No: 1385/CHK-QLC

To: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Sir, Madam,

The Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam (CAAV) presents its compliment to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and has the honor to refer to the State Letter Ref: EC 6/3 – 20/46 dated 18 March 2020 with the subject on the adherence to relevant ICAO Annex 9 – Facilitation Standards; and Actions taken by Member States to reduce the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) by air transport and to protect the health of air travelers and the aviation personnel.

The CAAV, hereby, would like to provide information on the actions taken by Viet Nam so far to prevent COVID-19 as follows:

1. Establishment of the National Facilitation Committee:

   The Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam is planning to report to the Government on the establishment of a National Facilitation Committee or alternatively on supplementing the facilitation functions in the National Aviation Security Committee in line with Annex 9, Standards 8.19 and 8.20.

2. To implement the measures preventing COVID-19, Viet Nam has undertaken the following solutions:

   2.1. Establishment of the National Steering Committee for the Prevention of COVID-19

   - The Government of Viet Nam has established the National Steering Committee for the Prevention of COVID-19 in order to introduce a centralized and comprehensive instructions, concerted solutions and policy at national scale and for all related agencies. The composition of the National Steering Committee includes Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Public Security and Ministry of Health.

   - The Ministry of Transport has formed its own steering sub-committee which is comprised of representatives from aeronautical authority, regional airport authorities, air carriers, major ground-handling services providers with a view to implement the preventive measures under the instructions of the National Steering Committee.
- The National Steering Committee meets everyday to decide on comprehensive and uniform measures, solutions and instructions on the prevention of COVID-19 at national scale and in the field of civil aviation.

2.2. The instructions and measures preventing COVID-19 include:

- Taking focus on the prevention of the spread of epidemic, the National Steering Committee has developed measures on combating the epidemic and isolating infected persons or those who have been in close contact with infected persons. The main measures taken are as follows:

  + All outbound, inbound passengers are requested to complete a medical declaration when traveling by air or by other public transportation.

  + Infected case or those who is suspect case due to having close contact with infected one shall be strictly quarantined.

We classify the cases as follows:

F0 is infected patient: the patient shall be subject to mandatory isolation and treatment at the facility designated by the Government.

F1 is suspect case who has been in contact with F1: the case shall be subject to concentrated mandatory quarantine at the facility designated by the Government within 14 days; be tested, monitored and treated in timely basis.

F2 is case who has been in contact with F1: the case shall be subject to concentrated quarantine or mandatory self-quarantine at home within 14 days; be tested, monitored and treated in timely basis.

F3 is case who has been in contact with F2: the case shall be subject to mandatory self-quarantine at home within 14 days; be tested, monitored and treated in timely basis.

F4 is case who has been in contact with F3: the case shall be subject to mandatory self-quarantine at home within 14 days; be tested, monitored and treated in timely basis.

- Mandatory quarantine is required for all passengers travelling by air to Viet Nam from areas reported cases of COVID-19.

- In March 2020, Viet Nam temporarily suspended all flights from infected areas to Viet Nam or those operated from Viet Nam to the infected areas, except for humanitarian flights carrying Vietnamese citizens back to Viet Nam and carrying back foreign citizens to their home. All passengers entering Viet Nam shall be subject to concentrated mandatory quarantine for 14 days at the facility designated by the Government.

- Issuing regulations on restriction of transporting passengers from abroad to Viet Nam through major or gateway airports.

- Issuing regulations on prohibition of gathering, suspension all meetings, events with the participation of more than 20 persons; prohibition of gathering with more than 10 persons outside offices, schools, hospitals; temporary suspension of unnecessary
activities such as entertainment, restaurants, beer club; spa and beauty shop.

- Issuing regulations requesting 100% passengers to wear facemasks while traveling by air.

- Issuing regulations requesting 100% international flights be sterilized, according to the Ministry of Health’s requirements.

2.2. Measures taken at the Airports.

The following measures for preventing epidemic were taken and are being taken at the airports:

- Throughout reviewing and implementing procedures in response to contingency circumstances when disease occurs such as implementing coordination with Quarantine Authority at the International Airports with a view to monitor, detect, quarantine, strictly monitor cases having sign of infection; arranging suitable locations, appropriately managing passenger flows for completion of medical declaration and undergoing quarantine, including setting up a separate location dedicated to medical testing for passengers on flights from infected areas to Viet Nam.

- Preparing adequately spare parts, chemical substances, equipment, personnel and mobilizing all resources to take part in the prevention of COVID-19; providing necessary medical materials to staff on duty; for airport medical staff who is in contact with passenger having sign of infection shall wear protective clothes, facemask, gloves, according to the Ministry of Health’s requirements.

- Frequently disinfecting passenger terminal, cargo terminal, especially locations having high risk of infection in order to minimizing the spread of coronavirus.

- Disinfecting all ground-handling equipment serving flights from infected areas to Viet Nam.

- Requesting all personnel working in airports and passengers as well to wear medical facemasks.

- Propagandizing information, recommending passengers and all aviation agencies and units to take measures to prevent COVID-19.

- Imposing restrictions on providing air transportation services at the major or gateway airports such as Noi Bai, Tan Son Nhat, Da Nang for the purpose of avoiding the spread of coronavirus; designating the airports which are located far away from the downtown, but close to the military’s quarantine facility and at which its operation frequency is still low in order to receive international flights from infected areas to Viet Nam.

- Maintaining distance of 2 meters in minimum between each passenger while doing check-in.

2.3. Measures taken by air carriers

- Air carriers have imposed progressively limitation to fully suspension of
international flights carrying passengers to Viet Nam. All cargo flights or ferry flights are still permitted; flights carrying passengers and cargo depart from Viet Nam are operated normally.

- Approved IATA Summer season 2020 clearly indicates “no passenger, cargo only” for inbound flights.
- Limitations on frequency for domestic flights connecting Ha Noi (HAN) and, or Ho Chi Minh City (SGN).
- On a flight, seat assigned to passenger is separated at least one seat each other on a same row.
- 100% passengers are requested to wear facemasks while onboard aircraft.
- 100% aircraft operating international flights to Viet Nam shall be sterilized, according to the Ministry of Public Health’s requirements.
- Keeping distance of 2 meters in minimum between each passenger while doing check-in and boarding aircraft.
- Taking temperature of and requesting for completion of medical declaration for all passengers and crew in flights.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Vo Huy Cuong
Deputy Director General