When replying please quote:
Ref.: NT-NT5 — E.OSG - NACC82313  
18 March 2020

To: States, Territories and International Organizations

Subject: NOTAMs Information on Conditions of Air Navigation and Airport Services

Action Required: NOTAM Information Review (update) and/or Issuance

Sir/Madam,

Due to the declaration by the World Health Organization (WHO) of the new Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) as a pandemic, many States and Territories have taken important mitigation measures to safeguard their borders, avoiding the spread of the virus. The adopted mitigation measures include restrictions that affect air operations and international airports.

Considering the significant impact that this situation currently has on operators and the aviation community in general, it is necessary to provide clear and accurate information that supports decision-making regarding the conducting and planning of operations.

In accordance with the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) of Annex 15 — Aeronautical Information Services and the provisions of ICAO Doc 10066 – PANS AIM, as well as Doc 8126 – Aeronautical Information Services Manual, it is essential to issue Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) information regarding the establishment, condition or modification of any aeronautical facility, procedure or danger (risk), which timely awareness is essential for personnel in charge of flight operations.

In this sense, we would appreciate having in your Aeronautical Information Management (AIM) services, the immediate review and/or update of the international NOTAM information issued to date, regarding the following conditions and matters:

- General information regarding limitations related to COVID-19 and estimated terms of validity
- Available airports for international general aviation
- Available airports for regular international flights

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Available airports for non-regular international flights
Available airports for international cargo flights
Conditions for the development of repatriation, humanitarian aid, medical evacuation, or Search and Rescue (SAR) operations flights
Limitations to services for aircraft in emergency, and use of alternate airports on international routes
Overflights and use of regional airways
Conditions on the provision of air navigation services (ATS, AIS, MET, SAR, COM)
Other relevant information regarding services, processing of special approvals and additional measures related to COVID-19

We suggest, in order to facilitate the analysis and filtering by automated systems, to mention that the abovementioned NOTAM is related to the measures taken by your State in response to COVID-19. Despite the fact that these measures normally emanate from the highest levels of government and are supported by administrative decisions of importance to the State, it is necessary to write the text in the simplest, clearest and most direct way possible, making reference, if necessary, to other regulatory documents published by the State but without the need to fully transpose them. This is why, in addition to the information issued in the NOTAM, the need to issue an Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC) to transmit the exceptional immigration or public health control measures for air transport that include airport measures, linked to COVID-19, should be considered. In addition, in case this information has been published in a repository or website, please indicate the corresponding web address in your NOTAM and/or AIC.

Should you require further information on this matter, please contact Mr. Raúl Martínez, Regional Officer, Aeronautical Information Management (rmartinez@icao.int) or Mr. Eddian Méndez, Regional Officer, Air Traffic Management and Search and Rescue (emendez@icao.int).

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

Melvin Cintron
Regional Director
North American, Central American and Caribbean (NACC) Regional Office

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