



International Civil Aviation Organization

Fourth DGCA-MID Virtual Meeting
(3 June 2021 from 10:30 to 13:30 UTC)

Agenda Item 3: Regional Developments related to COVID-19

OUTCOME OF THE COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT WEBINAR

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This paper presents the outcome of the Webinar on Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Aviation. Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3
REFERENCES
Sod of the Webinar on Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Aviation

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Webinar on Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Aviation was successfully held from 5 to 6 April 2021, 12:00 - 14:30 UTC using MS Teams facility. The Webinar was organized jointly by ICAO, AACO, ACAO, ACI and IATA and supported by other International Organizations such as CANSO.

1.2 The main objective of the Webinar was to address the economic impact of COVID-19 on aviation; yet, many other subjects, which have a direct or indirect economic impact on aviation have been addressed during the discussion, such as: the implementation of Quarantine measures, testing and testing certificates, vaccines and vaccine certificates, air cargo and transportation of vaccines, etc.

1.3 The Webinar was attended by a total of one hundred and ninety-six (196) participants from sixteen (16) States (Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, UAE, USA and Yemen) and eleven (11) Organizations/Industries (AACO, ACAO, ACI, AFCAC, AFRAA, BOEING, CANSO, IATA, IFATCA, Airlines & Union of Arab Bank).

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The main outcomes of the Webinar were formulated in the form of Recommendations, which are listed below.

1. All industry stakeholders to promote and raise awareness on the role of aviation as a socio-economic catalyst at the national, regional and global level.
2. States are encouraged to safely and progressively reactivate economies and air travel by applying CART Recommendations and guidance in their National risk management strategies.

3. All industry stakeholders to promote the implementation of CART Recommendation 10 by utilizing the ICAO Guidance on Economic and Financial Measures.
4. States are encouraged to provide essential financial and regulatory support for aviation to help mitigate the liquidity and financial strain on the industry and to maintain readiness of the industry to restart.
5. States are invited to establish a clear framework for State economic and financial support to aviation, in line with State's overarching fiscal and monetary policy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and implement travel market stimulation initiatives once borders start to reopen.
6. States are invited to evaluate and implement appropriate economic and financial support measures, in consultation with all parties involved and taking into account the needs of all aviation stakeholders.
7. States are invited to align and integrate aviation development plans with national and/or regional economic development plans and strategies.
8. States are encouraged to assess the need to extend/enact taxes and charges alleviations for air operators to stimulate demand recovery.
9. States are invited to ensure that ICAO policies on taxation of international aviation and charges for airport and air navigation services should be followed by States.
10. States are encouraged to bear the costs of mandatory health measures.
11. States are invited to conduct cost-benefit analysis on whether to continue levying passenger-based taxes or to generate higher national income from additional economic activity arising from aviation.
12. States should exercise caution when implementing measures that provide support to one party at the cost of another, and strike an appropriate balance between the respective interests of service providers (airports and ANSPs) and of users (airlines) and end-user.
13. All industry stakeholders to promote multi-stakeholders cooperation and encourage financial support to aviation and engagement of financial institutions.
14. States and International Organizations are invited to establish a process for cross-sectoral cooperation and collaboration between aviation and other economic sectors such as tourism, trade, finance, and public health, etc.
15. States and International Organizations are invited to strengthen regional and international cooperation, and encourage sharing of information, knowledge, experience and best practices.
16. States are encouraged to create a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate to support aviation development through diversifying funding sources and elevating the role of private sector.

17. Need to review jet fuel prices at different international airports in the MID Region to improve alignment with international benchmarks.

18. States are invited to enable sustainable funding of civil aviation authorities to perform the necessary safety and security oversight functions.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to encourage States and stakeholders to implement the Recommendations emanating from the COVID-19 Economic Impact Webinar.

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