Subject: ICAO – WHO CAPSCA Global Symposium
Montréal, 28 to 30 April 2015

Action required: a) plan for attendance; and
b) disseminate this letter as requested in paragraph 4

Sir/Madam,

1. I have the honour to invite your Administration/Organization to participate in the Global Symposium of the Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) programme which is being convened by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) from 28 to 30 April 2015, at the ICAO Headquarters in Montréal, Canada.

2. CAPSCA is a global, collaborative arrangement, established in 2006 between international organizations, including ICAO, WHO, United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Airports Council International (ACI). It aims to improve preparedness planning in States in the aviation sector for public health emergencies, or potential emergencies, that can arise from communicable disease outbreaks such as Ebola Virus Disease. Further information on CAPSCA objectives is available on the CAPSCA website: www.capsca.org.

3. The programme outline of the event is provided in the attachment to this letter. Please note that the symposium will be held in English only. Administrative arrangements, including accommodation options can be found on the symposium website: http://www.icao.int/Meetings/CAPSCA2015/Pages/default.aspx. Participant registration is through the website.

4. You are kindly requested to disseminate this information to any organization in your State that may be interested in participating, including the national Ministry of Health, public health authorities, tourism authorities, civil aviation authorities, airport operators, aircraft operators and air navigation service providers.
5. Should you require any further information, please contact Dr. Anthony Evans, Chief, Aviation Medicine Section, Air Navigation Bureau of ICAO at aevans@icao.int.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Raymond Benjamin
Secretary General

Enclosure:
Programme outline of the CAPSCA Global Symposium
Overview of Ebola outbreak

- Perspective of ICAO
- Perspective of WHO
- Perspective of IATA
- Perspective of ACI
- Ebola in context of other communicable diseases
- Ebola Aviation Action Plan
- Ebola Travel and Transport Task Force
- Arrival procedures for an affected aircraft (including identification of suspected case and communication procedures)
- Screening at airports (exit screening, entry screening)
- Air ambulance operations for Ebola patients
- Airline operations to/from most affected States – view of IATA/airline
- Airport operations during the outbreak – view of ACI/airport operator
- Cleaning of aircraft
- Personal protective equipment for aircraft cleaners
- Personal protective equipment for cabin crew
- Communication procedures for notification of a suspect case on board
- Contact tracing – challenges
- Experiences of States, e.g. decisions on entry screening, communication issues, main challenges

WHO airport certification under IHR framework

Ports, airports and ground crossings network (PAGNet) – WHO Secretariat update

Coordinated action in the aviation sector to control public health threats (AIRSAN) project

Training of public health and aviation personnel in IHR implementation at points of entry

Plenary discussion groups – experience of States, aircraft and airport operators, role of ICAO

“Facilitation” in preparedness planning

Future collaboration between ICAO and WHO

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