

Perspectives: Safe resumption of aviation operations in the time of COVID-19

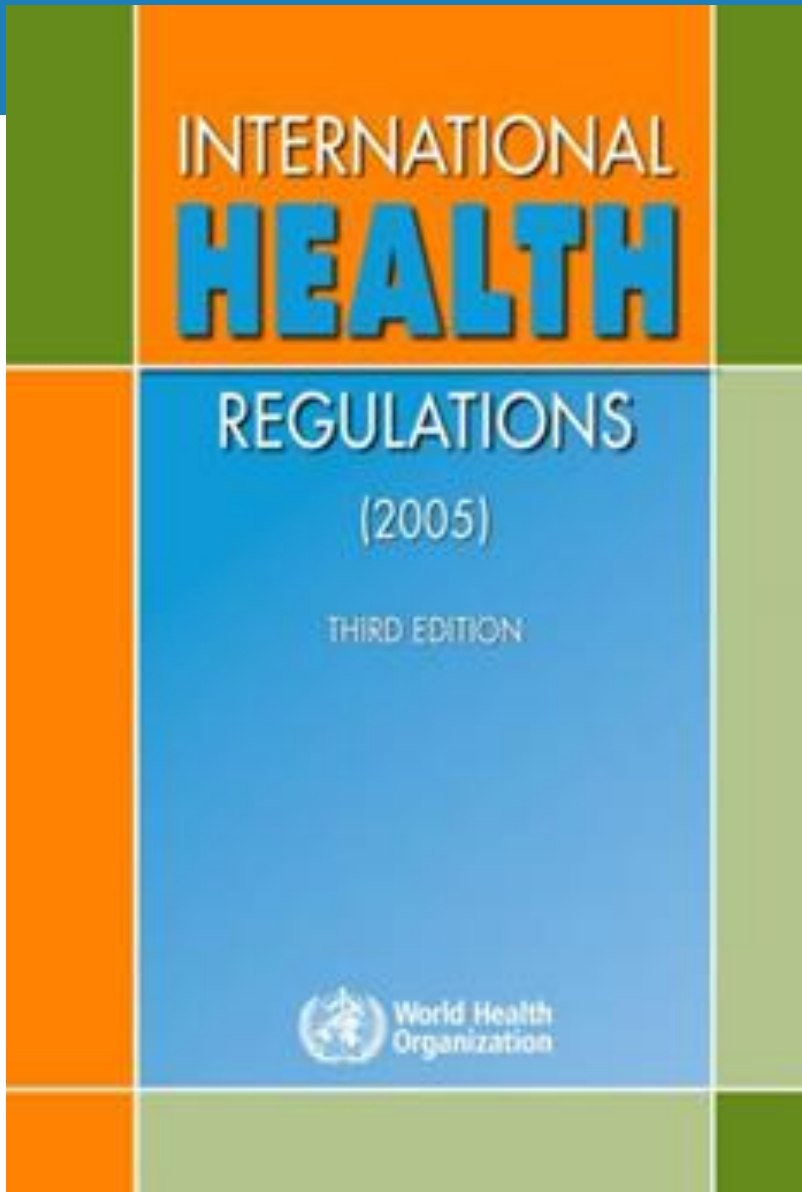
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International Health Regulations (IHR 2005)



- **Purpose:** to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and **which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade**
- Member States may impose additional health measures at PoE in response to COVID-19. Such restrictions should be based on a careful risk assessment, be proportionate to the public health risk, and be reconsidered regularly as the situation evolves
- In line with provisions of Article 43, WHO is sharing the information of additional health measures imposed officially provided to WHO by States Parties

Global Situation (As of 15 July 2020)



Search by Country, Territory, or Area



Covid-19 Response Fund

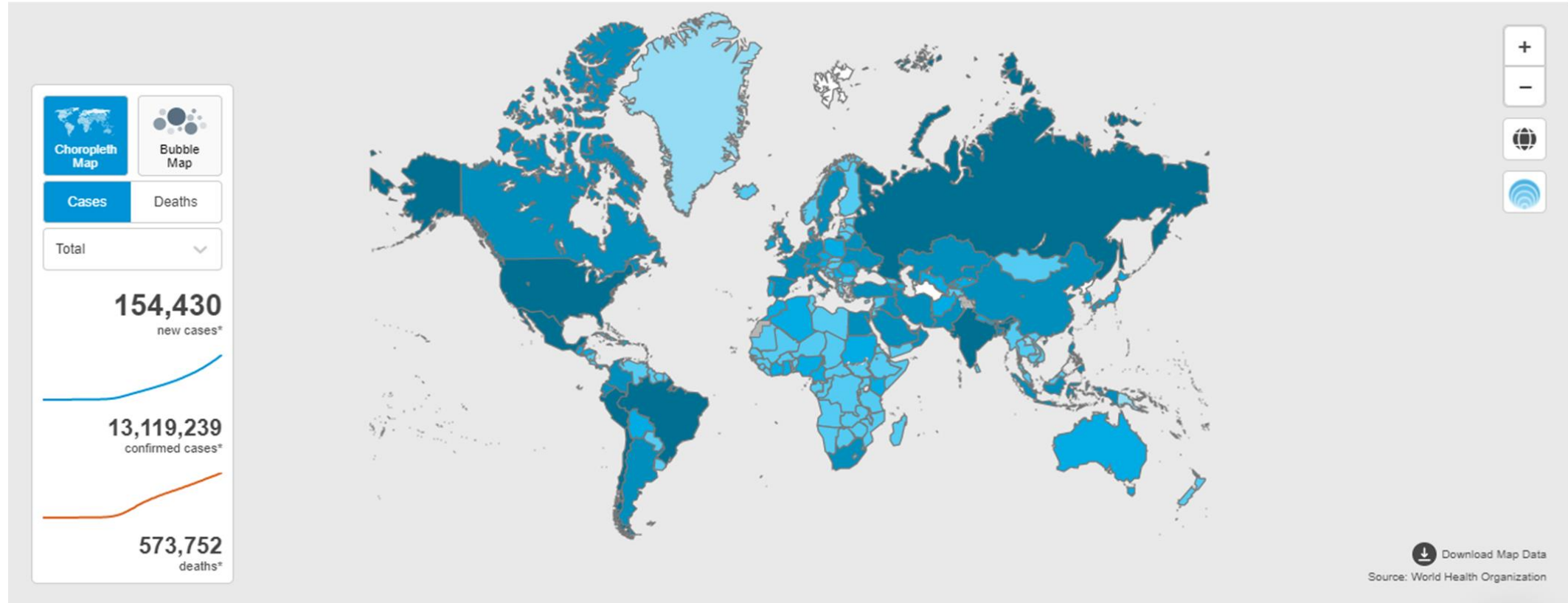
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WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard

Data last updated: 2020/7/15, 9:20am CEST

[Overview](#)

[Explorer](#)



Globally, as of 9:20am CEST, 15 July 2020, there have been 13,119,239 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 573,752 deaths reported to WHO.



Points of Entry

- High traffic at **airports, ports and ground crossings** – points of entry, can play a key role in the **international spread of diseases** through persons, conveyances and goods.
- Ongoing **COVID-19 pandemic is a live example** of spread across countries and continents
- Many countries have halted some or all international travel except for humanitarian, repatriation and cargo flights since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic to limit the rapid spread of the disease
- Disruption & restriction in travel impose severe impacts on societies and economies

South East Asia Region

Additional travel measures (Relaxation on certain conditions)



11 countries
Quarantine on
arrival



11 countries
POE suspension
(with some exception of
repatriation, humanitarian,
etc)



7 countries
VISA restriction



9 countries
Entry denial



3 countries
Need medical
certificate for
travel

Regional Webinars in COVID-19

- Technical Seminar on *strengthening POE capacity* (5 March)
- Technical seminar on safely resuming air travel in the phase of COVID-19 (3 June)

Global Monitoring Mechanism for PoE

Before COVID-19

IHR Monitoring & Evaluation Framework (IHR_MEF)

- to review implementation of country core public health capacities under the IHR (2005) & to get a more comprehensive picture of country preparedness to health emergency and IHR implementation
- PoE is one of the capacities assessed by IHR-MEF

- State Party Annual Reporting (SPAR) - Mandatory
 - Core capacity requirements at all times for designated airports, ports and ground crossings
 - Effective public health response at points of entry
- Joint External Evaluation (JEE) - Voluntary
 - Routine capacities established at points of entry
 - Effective public health response at points of entry

- After Action Review (AAR) - Voluntary
- Simulation Exercise (SimEx) - Voluntary

Global Monitoring Mechanism for PoE (contd)

During COVID -19

COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) Global Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (COVID-19 Global M&E Framework)

- monitor the implementation of actions indicated in the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plans through the action checklist of the COVID-19 Partners Platform
- Indicators monitored through the Global M&E Framework
 - Percentage of countries in which designated PoE have public health emergency contingency plan
 - Percentage of designated PoE that have notified at least one COVID-19-related alert in the previous week

PoE capacity Strengthening

National Action Plan on Health Security (NAPHS)

- provides guidance to identify evidence-based priority actions that can be implemented quickly to have immediate impact as well as the long-term actions for sustainable capacity development to improve health security

COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP)

- PoE is one of the 9 Pillars in SPRP to strengthen appropriate Public Health Measures at PoE (Surveillance & Risk Communication)

Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies (III)

- to advance implementation of IHR for health security & to prepare for and respond to all emerging diseases and public health emergencies

WHO Technical Guidance & Training Materials on Aviation

Technical Guidance

- Management of ill travellers at Points of Entry
(<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/10665-331512>)
- Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases /outbreak in aviation
(<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/operational-considerations-for-managing-covid-19-cases-or-outbreak-in-aviation-interim-guidance>)
- **Online Trainings**
 - Operational Considerations for Managing COVID-19 Cases and Outbreaks in Aviation
(<https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/enrol/index.php?id=328>)
 - Management of ill travellers at Points of Entry in the context of COVID-19 outbreak(<https://extranet.who.int/hslp/training/enrol/index.php?id=325>)



CART Take-off Guidance



- WHO has engaged in the new formed COVID-19 Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) organized by ICAO along with other partner agencies (<https://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/ICAO-Council-establishes-COVID19-Aviation-Recovery-Task-Force.aspx>)
- The CART Take-off guidance includes a section on Public Health Risk Mitigation Measures, in addition to four operational modules (<https://www.icao.int/covid/cart/Pages/CART-Take-off.aspx>)
 - Aim; to reduce public health risk to air passengers and aviation workers to help gradual restart of aviation systems

Considerations for reopening international travels

- **Country decision-making process** - multisectoral and ensure intersectoral coordination of the measures as a whole government approach involving relevant sectors aligning national strategies
- **Comprehensive risk assessment** - epidemiological situation, transmission pattern, public health capacities at PoE and health system capacity to detect and respond to potential imported cases and
- **Collaboration between aviation and public health sectors** to leverage resources in planning, operationalization and monitoring the public health mitigation measures in PoE
- **Communication among IHR-NFP** utilizing the existing IHR information exchange mechanisms (EIS) for coordinated international contact tracing, as well as risk communication to the public on potential risk & mitigation measures

Thank You