



# Responding to COVID-19 Pandemic

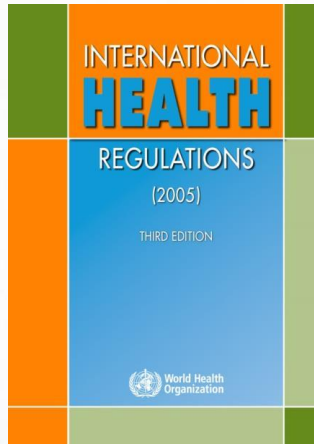
**Collaboration of Civil Aviation and  
Public Health Authorities in Optimizing  
Air Travel Operations – Recovery  
Planning for Aviation Operations**

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# Global and Regional Frameworks for Health Security



## International Health Regulations (IHR)(2005)

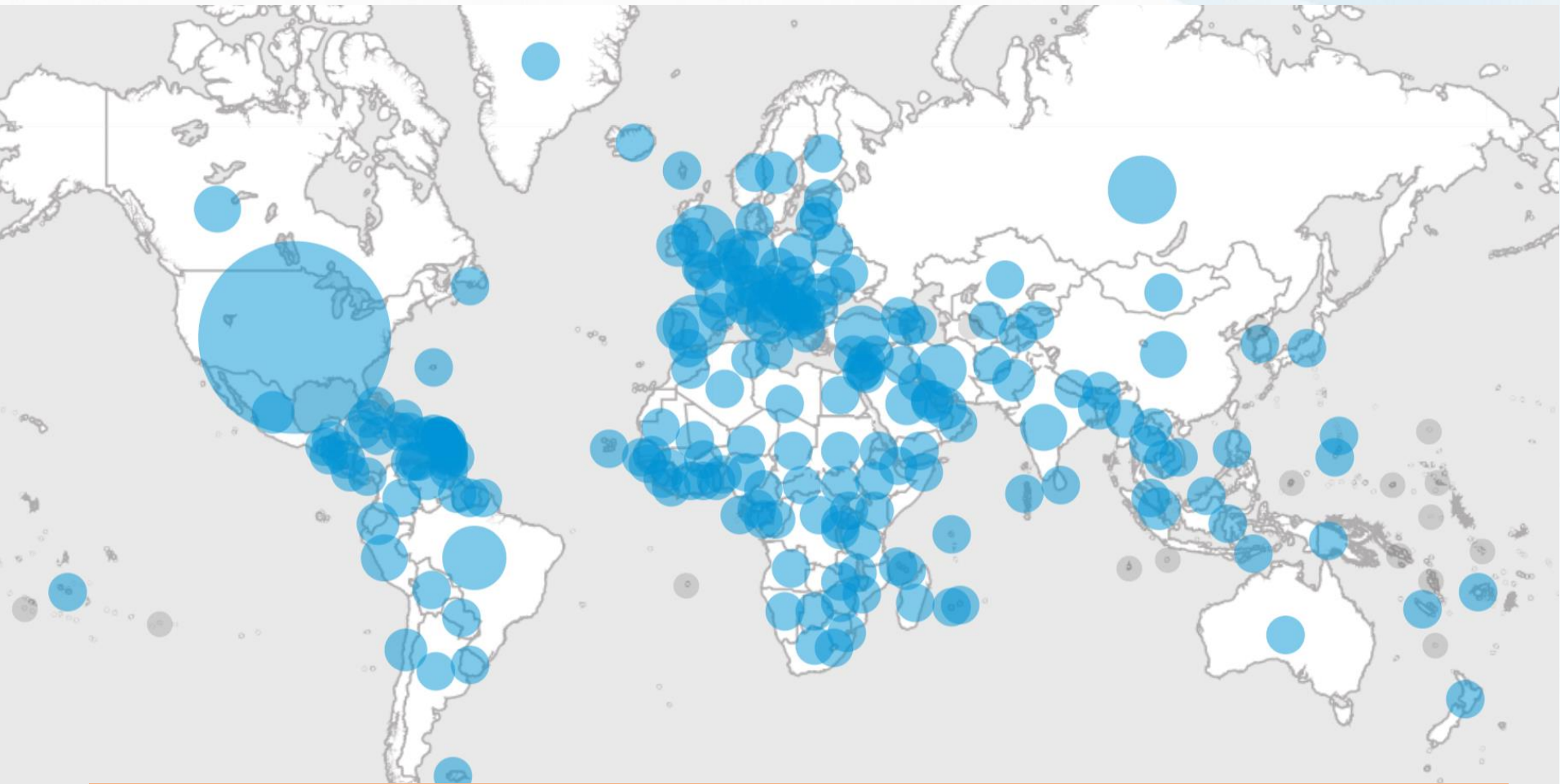
- **Purpose:** to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and **which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade**



## Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies

- Strategic framework for action in Asia Pacific to advance implementation of IHR for health security
- Framework to prepare for and respond to all emerging diseases and public health emergencies
- Developed in 2005, updated in 2010 and 2016

# COVID-19 Pandemic



- Over 4.7 million confirmed cases, more than 300,000 deaths (19 May 2020)
- Enormous social and economic consequences across the globe

# ICAO-WHO Joint Statement on COVID-19

## 30 March 2020



### Joint Statement on COVID-19

On 31 December 2019, an outbreak of pneumonia of unknown etiology was reported in Wuhan City, Hubei province of the People's Republic of China. On 9 January 2020, Chinese authorities reported that the cause of this viral pneumonia was initially identified as a new coronavirus, which is different from any other human coronavirus discovered so far. The disease has subsequently been named as COVID-19.

Following the advice provided by the Emergency Committee convened under the International Health Regulations (IHR (2005)), on 30 January 2020, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and issued a set of Temporary Recommendations.

WHO is working closely with global experts, governments and partners to understand this new virus, to track its spread and virulence, and to provide advice to countries and the global community on measures to protect health and prevent the spread of this outbreak.

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) issued two electronic bulletins and a State letter to highlight ICAO's role in providing aviation-related information on COVID-19, and in serving as the key facilitator for States and organizations that are members of the ICAO Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) programme to implement effective collaboration and coordination with all stakeholders. ICAO is also working with governments and industry partners, such as the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Airport Council International (ACI), to provide guidance to aviation authorities, airlines and airports on appropriate measures aimed to protect the health of the travelling public and reduce the risk of transmission.

ICAO and WHO 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). Cross-sector collaboration at the national level is also important, and in this regard, States are reminded to coordinate between aviation and health authorities and to establish National Facilitation Committees that comprise all relevant groups, in line with ICAO guidelines.

- The importance of following existing regulations and guidance:
  - Annexes to the Convention of International Civil Aviation
  - International Health Regulations
- Cross sector collaboration at National level is also important... States are reminded to **coordinate between aviation and health authorities.**

# IHR Emergency Committee on COVID-19

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting (30 April) Temporary Recommendations

### To WHO on Travel and Trade

- Develop **strategic guidance with partners for the gradual return to normal operations of passenger travel** in a coordinated manner.
- **Update recommendations on appropriate travel measures** ... with consideration of the balance between benefits and unintended consequences, including:
  - entry and exit screening, education of travelers on responsible travel behaviour, case finding, contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine

### To all States Parties on Additional Health Measures:

- **Implement appropriate travel measures** with consideration of their public health benefits
- Continue to **review travel and trade measures based on regular risk assessments**, transmission patterns at origin and destination, cost-benefit analysis, evolution of the pandemic, and new knowledge of COVID-19.

# WHO Interim Guidance on Air Travel and POE in relation to COVID-19

## **Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/ outbreak in aviation**

- Advice for crew and ground staff
- Management of a suspected case
- Identification and management of contacts
- Cleaning and disinfection

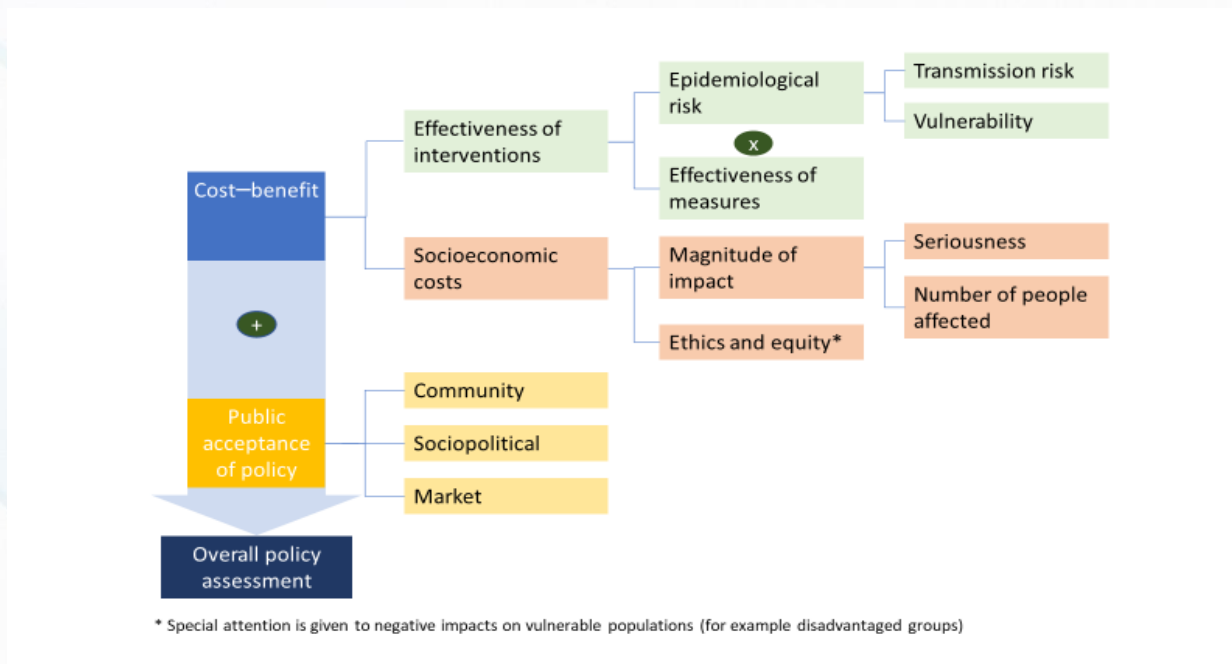
## **Management of ill travellers at Points of Entry (international airports, seaports, and ground crossings) in the context of COVID-19**

- Detection and interview of ill travelers at international points of entry
- Reporting of alerts of ill travelers suspected of COVID-19
- Isolation, initial case management and referral of ill travelers suspected of COVID-19

Series of WHO guidance to support countries in COVID-19 response available at:  
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance-publications?healthtopics=b6bd35a3-cf4f-4851-8e80-85cb0068335b&publishingoffices=aeebab07-3d0c-4a24-b6ef-7c11b7139e43&healthtopics-hidden=true&publishingoffices-hidden=true>

# Restoring Economy: Balancing Costs and Benefits

WPRO released guidance on calibrating long-term non-pharmaceutical interventions for COVID-19



Important to analyse and balance effectiveness, socioeconomic costs, and public perception of the social and public health measures (including travel restriction) to guide decision-making when and how to restore the businesses.

# Thank You