

# Projects to improve the ICAO CAPSCA strategy

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INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

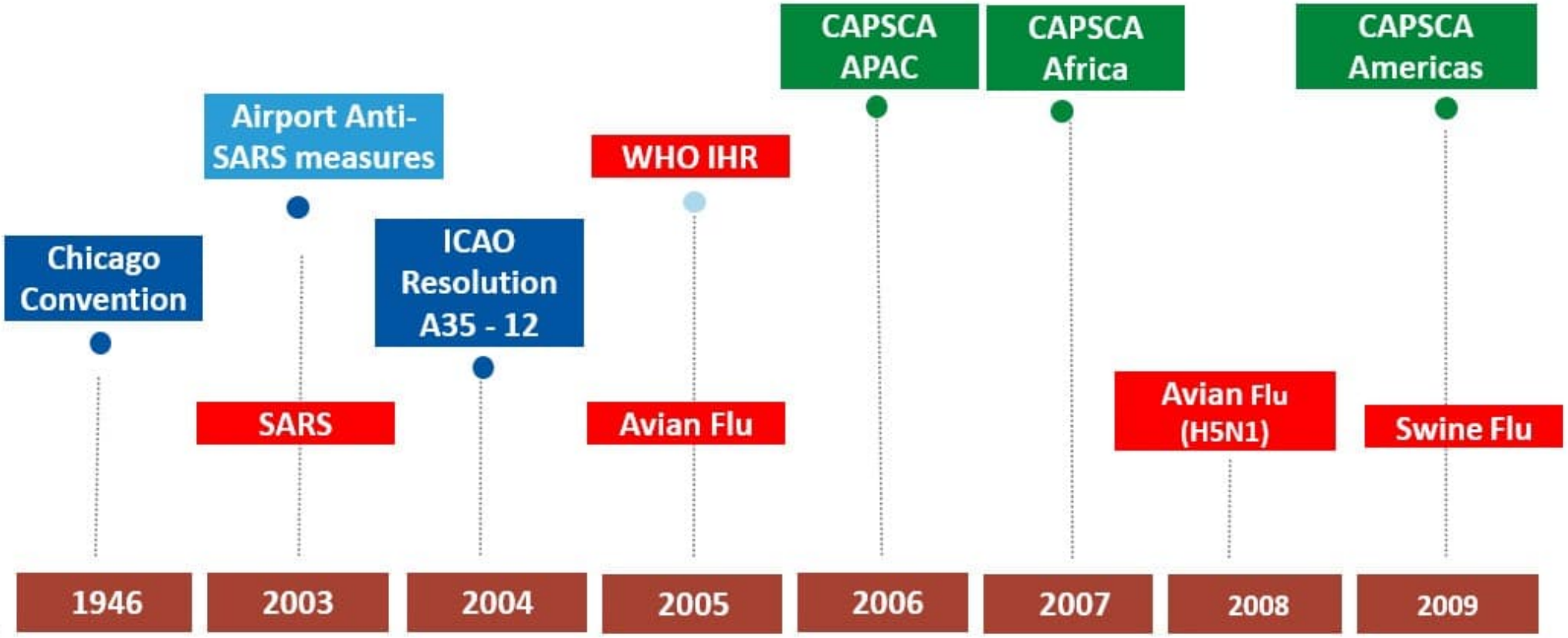
# ICAO Business Plan (2026 – 2028)

## Strategic goal: Aviation delivers seamless, accessible and reliable mobility for all

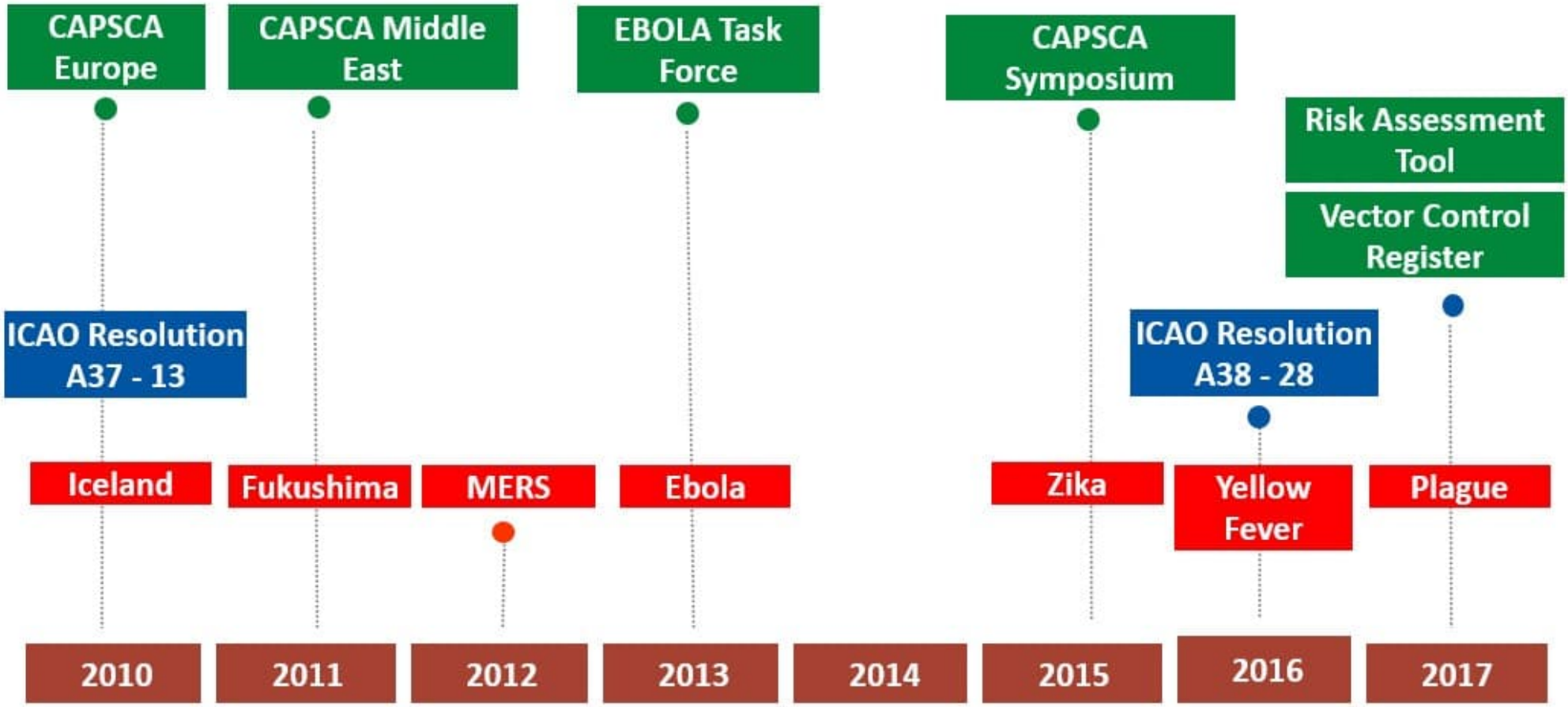
***Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA)***

CAPSCA is a collaborative framework that helps mitigate health emergencies' impact on aviation, ensuring the safety of personnel and the public. It aligns ICAO and WHO guidance, fosters sector dialogue, and supports implementing medical advice in aviation. The program promotes aviation resilience through a flexible, evidence-based approach.

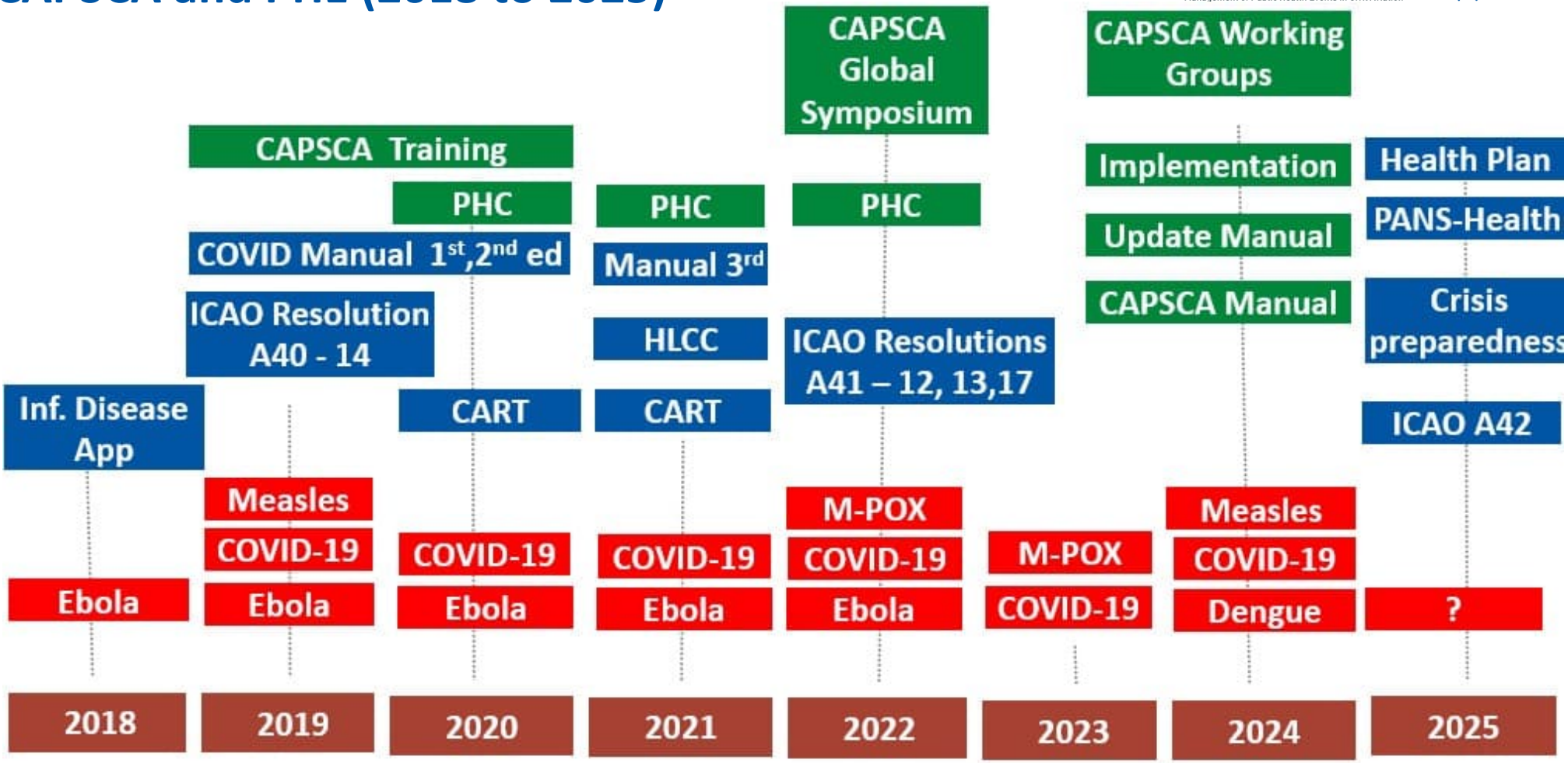
# CAPSCA and PHE (2006 to 2009)



# CAPSCA and PHE (2010 to 2017)



# CAPSCA and PHE (2018 to 2025)



# Public Health in ICAO

## Chicago Convention

- Article 14 Prevention disease spread
- Article 13 Entry and clearance
- Article 22 Facilitation of formalities

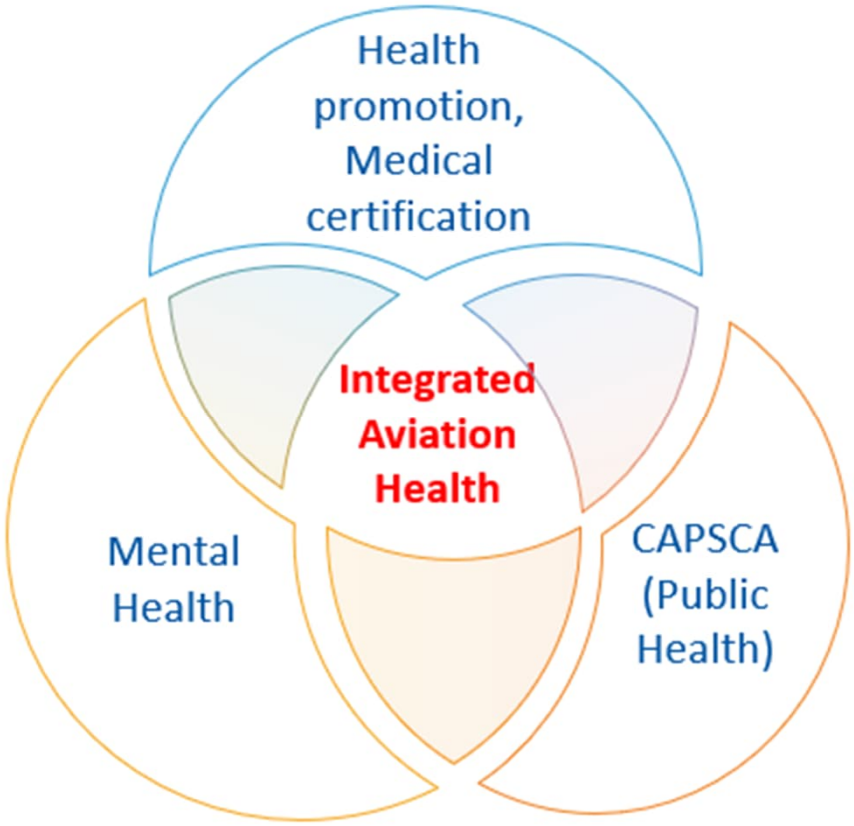
## SARPs and PANS

- Annex 6 Aircraft Operations
- Annex 9 Facilitation
- Annex 11 Air Traffic Services
- Annex 14 Aerodromes
- Annex 15 Aeronautical Information Services
- Annex 18 Dangerous Goods
- PANS-ATM Air traffic Management

## Assembly 41 and 42 (2025)

- Implement a multi-disciplinary Aviation Health Management system based on SMS
- Global framework for managing in-flight passenger health emergencies

# Aviation Health and CAPSCA Governance






# CAPSCA in ICAO

Aerodromes | Aircraft Operations | Air Traffic | Facilitation | Dangerous Goods | Aeronautical Information




**Multiple entities coordination**
UN organization, States, industry organizations, independent experts

**Multi-sector co-operation**
Aviation, public health, medical specialties, tourism, and others

162 Members States
33 international partners
Prevent
Mitigate
Respond

**Multi-level collaboration**
International, regional, national, local

**Scientific Approach**
Evidence-informed, risked-based, practical application, flexible and agile response

# ICAO - WHO Collaboration

CAPSCA
Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation

ICAO

World Health Organization

- **Memorandum of Understanding:**
  - Provide evidence-informed & risk-based advice
  - Joint advocacy and risk communication on international travel in public health emergencies.
  - Share information and tools
- **Joint workplan** to facilitate and monitor MoU implementation
- **Quarterly** coordination meetings

# World Health Assembly 2026

## WHO Health Emergencies Programme

- **Global context** of health emergencies
  - marked increase in both frequency and scale
  - overlapping of crises - conflict, climate, infectious diseases
  - exacerbated by weakened health systems

- UN agencies, Member States and partners need to **streamline country-level coordination**

# World Health Assembly 2026

## Strengthening health emergency prevention, preparedness, response and resilience

- **Coordinate** to align health emergency policies, strategies and guidance
  - strengthened global health emergencies governance
  - protection of essential workers

- A **global mapping** exercise
  - identify guidance gaps and priorities
  - develop operational guidance on risk-informed governance

# World Health Assembly 2026

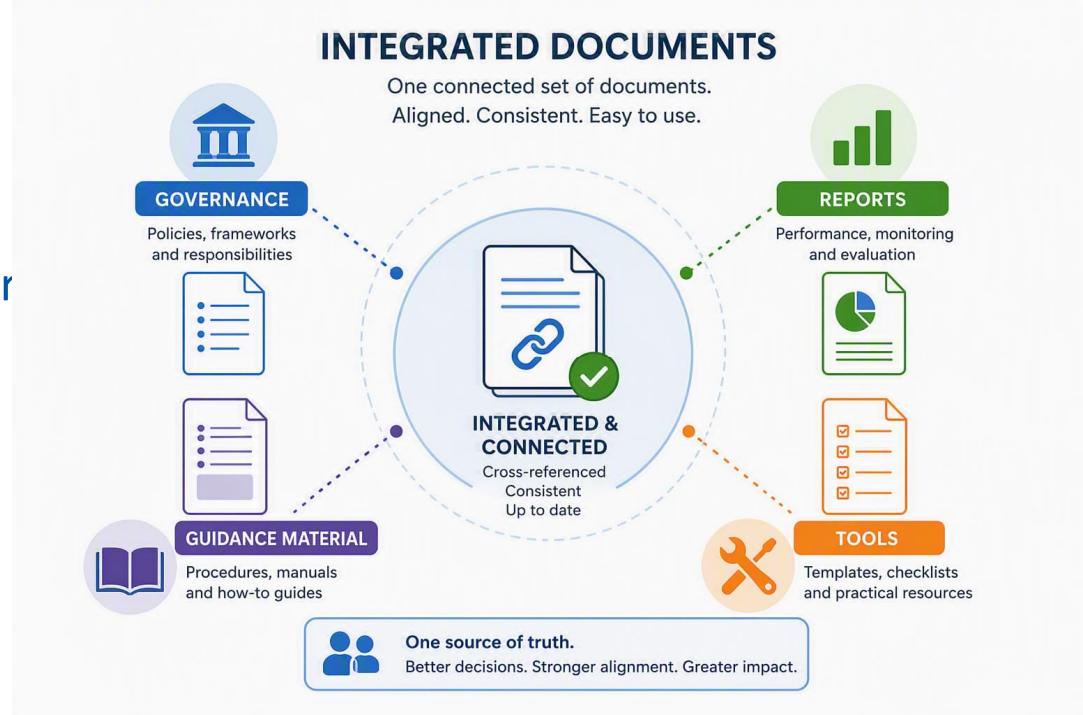
## Implementation of the International Health Regulations

- Strengthen **core capacities** for border health preparedness & response at POE
- Latest available evidence and expert guidance on the **effectiveness and impact of travel measures**
- Work closely with key partners such as ICAO to **promote alignment** of their legal frameworks with the 2024 amendments to the IHR.

# CAPSCA Alignment project – Feb 2026

- Review and compare ICAO and WHO documents
- Identify areas of alignment and gaps
- Recommend areas of integration
- Review WHO resources that can be used for CAPSCA training material

40 documents reviewed
- 27 ICAO/ CAPSCA documents
- 13 WHO Documents



# CAPSCA Alignment project – Feb 2026

## Documents reviewed

| | |
|---|---|
| Governance frameworks | • IHR (2005), Pandemic Treaty<br>• ICAO SARPs, ICAO Assembly Resolutions |
| Guidance and reports | • ICAO Manuals and CAPSCA documents<br>• WHO Guidance<br>• Reports and conclusions from CAPSCA regional meetings |
| Assessment tools | • WHO assessment tool for core capacity requirements designated PoE<br>• SPAR, JEE,<br>• CAPSCA Technical Assistance Visit Checklists<br>• Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP)<br>• Universal Security Audit Programme Continuous Monitoring Approach (USAP-CMA) |

# CAPSCA Alignment project – Feb 2026

## General Observations

- Requirements in general complementary

- Degree to which areas of alignment or gaps exist depends on:
  - how these requirements  are implemented
  - the different legal mandates and scope
  - different regulatory frameworks
  - responsible authorities at national level.

# CAPSCA Alignment project – Feb 2026

Strong alignment

| WHO | ICAO |
|---|---|
| **Legal Framework** | |
| IHR and Pandemic Agreement | ICAO Convention, SARPs, Assembly, CART |
| Guidance documents | PANS, CAPSCA Manuals, Guidance |
| **Capacities to prepare and respond to PHE** | |
| Core capacities at PoE | Implementation all international airports |
| Additional during PHEIC | CAPSCA, ICAO Crisis Management Framework |

# CAPSCA Alignment project – Feb 2026

Strong alignment

| WHO | ICAO |
|---|---|
| **National coordination and multisectoral collaboration** | |
| National IHR Authority | National Facilitation committees, CAPSCA |
| National IHR focal point | National CAPSCA Focal Point |
| **Implementation, monitoring and evaluation** | |
| SPAR | CAPSA checklists and Assistance Visits |
| Joint External Evaluation | USOAP audit |
| | COVID digital tool |

# CAPSCA Alignment project – Feb 2026

## Areas for improvement in aviation

- Training: CAPSCA coordinators and National Focal Points (2nd project in 2026)
- Passenger contact tracing project
- Scoring of CAPSCA checklists
- Implementation of virtual CAPSCA technical assistance prior to on-site technical assistance visits
- Record recommendations and scheduled follow-up
- Inclusion in ICAO Aviation Health Management Plan digital framework

# CAPSCA Training Project

## Manual for CAPSCA Regional Coordinators

### General

- Reference document for CAPSCA Regional Coordinators
- Consolidation of CAPSCA information
- Includes procedures and guidance
- Contains checklists and templates

# CAPSCA Training Project

## Manual for CAPSCA Regional Coordinators

### CAPSCA events

- Procedures for planning and managing
  - Regional and global meetings, symposia, conferences.

### Training

- Training and Capacity building for States' National Focal Points
- Training of CAPSCA Technical Advisors
- Include training modalities, material for familiarization and training
- Includes references to WHO training resources

# Thank You




ICAO