



CAPSCA-AP/15

Recap

CAPSCA – AP/11 Meeting Conclusions



CAPSCA-AP/11

- CAPSCA-AP/11 Meeting was conducted in Dhaka, Bangladesh in October 2019
- Meeting developed 16 Conclusions

Conclusions- CAPSCA-AP/11

1. States should develop Aerodrome Emergency Plans and Air Traffic Services (ATS) Contingency Plans that are aligned to National and airport point of entry (POE) public health emergency all-hazard contingency plans, giving due consideration also to the increased concern of spread of Emerging & Re-emerging infectious diseases globally. This needs to be done through multi-sector multi-stakeholder consultation where WHO, ICAO and CAPSCA should provide technical support when requested.
2. State specific self-assessment reports, external evaluation reports and audit reports should be used as a guiding tool by States to identify gaps and improve their preparedness and response plans for public health concern.
3. States need to develop easily accessible communication networks and tools for information sharing including relevant national plans and standard operating procedures (SOPs), and updates on emerging infectious diseases, travel health alerts and disease outbreaks.
4. Vector surveillance and control at point of entry (PoE) should be one of the highly important areas of public health control measures and States are encouraged to implement IHR requirements, WHO recommendations and guidelines, ICAO Standards and Recommendations and national vector control programs with regards to airport vector control and aircraft disinsection. States are strongly encouraged to complete the ICAO Airport Vector Control Registry (<http://www.icao.int/crr/Pages/Airport-Vector-Control-Register.aspx>).
5. In the greater interest of business continuity, Contracting States should not restrict their airspace to any aircraft for reason of awareness that an aircraft may have a case of communicable disease on board or consider closure of an airport for public health reasons other than in exceptional circumstances and in consultation with World Health Organization.
6. Airports and Airlines should establish plans to continue operating with greatly reduced staff numbers in the event of a public health event that can affect aviation.
7. The online training course related to conducting CAPSCA Assistance Visits developed in collaboration with ICAO and WHO by Joint Aviation Authorities Training Organisation (JAA TO), in accordance with course development methodology of ICAO's Global Aviation Training (GAT) Office was added to the GAT course library in September 2019 in order to develop a critical mass of experts to support CAPSCA. States are encouraged to nominate representatives from public health, aviation medicine or an aviation authority to complete the CAPSCA on-line training course.
8. The meeting requested ICAO and WHO to issue a document to clarify the objectives, procedures and outcome of different public health and aviation auditing and assessment tools to establish clarity between these different tools.
9. Being mindful of the risk posed to international health by Zoonotic diseases, States are encouraged to review and communicate their plans to all stakeholders regarding prevention and mitigation measures for transmission of zoonotic diseases.

10. The meeting noted the challenges in effective implementation of International Health Regulations (2005) and urged the States/Administrations to address the following deficiencies where exist.
- Financing for designation and maintenance of IHR capacities at PoE;
 - Lack of awareness among airport stakeholders on capacities required for IHR implementation;
 - Low priority for strengthening health quarantine facilities in small and resource constrained countries;
 - Expansion and increasing passenger load in airports with limited human and technical resources;
 - Testing functional status of airport preparedness and response during public health emergency;
 - International spread of poliovirus and implementing traveler immunization at airports as per temporary recommendation made by twenty-second meeting of the IHR Emergency Committee;
 - Integration of the PoEs activities into the national surveillance system;
 - Development of integrated emergency contingency plans for PoEs; and
 - Low scoring for points of entry in JEE and Electronic State Parties Self-Assessment Annual Reporting Tool (e-SPAR).
11. The meeting noted the that the 40th Session of the ICAO Assembly urged all States to adhere to the guidance of WHO during public health outbreaks, follow the International Health Regulations and, in particular, avoid unilateral decisions to introduce border controls, screening requirements and vaccinations requirements or other measures impeding travel, which are not aligned with WHO guidance.
12. The meeting noted that the 40th Session of the ICAO Assembly urged States to become members of CAPSCA, become involved in the CAPSCA Programme and any other related programmes that ICAO might introduce in future, support ICAO and WHO in implementing relevant ICAO Assembly resolutions by considering the recommendations included in ICAO, WHO and CAPSCA publications and guidance material.
13. The meeting appreciated the COSCAP's Capacity Building Matrix (CCBM) database tool and its benefit to support the coordination of pooling and sharing between States of regional safety oversight experts, including the Aviation Medical Assessor and Aviation Medical Examiner expert types. ICAO requested States to review and comment on the AVMED expert profile criteria established for the CCBM which will be incorporated to the CAPSCA – AP/11 meeting report. States requested for this initiative to be presented at the next DGCA Conference to be held in Bangladesh in 2020.
14. The meeting requested future addition of the CAPSCA Technical Advisor expert type in to the COSCAP Capacity Building Matrix (CCBM) and the potential sharing of the tool with other Regions.
15. States interested in hosting future CAPSCA-AP meetings are urged to inform ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Office. The benefits of hosting include the possibility of combining the meeting with a CAPSCA Assistance Visit (AV) and training of CAPSCA Technical Advisers.
16. CAPSCA keeps States informed of annual global and regional meetings to discuss most recent developments and best practices for PH preparedness plans and encourages States to benefit by attending.

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