HANTAVIRUS ON A PASSENGERS' SHIP. SPANISH RESPONSE FROM A POINT OF ENTRY TO AN UNPRECEDENT PUBLIC HEALTH EVENT

Joint ICAO EUR/MID Thirteenth Meeting of the Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA EUR-MID/13) (7-9 October 2026, Paris, France)

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Global response

Emergency Response Committee:

- MoH (central and local level)
- Ministry of Interior (Civil Protection, Police and Civil Guard)
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Delegation of the Spanish Government in the Canary Islands
- Port and Airport Authorities

Great number of meetings

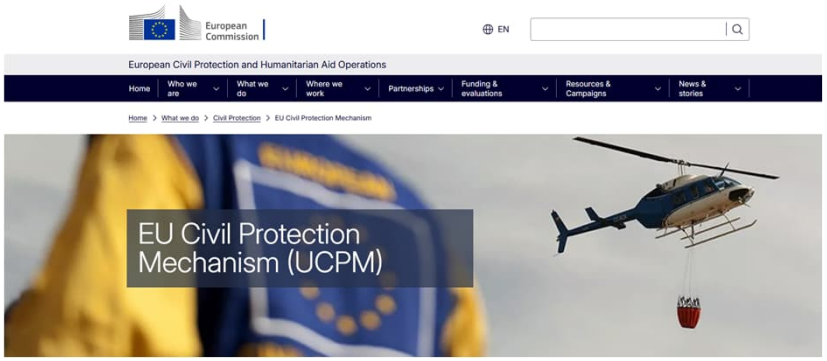
- Regional Government of the Canary Islands
- WHO, ECDC
- Countries involved
- Other committes in the Public Health sector (SpanishHight Security Isolation and Treatment Units netwotk)

Evacuation on the 10th and 11th May:

- 122 people (passengers and crew) evacuated

Global response

- Activation of the European Civil Protection Mechanism (EU)



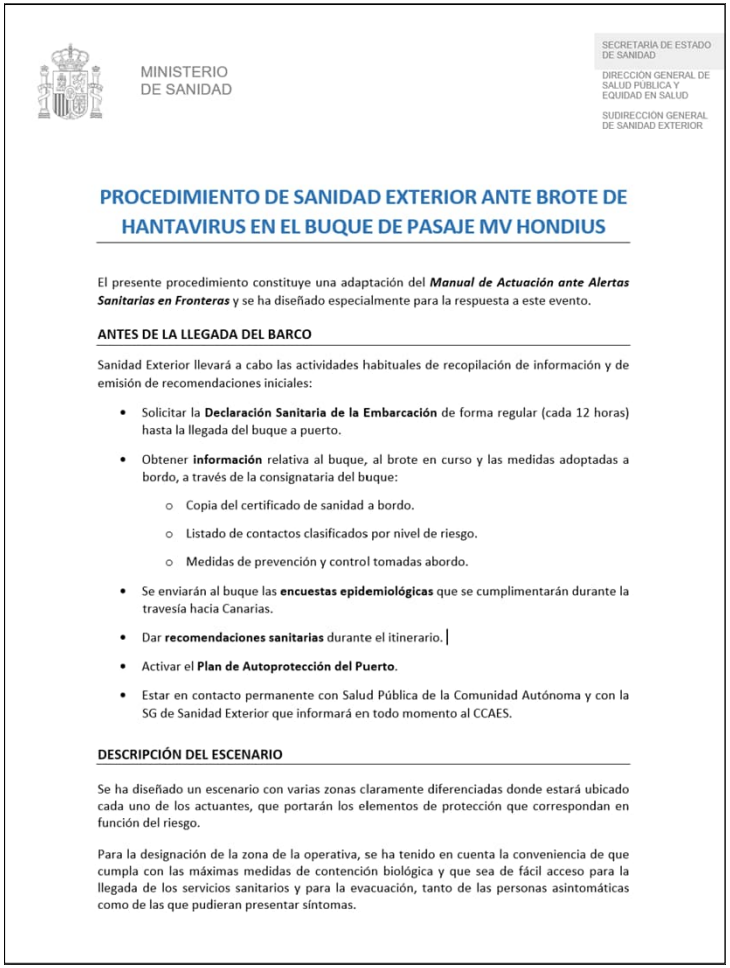
- Maintaining ongoing contact with embassies of non-EU countries.

Excellent coordination and synchronisation between the port and the airport.

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Global response

Protocol for joint action between the DDFH and the Tenerife FHU.



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SECRETARIA DE ESTADO DE SANIDAD
DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE SALUD PUBLICA Y EQUIDAD EN SALUD
SUDIRECCION GENERAL DE SANIDAD EXTERIOR

PROCEDIMIENTO DE SANIDAD EXTERIOR ANTE BROTE DE HANTAVIRUS EN EL BUQUE DE PASAJE MV HONDIUS

El presente procedimiento constituye una adaptación del ***Manual de Actuación ante Alertas Sanitarias en Fronteras*** y se ha diseñado especialmente para la respuesta a este evento.

ANTES DE LA LLEGADA DEL BARCO

Sanidad Exterior llevará a cabo las actividades habituales de recopilación de información y de emisión de recomendaciones iniciales:

- Solicitar la **Declaración Sanitaria de la Embarcación** de forma regular (cada 12 horas) hasta la llegada del buque a puerto.
- Obtener **información** relativa al buque, al brote en curso y las medidas adoptadas a bordo, a través de la consignataria del buque:
  - Copia del certificado de sanidad a bordo.
  - Listado de contactos clasificados por nivel de riesgo.
  - Medidas de prevención y control tomadas abordo.
- Se enviarán al buque las **encuestas epidemiológicas** que se cumplimentarán durante la travesía hacia Canarias.
- Dar **recomendaciones sanitarias** durante el itinerario.
- Activar el **Plan de Autoprotección del Puerto**.
- Estar en contacto permanente con Salud Pública de la Comunidad Autónoma y con la SG de Sanidad Exterior que informará en todo momento al CCAES.

DESCRIPCIÓN DEL ESCENARIO

Se ha diseñado un escenario con varias zonas claramente diferenciadas donde estará ubicado cada uno de los actuantes, que portarán los elementos de protección que correspondan en función del riesgo.

Para la designación de la zona de la operativa, se ha tenido en cuenta la conveniencia de que cumpla con las máximas medidas de contención biológica y que sea de fácil acceso para la llegada de los servicios sanitarios y para la evacuación, tanto de las personas asintomáticas como de las que pudieran presentar síntomas.

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Global response: objectives

Repatriation of the MV HONDIUS, Port of Granadilla, Tenerife

Objectives

1. To ensure that cruise ship passengers and crew could disembark and board flights to their final destination in a safe and sanitary environment.

2. To implement specific procedures in case of a health emergency during the evacuation.

3. To ensure that the cruise ship could complete its voyage in the Netherlands with the lowest possible risk to its crew.

Global response

The Port of Tenerife has been designated by Spain as a Point of Entry for health emergencies in accordance with IHR.



In Tenerife, contingency plans for airports and ports have been developed as well as public health procedures have been incorporated into the port/airport contingency plans to respond to health emergencies detected at points of entry.

Port health authority: Tenerife Foreign Health Unit

Deployed personnel for the response: 5 doctors, 5 nurses and 1 assistant

Global response

Strategic Infrastructure

- Port Authority
- Maritime Administration
- Tenerife South Airport

Logistics and Emergency Services

- Agent
- Port and Airport Operators
- Emergency Services
- Military Emergency Unit

Security and control

- Civil Guard
- Police
- Civil Protection

Global response

EXTRAORDINARY COORDINATION EFFORT

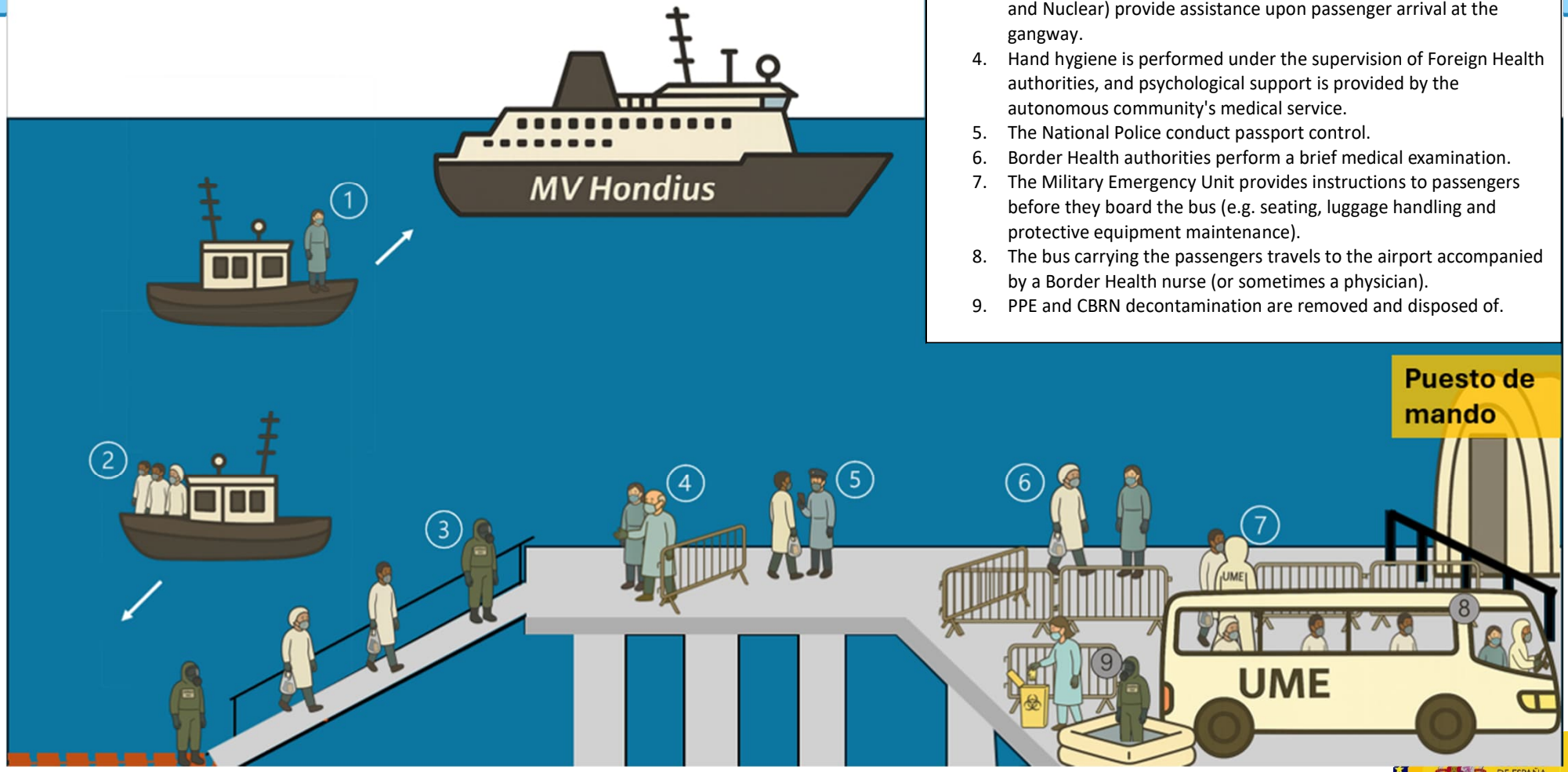
STRATEGIES FOR STREAMLINING OPERATIONS

- Make border controls more flexible.
- Only carry-on baggage was permitted.
- Avoid pre-boarding checks of carry-on baggage.
- Direct access to designated airport areas.
- Security forces escort passengers from the port to the airport.

Pre-arrival actions:

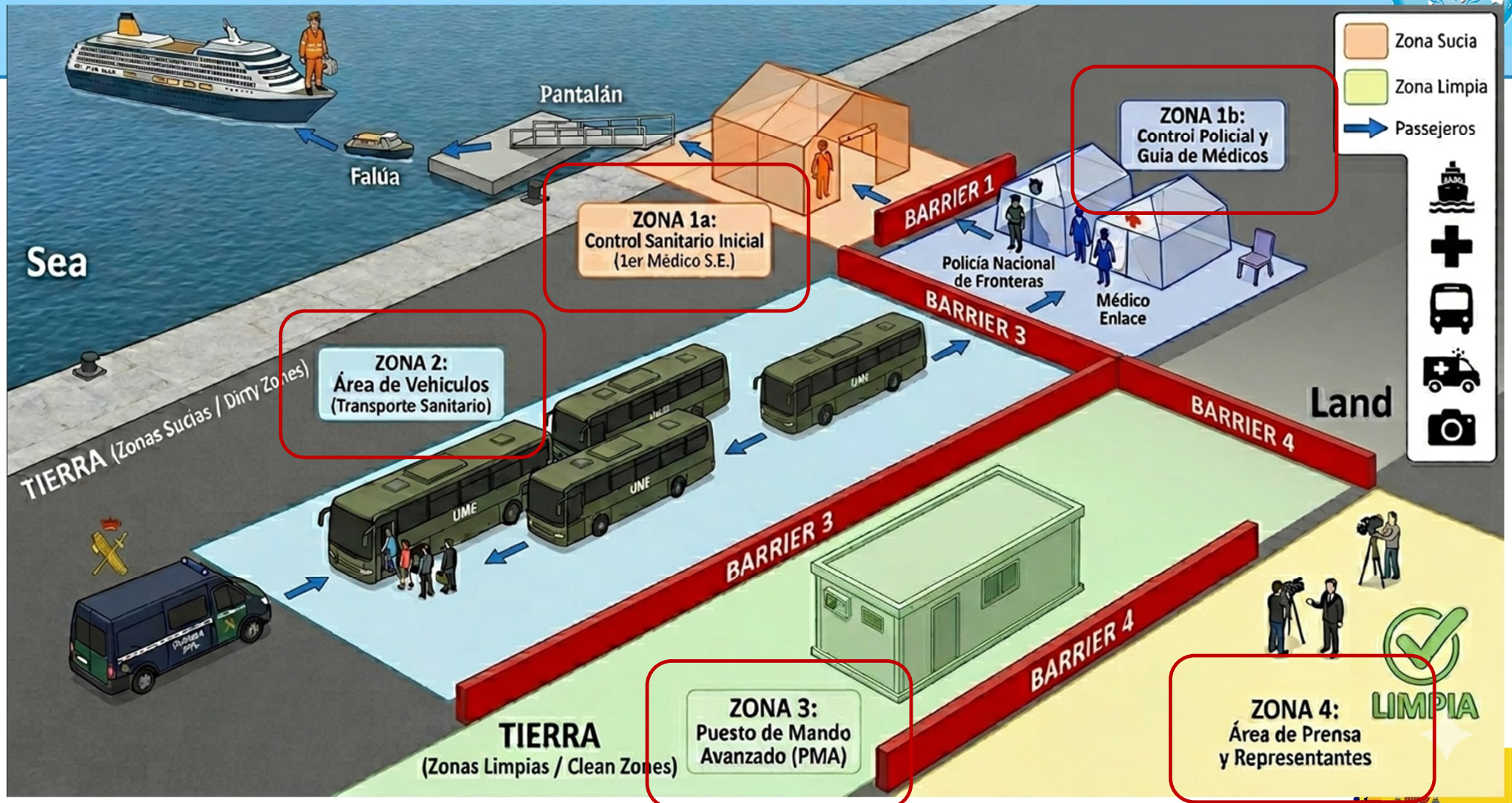
- Continuous health check of the vessel: DMS every 12 hours, starting 72 hours before arrival.
- Design operational scenarios for the port and airport.
- Passenger and crew documentation control by the Police.
- Activation of other participants for emergency situations.

Disembarkation and Airport Transfer Procedure



1. Border Health authorities conduct an onboard medical inspection.
2. Passengers disembark in small groups.
3. Civil Guard personnel with CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear) provide assistance upon passenger arrival at the gangway.
4. Hand hygiene is performed under the supervision of Foreign Health authorities, and psychological support is provided by the autonomous community's medical service.
5. The National Police conduct passport control.
6. Border Health authorities perform a brief medical examination.
7. The Military Emergency Unit provides instructions to passengers before they board the bus (e.g. seating, luggage handling and protective equipment maintenance).
8. The bus carrying the passengers travels to the airport accompanied by a Border Health nurse (or sometimes a physician).
9. PPE and CBRN decontamination are removed and disposed of.

Simplified diagram of the different areas for the disembarkation and transfer
Port of Granadilla (Tenerife)



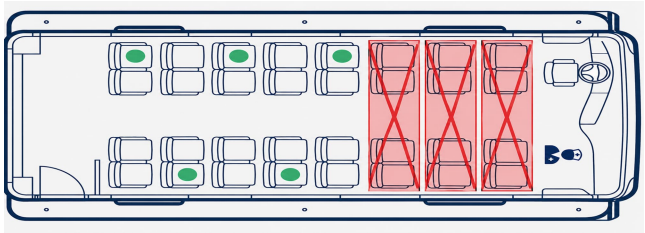

BOLUDA
LINES

Safe medical transfer to Tenerife South airport

Secure bus configuration

- Reduced occupancy per vehicle
- Physical distancing between passengers
- Mandatory FFP2 mask and gown
- One Foreign Health nurse per bus with PPE
- Continuous medical monitoring
- Controlled boarding and disembarkation
- Driver with PPE, no air conditioning

PORT OF GRANADILLA → **SECURE TRANSFER CORRIDOR** → **RESTRICTED AIRPORT AREA**



Protected Airport access ↓

Foreign Health and Police control ↓

Direct aircraft boarding

Time-saving strategies

- Avoid in depth frontier control police
- Avoid Civil Guard control of hand luggage prior to aircraft embarking
- Avoid checked baggage
- Direct access to designated area of the airport and aircrafts

Complete operational isolation was maintained from the disembarkation to aircraft boarding:
"Environmental bubble"

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Puerto de
Dique exterior
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MENZIES
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POLICIA
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Flights	Airplane	Total number of evacuated persons	Number of people by nationalities		Day and time of the plane's landing	Date and time of the ship's disembarkation	Day and time of the plane's takeoff
Spain	AME4522	14	14	Spain	May 9 - 20:31	May 10 - 9:36	May 10 - 11:55
France	ARL120E	5	5	France	May 10 - 10:15	May 10 - 11:00	May 10 - 12:09
Canada	TC-EMR	4	4	Canada	May 10 - 10:38	May 10 - 12:40	May 10 - 13:44
Netherlands	AWC987Y	26	8	Netherlands	May 10 - 01:32	May 10 - 14:50	May 10 - 15:52
			1	Greece			
			4	Germany			
			2	Belgium			
			2	India			
			1	Argentina			
			1	Portugal			
			1	Guatemala			
			1	Ukraine			
			1	Montenegro			
			4	Philippines			
United Kingdom	AWC979Y	22	20	United Kingdom	May 10 - 13:50	May 10 - 15:40	May 10 - 17:04
			1	Japan			
			1	Germany			
Ireland	IRL290	2	2	Ireland	May 10 - 16:15	May 10 - 16:24	May 10 - 17:39
Turkey	TC-RSI	3	3	Turkey	May 9 - 22:50	May 10 - 16:40	May 10 - 17:53
USA	CKS491	18	17	USA	May 10 - 18:40	May 10 - 20:00	May 10 - 23:00
			1	United Kingdom			
Netherlands	AWC979Y	22	1	Netherlands	May 11 - 16:15	May 11 - 18:15	May 11 - 19:46
			1	Germany			
			1	Italy			
			17	Philippines			
			1	Democratic Republic of the Congo (WHO)			
			1	United Kingdom			
Australia	LRQ190K	6	4	Australia	May 11 - 18:15	May 11 - 18:15	May 11 - 19:43
			1	New Zealand			
			1	United Kingdom			
Norway (medically rescue)	RescUE NOJAHIP	---	---	---	May 9 - 19:15		May 14
Total persons		122					

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Disinfection of the area and waste management





1899 2019
120 años
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¡¡¡Thank you very much!!!

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