



Good afternoon, Mr. Mishra and my fellow DGs from APAC Member States. I'm Sang-do Kim, Deputy Minister for Civil Aviation of the Republic of Korea.

As you know, the global aviation industry is going through an unprecedented hard time because of COVID-19. I believe it is more important than ever that we cooperate and share information to overcome this crisis together. In this regard, I would like to thank Mr. Mishra for arranging this tele-conference.

The global spread of COVID-19 has been causing immeasurable damage across all industries not to mention threatening our lives. In particular, the air network is barely surviving due to the plunged travel demand and entry restriction worldwide. The weakened air network does not only affect the aviation industry but also affect the global value chain. All the other industries are suffering drastic cut in production, investment and consumption. It is inevitable to reduce and adjust air services to prevent the spread of the infection. However, we must make utmost efforts to maintain the operations of key trunk routes through strict quarantine management and transparent information-sharing.

In this respect, I'd like to share what ROK has done successfully in Korea.

As soon as we had the first confirmed case in Korea late January, what we did first was to strengthen quarantine on aviation infrastructure as well as on personnel. We required all flight crew to wear face masks and disinfected the aircraft before and after its operation. All airports in Korea are also under enhanced quarantine. We spray disinfectant three times a day on all facilities in passenger terminals.

Secondly we took extra measures on incoming travelers.

We wanted to minimize the disconnection with foreign countries. So instead of enforcing entry ban, we took extra measures on incoming travelers to control the influx and spread of COVID-19.

We introduced special entry process for in-bound travelers to identify whether they have any COVID-19 related symptoms at their entry stage. Those who don't show any symptoms are monitored for their health conditions with the help of a mobile application which those travellers are required to download on their phones. If infected, they go through quarantine investigation.

On travelers from high-risk areas, we do tests for COVID-19 by collecting their samples. The positive-tested person is sent to hospital to get treated, while negative-tested person is self-quarantined for 14 days.

Also, we check temperature of Korea-bound passengers right before their boarding. This is the first step of our quarantine programs to prevent the import of the virus. In addition, we operate buses and train compartments designated for carrying quarantined people from airport to their residence to minimize their contact with general public.

Lastly, we also took extra care in managing out-bound travelers to increase confidence in our quarantine efforts. Declared as 'Covid-19 Free Airport', Incheon airport implements 3-step temperature checks done at airport entrance, departure gate and lastly in front of boarding gates. Those who have fever are denied boarding and refunded for their tickets.



Furthermore, on some air routes, we introduced extra screening in departure process. Health specialists conduct medical check-up and epidemiological tests on out-bound travelers. Those who have suspicious symptoms may not get their boarding pass issued.

As you can imagine, Korean government has been putting enormous efforts to minimize the possible spread of COVID-19 by air transport and further disconnection of air routes by giving confidence in our strong quarantine programs to other countries. In this regard, I would like to mention that Korea's successful and effective actions taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19 were possible due to close cooperation among government, airport operators and airlines.

In conclusion, ROK is willing to share our best practices in the fight against COVID-19 with ICAO member states. Sharing information and building trust, I hope we can see flights resumed and expanded as soon as possible among APAC Member States. Thank you very much.