



International Civil Aviation Organization

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

For information only

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REQUEST TO LIMIT INFORMATION PROVIDED UNDER THE AIRAC SYSTEM

1. The outbreak of COVID-19 was declared to constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 30 January 2020. As of 7 March 2020, the global number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 has surpassed 100 000. The World Health Organization (WHO) has called on all countries to stop, contain, control, delay and reduce the impact of the virus at every opportunity (<https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/07-03-2020-who-statement-on-cases-of-covid-19-surpassing-100-000>). On 11 March 2020, WHO announced that “COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic” and called for stronger measures to contain the disease (<https://www.who.int/dg/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-opening-remarks-at-the-media-briefing-on-covid-19---11-march-2020>).
2. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is working closely with WHO in providing updated advice regarding COVID-19 and civil aviation. In relation with international travel health related issues, note that WHO and ICAO have also signed a joint Statement (<https://www.icao.int/Security/COVID-19/Pages/Statements.aspx>) which we remind all stakeholders of the importance of following existing regulations and guidance, particularly the relevant standards contained within the various Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation and the International Health Regulations (2005).
3. Advice on reducing the risk of the spread of COVID-19 in aviation is available on the Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) website (<https://www.capsca.org/CoronaVirusRefs.html>).
4. The ICAO Council affirmed the urgent need to reduce the public health risk of the spread of COVID-19 by air transport and protect the health of air travellers and aviation personnel. Furthermore, the Council urged ICAO Member States and stakeholders to take the necessary actions to maintain the sustainability of air transport and the highest level of safety (<https://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/ICAO-Council-adopts-covid.aspx>).
5. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, data houses have implemented contingency plans to assure the production and delivery of aeronautical data products. However, these contingency plans have limited their capacity and therefore States are advised to limit, as much as possible, the information provided under the Aeronautical Information Regulation and Control (AIRAC) system. With this request, ICAO intends to minimize the impact of the current situation on the aviation industry and ensure that changes are processed and made available in time for the continuing safe air operations.

Issued under the authority of the Secretary General