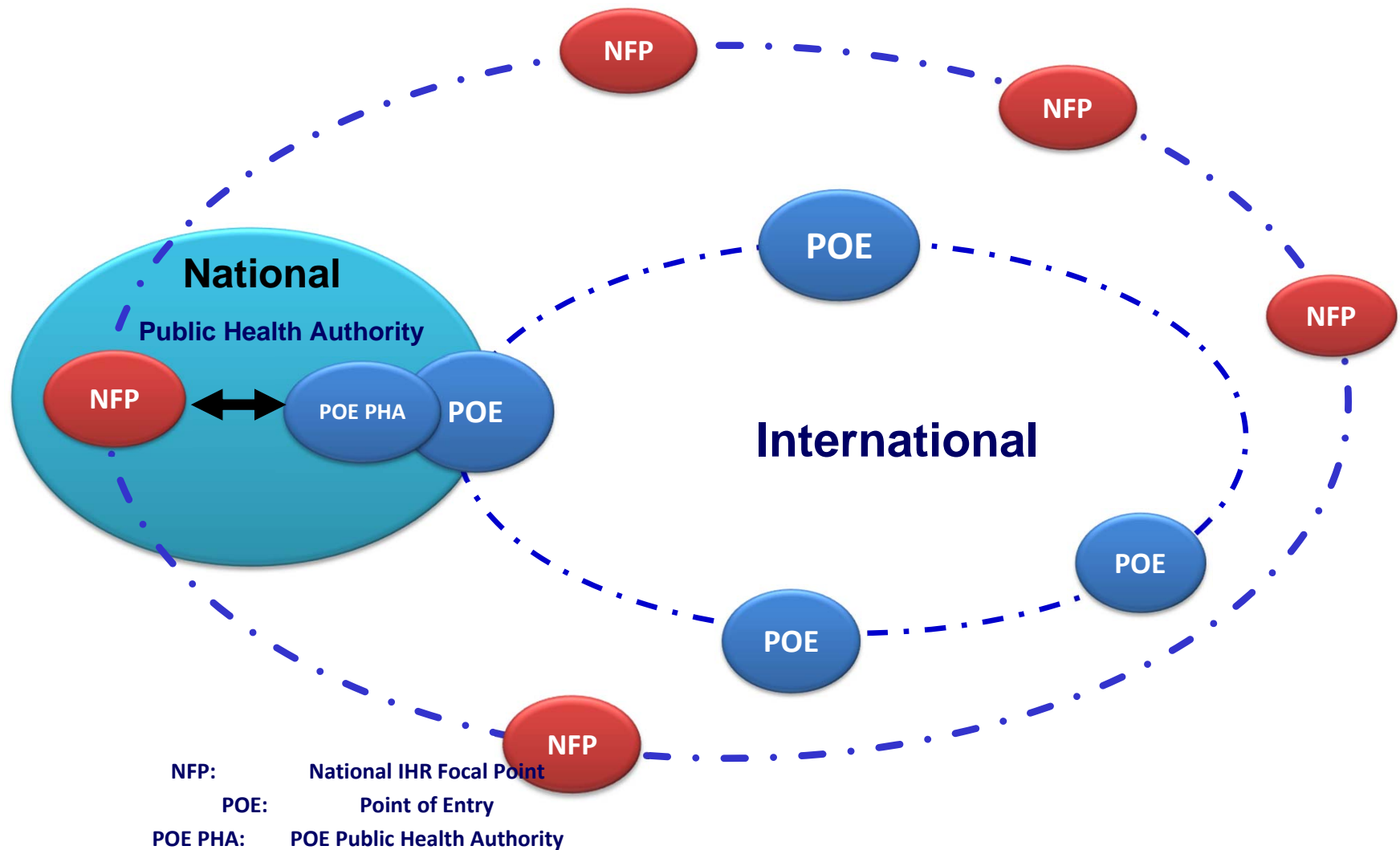
- Strategic
- operational

Strategic Relationships...

POE is *part of the National System* for the public health emergency response which links to the national command and response management structure

POE is *part of the Regional and Global Alert and Response System* which links to other POE and/or POE public health authorities in other countries

Strategic Relations during a PHEIC



Operational Relationships...

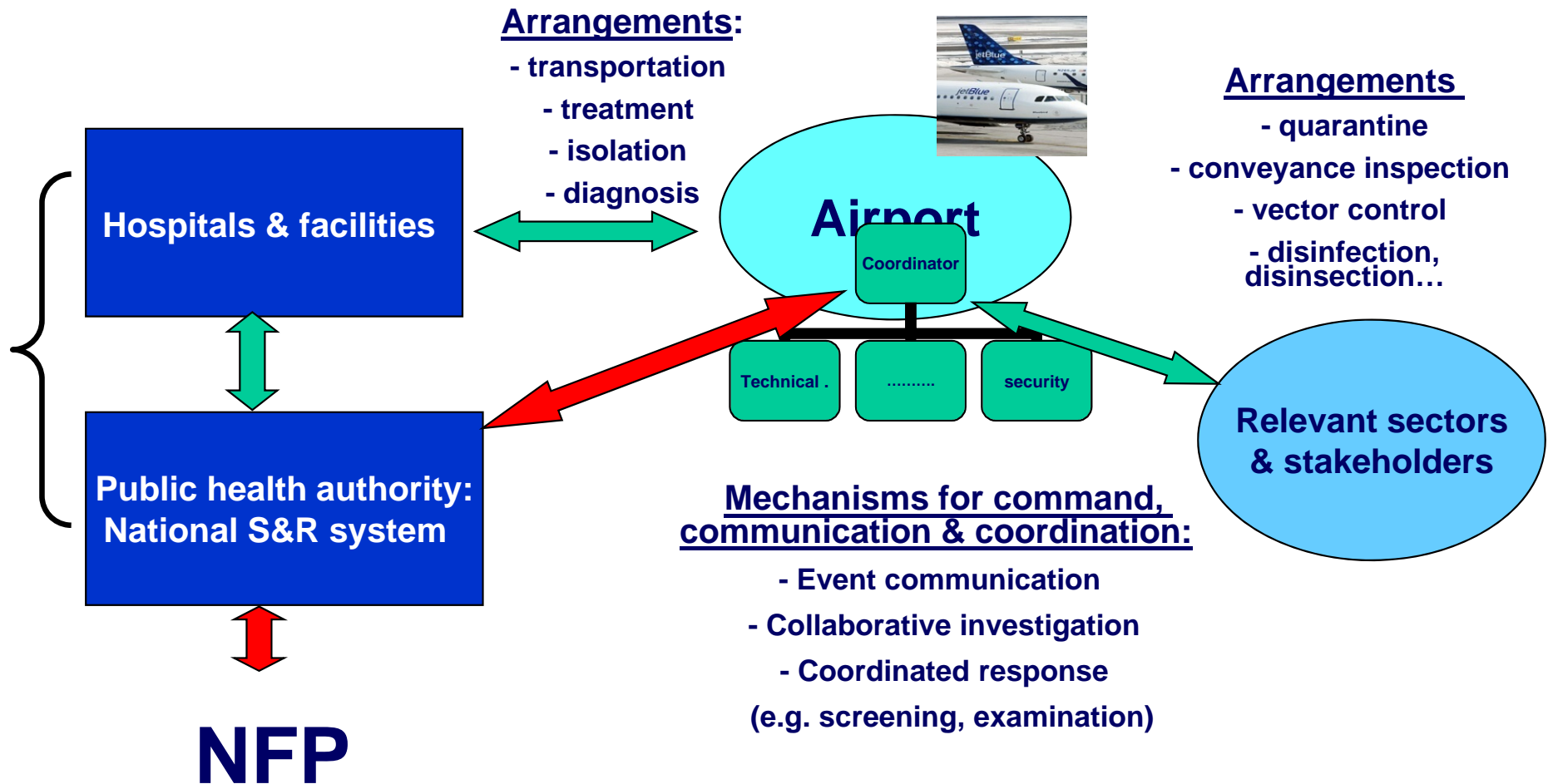
Important for implementation of tasks and actions at the operational levels

Many agencies, service providers and groups may be involved in operational response to a PHE

Some examples: Operational relations

- *between POE public health officials at an individual international airport and a transport service provider for ambulance service*
- *between POE public health officials and airport operator to implement the appropriate parking stand for an incoming affected aircraft*

Operational Relations in managing a PHEIC



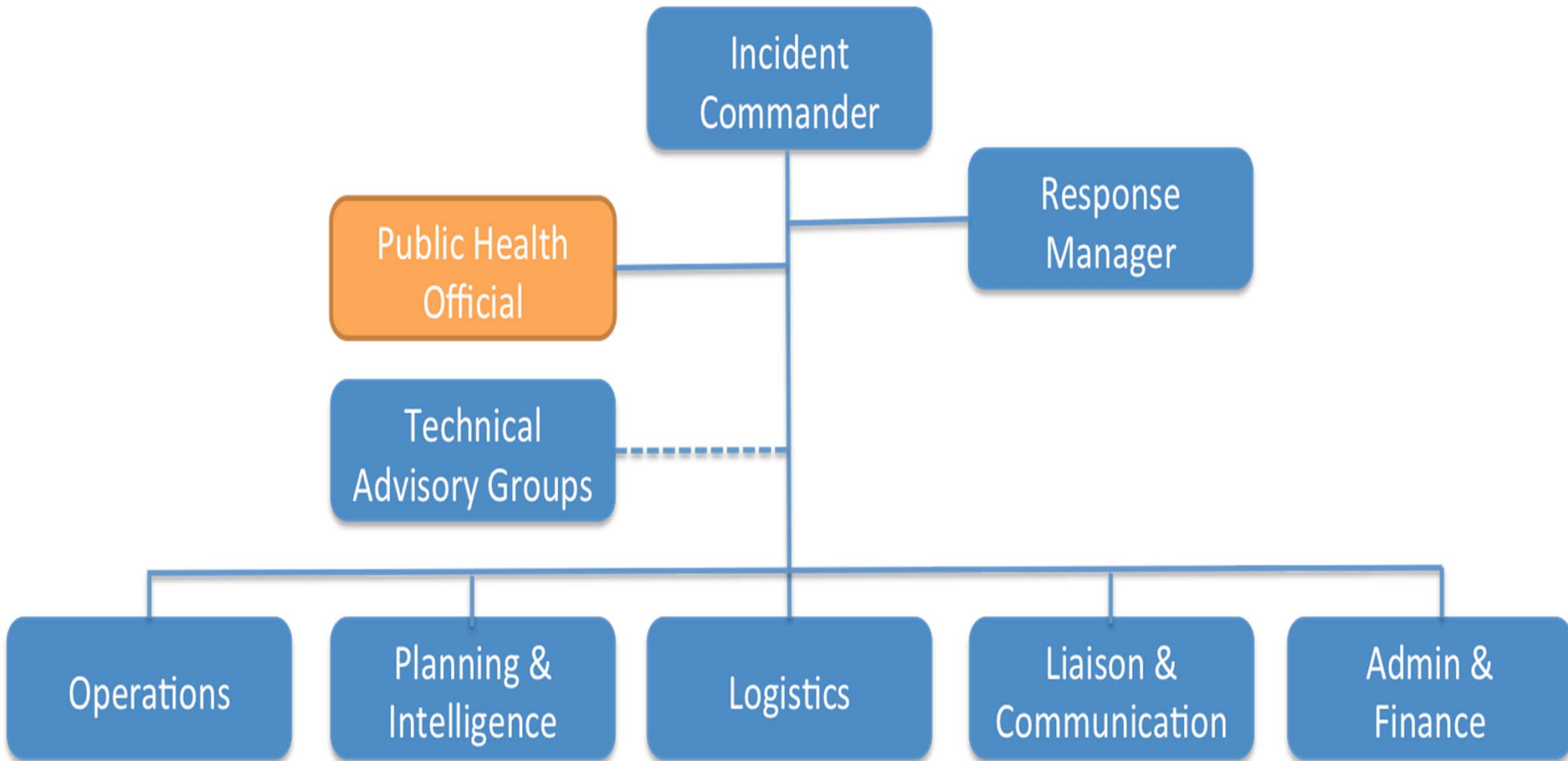
Command and Response Management Structure

Vital for *decision-making*, accountability, directing and coordinating the response

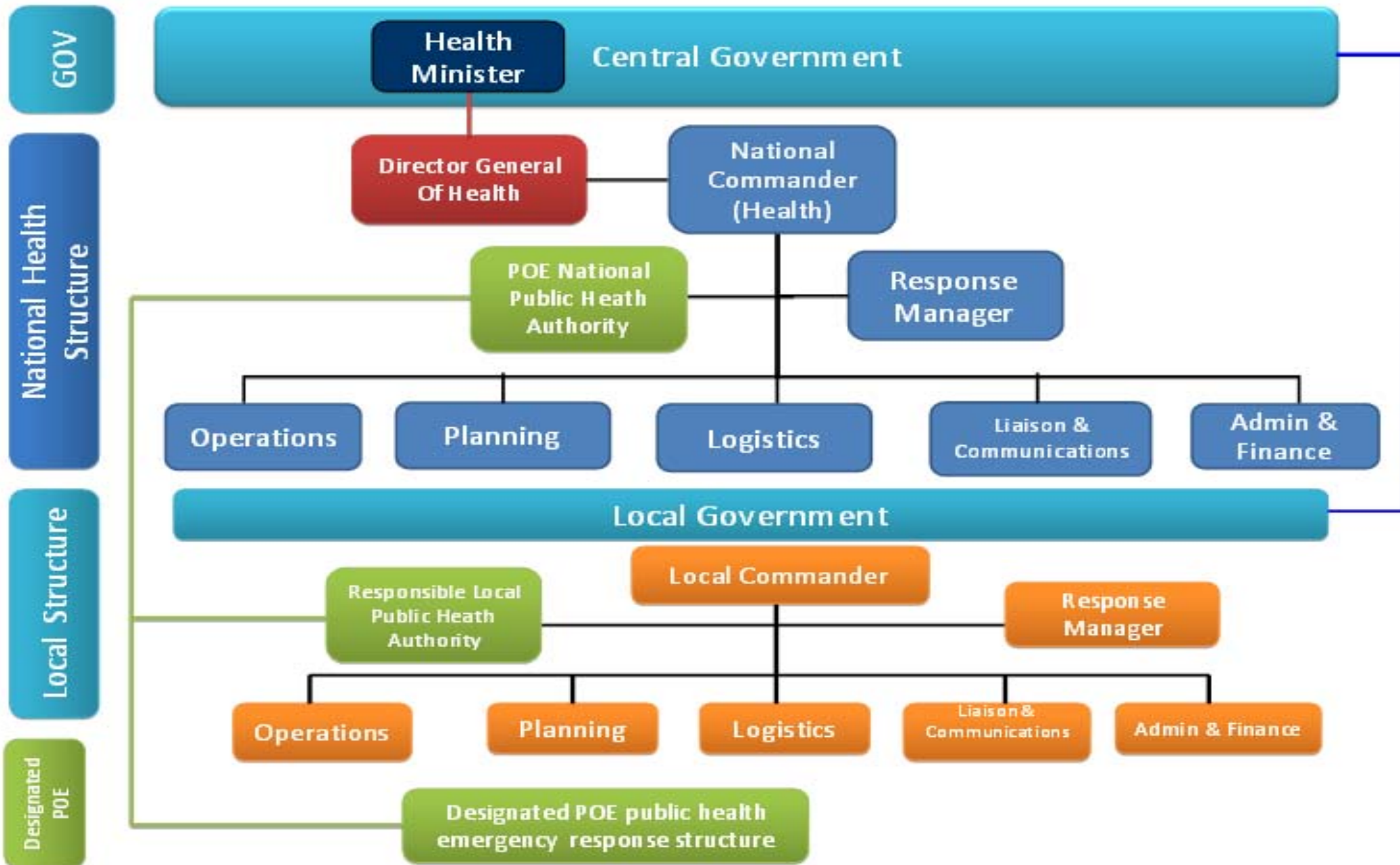
Formal functions usually include

- Operations
- Logistics
- Planning/information
- Communication/Liaison
- Finance

Example: POE Emergency Operations Centre



Example: National Command & Response Structure



Multi-agency involvement...

Vitally important and extremely valuable in both

- Preparedness
- Response

Interface between POE public health authorities and non-health sectors (e.g. service providers) critical

Multi-agency exercises help improve the process

Recommended Steps to Establishing a PHECP

1. Establish a planning team
2. Preparation phase
3. Initiate planning phase
4. Write the plan
5. Review the plan
6. Test the plan
7. **Sign-off or acceptance**
8. **Conclude planning phase**
9. **Publish and communicate the plan**
10. **Train required response personnel**
11. **Conduct regular exercises**
12. **Review, update and maintain the plan as required**

Recommended Structure of a PHECP...

Section 1 - Introduction

- Authority of the Plan
- Relations to other plans
- How to use the plan
- Purpose, objectives and scope

Section 2 – Operational Response

- Command and Control structure
- Roles and responsibilities
- Activation and response
- Deactivation

- **Section 3 – Supporting information**

- Technical guidance
- Templates and forms
 - SOPs

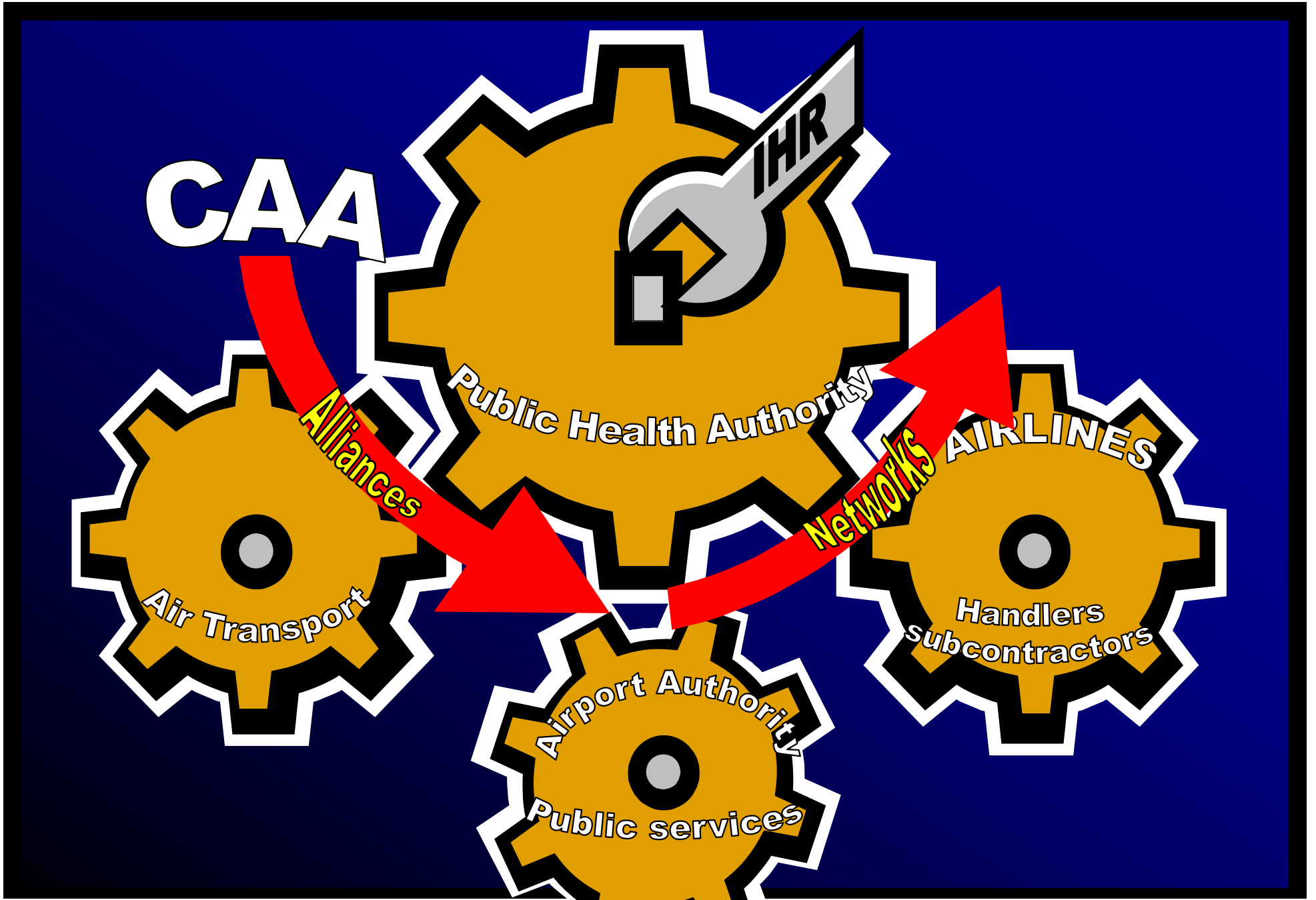
Conclusion

Any designated international airport is required to develop and maintain *a public health emergency contingency plan (PHECP)* under the IHR (2005)

The WHO guidance document provides POE public health authorities with a guide on POE public health emergency contingency planning

Countries will need to adapt the guide to develop appropriate PHECP at designated POE based on national and local system and context, as needed

Reinforcing confidence



CAA

IHR

Public Health Authority

Air Transport

Alliances

Networks

AIRLINES

Handlers subcontractors

Airport Authority
Public services



Thank you

World Health Organization