

Procedures and Precautions Taken at the Egyptian Ministry of Civil Aviation and its affiliates to address the spread of corona

Virus covid-19

- **Egypt has establish a national plan to address the spread of corona virus with the co-ordination of all stakeholders and all the Egyptians' sectors, and the aviation sector is part of this national plan as this sector play a vital role in taking preventative actions to reduce the risk of the spread of the virus .**
- **The ministry of civil aviation has defined clear contact point, with identified individual(s), at national aviation level for policy formulation and operational organization of preparedness and has created communication channels with all the relevant ministries to formulate the preparedness plan and implement it.**
- **The ministry of civil aviation has done risk assessment for the spread of covid-19, also all the ministrys' affiliates have done their own risk assessment.**
- **The ministry of civil aviation is communicating with the ministry of health constantly and also with the quarantine authority at the airports and is following the recommendation and periodic instructions issued by the ministry of health and making sure that all the airlines are implementing those instructions.**
- **The ministry of civil aviation has created a committee to manage the corona virus crisis.**

- The ministry of civil aviation and the authority of civil aviation is communicating with the IATA organization to be updated with the international requirement regarding dealing with covid-19.
- The ministry of civil aviation continues to carry out a steady exchange of opinions such as guidance with health authority because domestic standard are constantly being revised according to the trends and epidemiological survey results in the existing guidelines for infectious virus diseases.
 - Basically, all situations related to Corona 19 should be report the health authority.
 - The ministry of civil aviation maintains close communication with the health authority's epidemiological team about the situation, and determines measures for the crew and colleagues concerned.
 - The aviation preparedness plan effectively links all relevant aviation stakeholders (including both public and private sector entities) within the national preparedness plan, and the authority of civil aviation play a great role in implementing this plan.
- the ministry of civil aviation has created three scenarios to address the virus as follows:
 1. Scenario 1: getting ready and take the precautions.
 2. Scenario 2: there is an infected persons.
 3. Scenario 3: the outbreak of the virus.
- The ministry of civil aviation has done four steps so far:
 1. Putting instructions for implementing precautions and preventive procedures at ministry of civil aviation and its affiliates.
 2. Direct and indirect awareness.
 3. Follow-up process on the precautions and preventive actions.
 4. Evaluation and control process.

1. Putting instruction for implementing precautions and preventive procedures at ministry of civil aviation and its affiliates:

- **Proper hygiene can help reduce the risk of infection or spreading infection to others:**
 - **wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the washroom .**
 - **use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.**
 - **when coughing or sneezing: cough or sneeze into a tissue or the bend of your arm, not your hand.**
 - **dispose of any tissues you have used as soon as possible in a lined waste basket and wash your hands afterwards.**
 - **avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.**

- **Dealing with the airplane's waste as dangerous waste.**
- **Providing all the medical important tools to all the relevant parties.**
- **Assuring that workers who are cleaning the aeroplanes are wearing the medical clothes.**
- **Ministry of civil aviation has issued instructions and precautions for:**
 1. **All the affiliates of the ministry.**
 2. **Cabin crew.**
 3. **Airlines.**
 4. **Airports.**
 5. **Workers.**
 6. **Passengers.**

2. Direct and indirect awareness.

- **The ministry has held several working shops and trainings with the co-ordination of ministry of health to aware all the employees on the corona virus and how to be protected from it.**
- **Distribute posters and publications in all places to aware employees on the risk associated with the virus.**
- **There has been training for the cabin crew on how to deal with the suspected cases based on the ICAO and WHO's instruction.**
- **There has been training for the cargo and ground handling companies on how to follow the necessary procedures at their work to avoid the spread of covid-19.**

3. Follow-up process on the precautions and preventive actions.

- **Follow up the quarantine work at the airports, and how the examine the travellers and if they found suspected case they would send them to the hospitals.**
- **Follow up the distribution of the health cards on the travellers and hand the cards to the quarantine management.**
- **Follow up the sterilization and disinfection process at all airports and all working places.**
- **Follow up the instructions issued by(ministry of foreign affairs- ministry of health- authority of civil aviation).**

4. Evaluation and control process.

- **Controlling the implementation of the precautions through the representatives in all the airports and the internal and external stations.**
- **Evaluate the implementation of the plans.**
- **Controlling the entry of the travellers coming from the infected diseases.**
- **Evaluate the implementation of the instructions issued by the local and international organizations.**
- **The authority of civil aviation is monitoring the private airlines work concerning the sterilizing and disinfecting of the aeroplanes with the correct substances and that the airlines are following the Egyptian ministry of health and the WHO's instructions.**
- **The airports managers are monitoring the air traffic for the international airlines.**
- **Monitoring that all the passengers and workers all following the precautions requirements.**
- **Monitoring the work at the cargos and ground handling.**

Instructions for the airlines:

(1) Passenger with symptoms on board aircraft:

- **Restrictions movement between seats.**
- **Provide a mask for passengers.**
- **Designating the crew in charge, designating the toilet.**
- **Contact airport authority in advance and follow directions.**
- **Sanitizing the airplane inside and excluding the crew in charge of passenger with symptoms from duty until getting the virus inspection result of a passenger with symptoms.**
- **Sanitizing the airport/Implementing the authority's guidelines.**

(2) The passenger we find out about after a while that he was flying our plane

- **According to the results of the epidemiological survey by the health authority, people with symptoms who contacted with infected person should be treated as suspected case. Quarantine for 14 days, and get virus test.**
- **According to the results of the epidemiological survey by the health authority, people with no symptoms who contacted with infected person should be isolated for 14 days and observe any symptoms.**
- **Sanitizing the airport/Implementing the authority's guidelines.**

(3) A flight crew member who had contact with an infected person

- **Immediately report the fact that he contacted with infected person.**
- **Report to the health authority and follow the instructions**

(4) A flight crew member who is found infected:

- The rest of crew members who has been flying with infected person should be excluded from the duty.
- Report to the health authority and isolate or inspect virus test according to the epidemiological survey results.

(5) Suspicious symptoms appear during layover:

- Exclude crew member with symptoms from duty and standby in isolation space of aircraft.
- Flight crew members with symptoms are assigned to the rearmost row (3 seats empty) and classified as suspected patient.
- Report to health authority.

(6) Person who is outside of Homebased was identified as someone who has been in contact with infected person:

- Follow up with local health authority's instructions, such as isolating and inspecting virus test according to the results of epidemiological surveys.