



| ICAO PARIS

UNITING AVIATION

# Annex 9 Facilitation Perspective:

National Air Transport Facilitation Committee  
– a vehicle for coordination between  
aviation and other sectors

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**Joint ICAO EUR/NAT DGCA – EASA Conference**

**29 September 2021**



## Reminder on ICAO provisions

- Member States shall take effective measures to prevent the **spread by means of air navigation of communicable diseases** and keep in close consultation with the agencies concerned with international regulations relating to sanitary measures applicable to aircraft (**Chicago Convention Article 14**).
- Member States shall establish National Air Transport Facilitation Programmes (NATFP) to **define the mandates and responsibilities of various national stakeholders including responsibilities for managing Public Health Emergencies of International Concern** (Annex 9, Standard 8.17).
- Member States shall establish National Air Transport Facilitation Committees (NATFC), and Airport Facilitation Committees or **similar coordinating bodies to serve as permanent bodies for coordinating activities between all national stakeholders responsible for the implementation of the NATFP** (Annex 9, Standard 8.19).

## Situation before COVID-19

- According to ICAO's Electronic Filing of Differences (EFOD) System **only 53% of States in the EUR/NAT Regions filed compliance with Standards 8.17 and 8.19;**
- **47% of States did not provide any information;**
- The ICAO/EUR/NAT Office approached Member States in April 2020 (beginning of the Pandemic) to understand better how the response to COVID-19 was coordinated. It was recognized that the vast majority of States developed their own new mechanism **and the NATFC was either not used or did not exist.**



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# Annex 9 Facilitation Perspective by the Czech Republic

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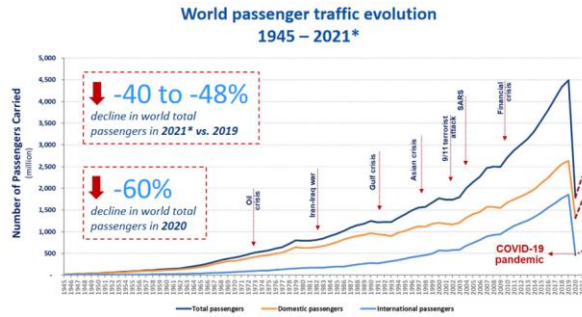
## Members of the NATFC

- Ministry of Transport
- CAA
- Ministry of Interior (Alien Police Service, Air Border Group)
- Ministry of Health (Public Health Department)
- Ministry of Finance (General Directorate of Customs, Customs Office)
- Ministry of Agriculture (State Veterinary Administration)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Airports
- Air Operators Committee
- (*Ground Handling Services, National Organization for PRMs*)

## Duties of Members

- to implement Annex 9 SARPs and the amendments to proper national regulations
- to share relevant information, legislation
- to cooperate on notification of differences of Annex 9 SARPs with national regulations
- to cooperate on solving arising problems operatively and eliminate these problems
- improve their knowledge and awareness of the needs and problems of civil aviation in the facilitation field

# Fatal Impact





# Cooperation!

- Sharing all information from ICAO, EASA, CAPSCA, ECAC, ECDC
  - Extraordinary NATFC meeting
  - Extensive contact between members of NFC
- BUT**
- All measures were issued directly by Ministry of Health, mostly decisions of PM
  - Central Crisis Staff - a working body of the Government responsible for crisis management





## Lessons learnt

- more magnitude of the NATFC – to share information about NATFC within the ministries, organizations, industry
- to improve cooperation with Ministry of Health and Public Health Officer
- to revise and amendment of NFP, it's statues
- to ensure more power of NATFC - **HOW??**
  - members of NATFC – Deputy ministries? Ministries? Directors of Departments?
  - what way to set up the form of cooperation with Central Crisis Staff?



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**National Air Transport Facilitation Committee –  
a vehicle for coordination between aviation and other sectors :**

# Experience of the Kingdom of Morocco In Pandemic Management "EBOLA" AND "COVID19"

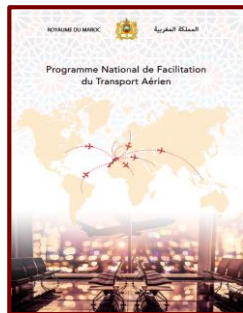
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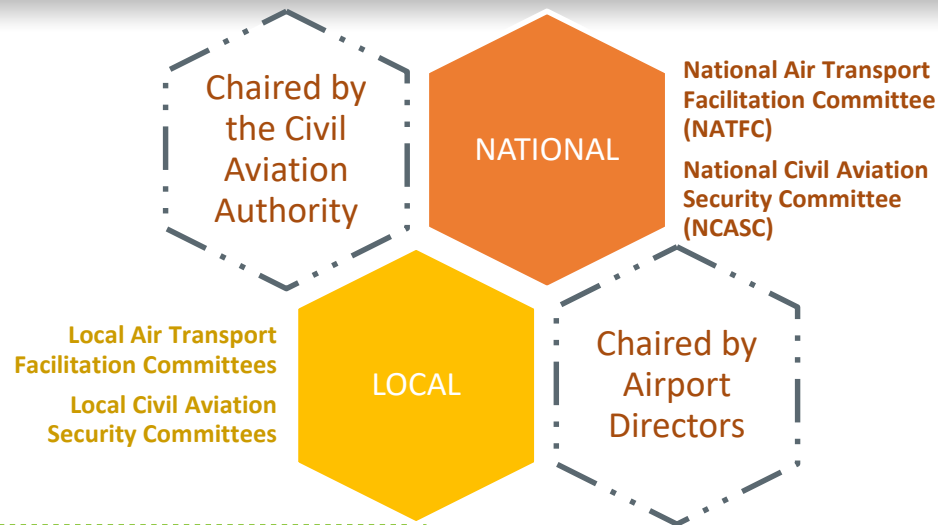
**MANAGEMENT & COORDINATION STRUCTURE**



**National Air Transport Facilitation Programme**  
**NATFP - 1<sup>ER</sup>**  
**Edition, February 2019**



**National Civil Aviation Security Programme**  
**NCASP - 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Edition, March 2019**



- Decree n ° 2-15-259 of 18 kaada 1436 (September 3, 2015) establishing the **NATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT COMMITTEE AND LOCAL FACILITATION COMMITTEES**.
- Decree n ° 2-98-1011 of 12 hija 1419 (March 30, 1999) Establishing a National Civil Aviation Security Committee and Local Airport Security Committees.

- ✓ **First meeting of NATFC: 10 March 2016**
- ✓ **First facilitation day: 30 May 2013**
- ✓ **Second facilitation day: 16 February 2016**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Issuance of certain travel documents readable at the machine
- Facilitate the formalities of entry and exit to the territory of Morocco

CAA

- Facilitation Policy
- National coordination

ONDA – Airport operator authority

- LATFC - Coordination at airports
- Equipment and installation
- Arrangement circuits

Customs

Facilitation of custom's and economic's control at points of entry and exit of airports

Ministry of interior

- Issuance of machine-readable travel documents
- API / PNR system

Others

- Ministry of Justice / M of Tourism
- Royal Air Force / ONSSA
- CAA AVSEC representative
- ....

Ministry of Health

- Application of international health regulations
- Control health at the borders

Royal Gendarmerie

Appropriate Security checks taking into account the facilitation aspects required

National Police

Security checks and immigration authorities considering the facilitation aspects required

Transportation of passengers, baggage and goods in compliance with facilitation requirements

Air carriers

KEYS ACTORS

ORGANISATION & RESPONSABILITES

**MEASURES AND  
ACTIONS TAKEN**

**2014-2016** : Coordination carried out within the framework of the **National Security Committee**

Development of a standard operating procedure for handling flights of Ambulance aircraft, transporting people from countries **affected** with Ebola or people infected or suspected of being infected with the Ebola virus, in **case** of a technical stop or emergency;

Publication of aeronautical information circulars relating to airports in Morocco where aircraft carrying people from countries affected by Ebola or people infected with the Ebola virus, can make technical stops;

Organization of a simulation exercise in response to a highly transmissible contagious disease, case of Ebola, on **May 30, 2015**;

**Measures and  
actions taken**

Since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared as a “ Public health emergency of international concern” and in light of the development of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 internationally, the Moroccan Civil Aviation Authority, in close coordination with various actors concerned, has taken the following actions to :

- Reduce the spread of "COVID-19" by air transport;
- Protect the health of passengers, ground and flight personnel and the public;
- Ensure the continuity of cargo flights and the global air cargo supply chain.

**National COVID-19 monitoring  
and response plan  
“Central Coordination Post”  
-PCC-**

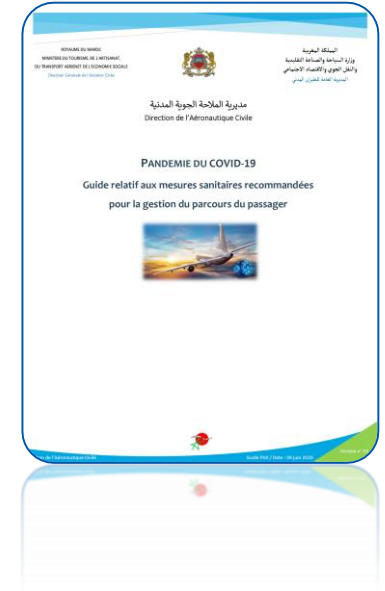


**NATFC  
Coordination of  
aspects related to  
the Civil Aviation  
sector**

- Organization of coordination meetings of the **NATFC** and **the NCASC**;
- Conduct of **supervision activities** to inquire about the level of implementation of the recommendations relating to the context of the COVID 19 pandemic;
- Diffusion of notes, circulars, guide, etc.. ;
- Coordination at the airport level is ensured via the **Local Air Transport Facilitation Committees**.

Measures and actions taken

- **Guideline regarding health measures recommended for the management of passenger journeys (1<sup>st</sup> edition published on 09 June 2020);**
  - ONDA, airlines, as well as other airport service providers have drawn up operational guides and manuals containing guidelines and procedures adapted to **the** period of **sanitary** crisis;
- **« HEALTH PASSENGER FORM » :**
  - Developed by the PCC and validated by the NATFC;
  - Management process established by the NATFC;
- Recommendations related to security requirement implementation within the framework of the resumption of air transport activity, in accordance with **« CART Take-off Guidance »**





## Difficulties faced

- Maintaining appropriate balance between AVSEC measures and public health measures ;
- Conducting effective oversight both on implementing effective AVSEC measures and public health measures ;
- Maintaining security staff competency, including security screening staff, during inactivity and reduced operations ;
- Difficulty to respect physical distancing especially during high activity (Infrastructural capacity, passengers and personnel constraints) ;
- Lack of human resources needed to implement new measures ;
- Lack of resources to assess public health measures implementation ;
- Managing unruly passengers situations relating to non respect of public health measures;
- ...

## Lessons learnt

- Role of an effective coordination and communication;
- The need to be prepared to such emergencies :
  - Regulatory level;
  - Operational level, including exercises ;
- The importance of Technology and digitalization ;

**« Pandemic culture! »**

## Lessons Learned

- The insufficient level of implementation of Annex 9 SARPs (8.17 and 8.19), specifically the lack of proper and functioning NATFC's, led to a lack of effective coordination and cooperation of contingency measures, recovery and restart;
- The establishment of ad-hoc coordination bodies for managing the pandemic resulted in unseasoned and inefficient coordination **and delayed an effective response**;
- To support States in a better implementation of respective SARPs, ICAO has developed:
  - **Annex 9 – Facilitation Course**;
  - **Facilitation Implementation Package (iPack)** with a focus on the role and implementation of a NATFP and the NATFC as well as the airport committees

**States are urged to implement Annex 9 SARPS, establish a NATFP , NATFC and Airport Committees , define responsibilities, meet regularly and prepare for the response to Crisis Scenarie affecting Civil Aviation**



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