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RECONNECTINGTHEWORLD

Public Health Corridor iPack

CAPSCA EUR/MID meeting

December 2021

COVID 19 –CART and PHC

- CAPSCA recommended to the Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) the implementation of the ICAO Public Health Corridor (PHC) concept to engender confidence in the restart.

- The PHC concept was developed using:

  - a risk-based approach, taking into account relevant safety management principles.
  - WHO recommendations and aviation sector pandemic guidance.

Public Health Corridor - PHC

- Formed when two or more States agree to recognise the public health mitigation measures each has implemented on one or more routes between their States.
- Also referred as “travel bubbles” or “Air Bridges”.
- Guidance/References:
  - Electronic Bulletins EB 2020/036, 2020/62
  - State Letters SL 2020/090, 2020/97, 2021/08
  - CART reports and TOGD
  - HLCC (Agenda Items 6 & 7)
  - ICAO Manual on COVID-19 Cross-Border Risk Management (Doc 10152)

PHC Objectives

- Ensure continued flight operations with minimal restrictions on aircraft operations.
- Prevent the spread of COVID-19 through air travel.
- Protect the health and safety of crew and passengers.
- Harmonized procedures and requirements.
- Open travel within and between States and resume normal travel.

CART report Phase III, Recommendation 14

Member States considering the formation of a Public Health Corridor (PHC) should actively share information with each other to implement PHCs in a harmonized manner.

To facilitate the implementation, the ICAO Implementation Package (iPack) on establishing a PHC is available to States, in addition to PHC-specific tools published on the ICAO website and the App providing a template PHC arrangement between States.

Take Off Guidance Document Fourth Edition

1.5 Implementation through PHCs

- States are strongly encouraged to collaborate with each other to establish PHCs.
- A PHC is formed when two or more States agree to recognise the public health mitigation measures each has implemented on one or more routes between their States.
- Actively share information through the PHC template on the CRRIC.
- Apply a mutually supportive multi-layered risk-based approach to their implementation of public health mitigating risk measures.
- Strategy alignes to their risk tolerance and to their health and safety management systems.
- Establish key performance indicators to monitor the effectiveness of risk mitigation measures, from an aviation perspective and based on data released by PHAs.

ICAO High-level Conference on COVID-19 – HLCC
Agenda Items 6 and 7

- Endorse the PHC (Cargo Operations) concept developed by CAPSCA to be used as a temporary measure during other disease outbreaks with similar circumstances while noting that a PHC does not replace existing Air Services Agreements.

- Continue to adapt and provide for a quick response mechanism in ICAO that would issue urgent guidance to Member States in the event of an outbreak and develop case-specific Guidance on how to implement a PHC for a particular outbreak, based on the available scientific evidence.

- Recognize the importance of the development of a multi-scenario framework for implementing PHCs safely during public health emergencies taking into account that PHCs are temporary arrangements that must not undermine or be consistent with existing Air Services Agreements.

Implementation Packages (iPack)

- What is an iPack
  A self-contained package composed of the relevant ICAO products and services providing an "all-in-one" and user-friendly bundle of implementation support.

- Expected Outcomes of an iPack
  Facilitate alignment with measures and recommendations contained in the CART Report, applying the most up-to-date ICAO provisions and other international requirements and guidance related to public health and other relevant topics.

- Benefits of an iPack
  - Flexibility as it can be State or Regional oriented and tailored to prioritised needs.
  - Enhanced quality, timeliness and effectiveness of ICAO implementation support delivery.
  - Suitability for donor funding – No Country Left Behind

Establishing a Public Health Corridor (iPack)

Goal

Restore international travel through the implementation of Public Health Corridors by supporting Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs) in sharing information, applying mutually accepted public health measures and concluding bilateral or multilateral agreements.

Target Audience:

- Civil Aviation Authorities; and/or
- Public Health Authorities;
- Other relevant national authorities e.g. Customs and Immigration; Aerodrome Operators;
- Aircraft Operators; and other relevant service providers.

PHC (iPack) Objectives

1. Assess the status of implementation, conduct a gap analysis and determine an action plan for further improvement;
2. Develop a COVID-19 aviation risk assessment framework that integrates with existing national frameworks;
3. Apply generic decision-making tools to determine the risk of transporting potentially infectious passengers translocating the virus between States;
4. Implementing a multi-layer risk management strategy that is evidence- based and performance based;
5. Share public health risk mitigation measures and best practices;
6. Engage in bilateral or multilateral discussions to establish PHC.

PHC iPack Components

Expert assistance

Dedicated Subject Matter Expert (15 working days)

Training

- Public Health Corridor: Online Course;

- Conducting a Technical Assistance Visit to CAPSCA Member States and Airports: Online Course

Workshops

Introductory/ familiarization webinars

2 x 3 hour workshops with Panel discussions and customized hands-on exercises

Tools

- Checklists;
- Frameworks;
- Decisions aids;
- Templates;
- Accreditation procedures;
- Forms and posters;
- Online reporting systems; and
- PHC Application

Guidance Material

- ICAO Manual on COVID-19 Cross-Border Risk Management (Doc 10152)
- Management Measures Manual
- CAPSCA partner guidance Material and
- Other associated guidance material
- Relevant ICAO Annexes as well as the Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Air Traffic Management

iPack Milestones

- kick-off meeting (with the recipient State, ICAO HQ Technical Focal point, TCB Project Manager and CAPSCA Regional Coordinator).
- iPack deployment work plan (in consultation with the Project Manager, ICAO HQ Technical Focal Point, CAPSCA Regional Coordinator and State Focal point).
- Training and Workshops delivering.
- Implement deployment work plan in view of achieving the iPack objectives.
- End of Assignment Report, including a follow-on Work Plan (coordinated with the HQ Technical Focal Point and the CAPSCA Regional Coordinator).
- Debriefing session with all stakeholders to review the follow-on Work Plan and obtain State acceptance.

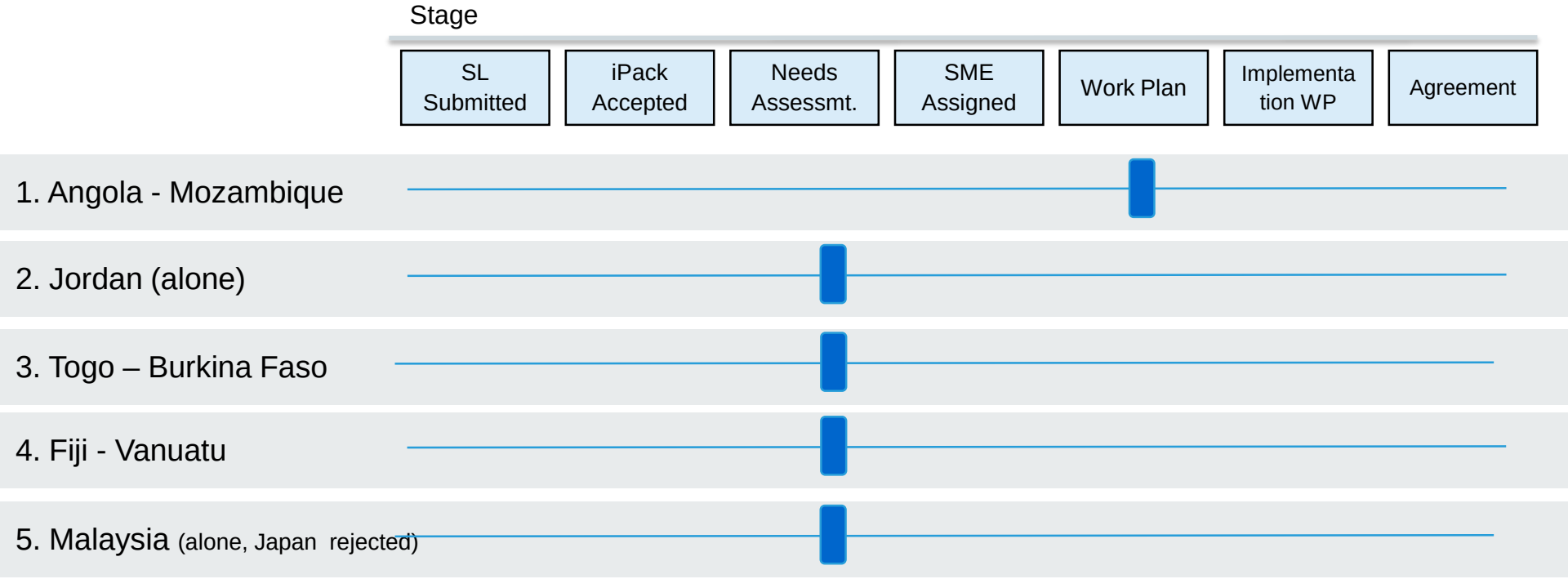
Required Actions from States

- Enroll/request/accept the iPack.
- Full commitment and availability from the States towards the success of the iPack.
- Assign focal points.
- Complete and return the questionnaires and checklists with the information completed.
- Facilitate the communication/coordination/collaboration between the State focal points (CAA, PHAs, Customs and Immigrations, other national departments) and SME/ICAO RO/ICAO PM.
- Enable the participation of the selected representatives of the states in the necessary sessions/trainings/workshops.

PHC iPack Implementation Challenges

- Internal coordination within the State, specifically between the CAA and the PHA.
- Insufficient or poor communication between the aviation, public health and other stakeholders.
- Selection and agreement on the Partner State.
- Absence of the CAA in the decision-making process related to health measures on the international traffic of passengers and cargo.
- Delays on the implementation of CART, CAPSCA and WHO recommendations.
- Absence of a risk assessment methodology.
- Inconsistent public health measures.

PHC iPACK Implementation Status



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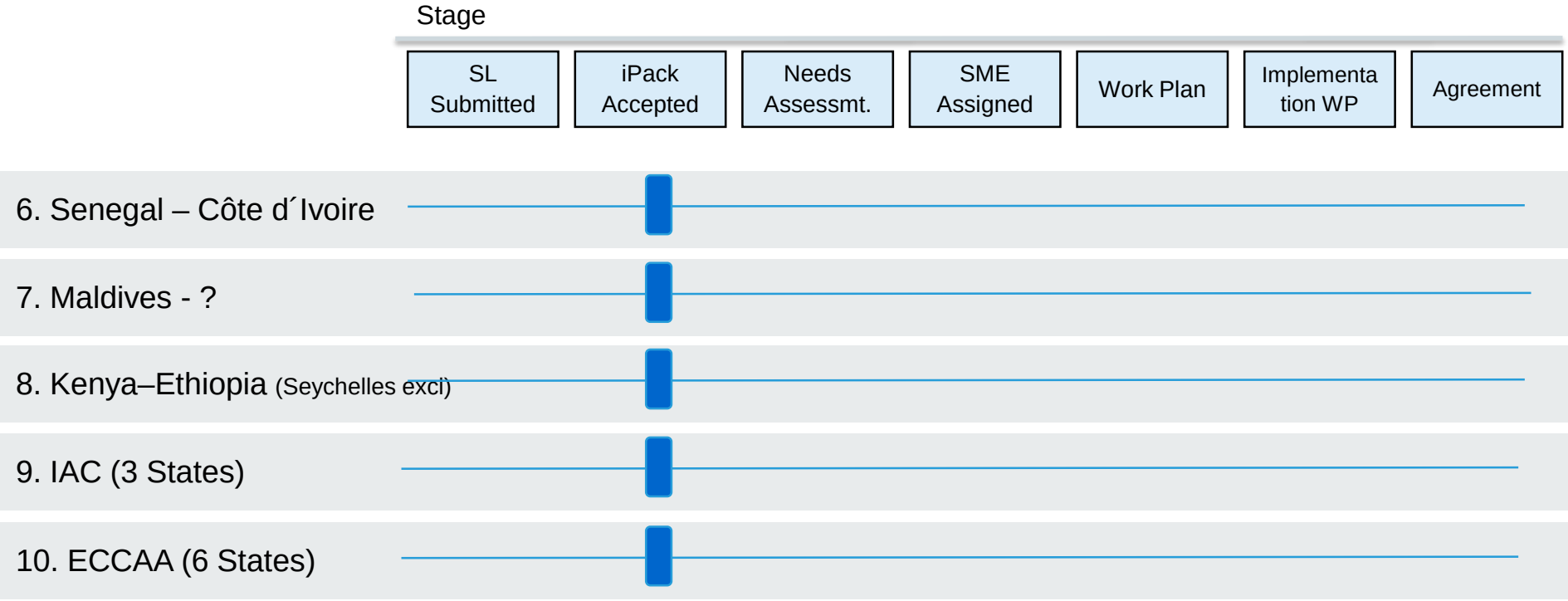

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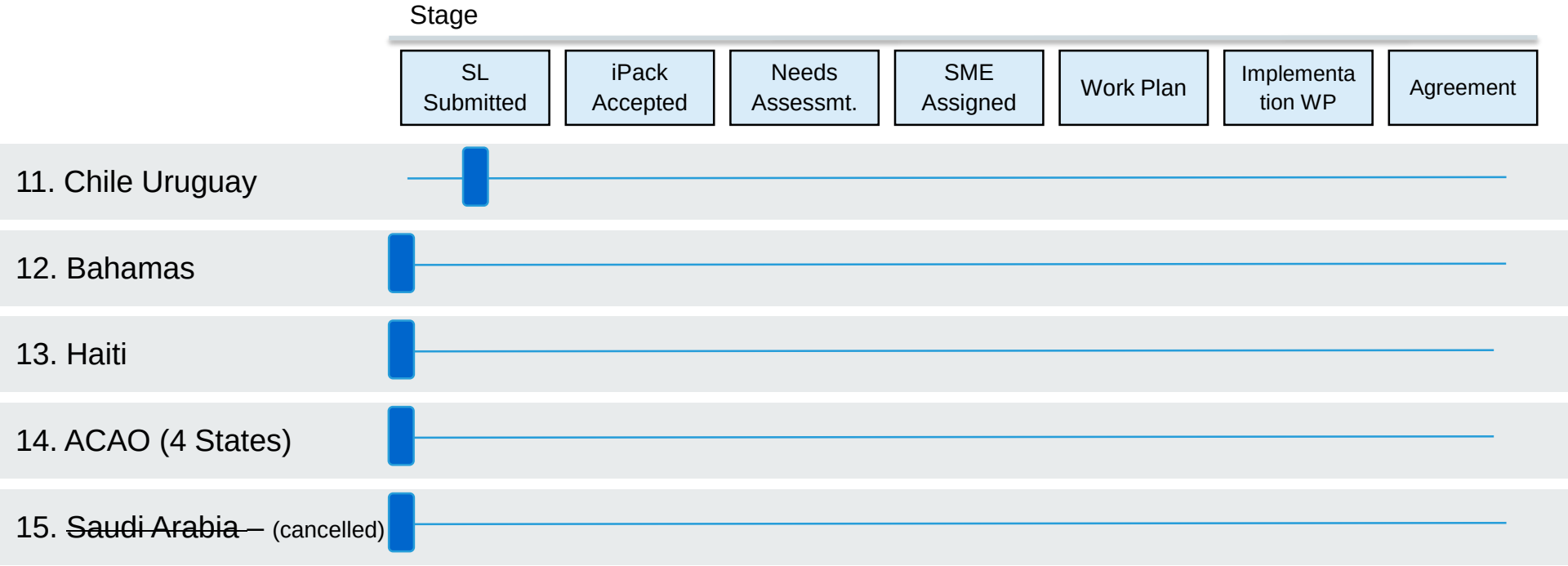

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THANK YOU