Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

- WHO declared Ebola outbreak a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) under the International Health Regulations (IHR)
- WHO established Ebola Emergency Committee - ICAO adviser
- Countries with widespread and intense transmission are:
  - Guinea
  - Liberia
  - Sierra Leone
The event remains a *Public Health Emergency of International Concern*.

Outbreaks in Senegal and Nigeria declared over as of 17 and 20 October.

Primary aim - stop the transmission of Ebola within the three most affected States.

Increase public confidence in the effectiveness of exit (departure) screening.

Entry (arrival) screening less effective - required resources are significant.

No general ban on international travel or trade.

The cancellation of mass gatherings by States without Ebola transmission is not recommended.

Strengthen education and communication efforts to combat stigma, disproportionate fear and inappropriate measures. Such efforts may encourage self-reporting and early diagnosis and care.
EVD Related Flight Restrictions

• Restrictions on flights and passengers implemented by the following States as published in NOTAMs
  – Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Somalia, Trinidad and Tobago, Zambia

• WHO/ICAO recommendations are not being implemented

• Aviation restrictions are being required at a political level by health authorities and Heads of Governments

• Flight cancellations and other travel restrictions continue to isolate affected countries
  – Detrimental economic consequences
  – Hinder relief and response efforts
  – Increased number of cases
  – Risks further international spread through migration

• Impact on travel, trade, emergency response, economies
ICAO EVD Related Recent Actions

- ICAO chairs and coordinates the Joint Ebola Travel and Transport Task Force
  - participation of WHO, ICAO, IATA, ACI, IMO, ICS, CLIA, UNWTO, WTTC
- Several joint communication messages have been issued to reinforce:
  - Health regulations and aviation standards and guidance
  - Joint recommendations discouraging travel restrictions imposed by States and the suspension of services by operators
- Joint WHO/ICAO State letter sent to Ministers of Health and Aviation
- ICAO attended the East Africa Community Ministerial Meeting on Ebola which resulted in a declaration for States to avoid imposing restrictions on flights
- WHO and ICAO recommend exit screening of passengers, not entry
- ICAO has facilitated the lifting of restrictions on flights by some States
- ICAO has signed a MOU with the UNDP on “Operational Aspects of Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund”
ICAO EVD Related Future Actions

• Action Plan for States and International Organizations has been developed by ICAO to facilitate harmonized implementation of WHO recommendations relevant to the aviation sector;

• States to implement PHE preparedness plans and procedures

• States to communicate the measures implemented

• States to cancel flight and passenger restrictions

• States to join CAPSCA for assistance (visits, training, advice, etc.)

• Joint ICAO/WHO assistance visits to States and international airports have been requested by States and will be undertaken under CAPSCA (www.capsca.org)

• The next annual CAPSCA Global Coordination Meeting will be held in Cairo from 17 to 20 November.