



CAPSCA Global Updates

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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.

WHO-ICAO Memorandum of Understanding (2022)

- **A framework of cooperation and 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 meeting



ICAO

WHO - ICAO Collaboration Activities

- **Annual** workplan **update** (with the input of regional WHO and ICAO offices)
- **Participation of ICAO** in:
 - WHO Emergency meetings and committees
 - WHO JEE
 - Technical meetings and webinars

WHO - ICAO Collaboration Activities

- **Participation of WHO** in:
 - CAPSCA Technical Assistance Visits
 - Panel meetings and webinars in ICAO.
- Inform about IHR amendments and ICAO SARPs
- Provide **outbreak updates** (Ebola, hantavirus), in the global and regional meetings and webinars

Public health in ICAO

Aerodromes



Facilitation



Air Traffic



Aircraft
Operations



Aeronautical
Information



Dangerous
Goods



Public health affects aviation



Aviation personnel and passengers

- Exposure to disease
- Additional requirements



Air travel continuity

- Flight delays, restrictions, cancellations
- Border closures



Aviation safety

- Practicality of mitigation measures
- Chemical compatibilities with aircraft

Aviation supports public health



Emergency medical response

- Transport medical personnel & equipment
- Transport blood samples and supplies
- Humanitarian & repatriation flights
- Human remains
- Air ambulance flights



Passenger health and transmission

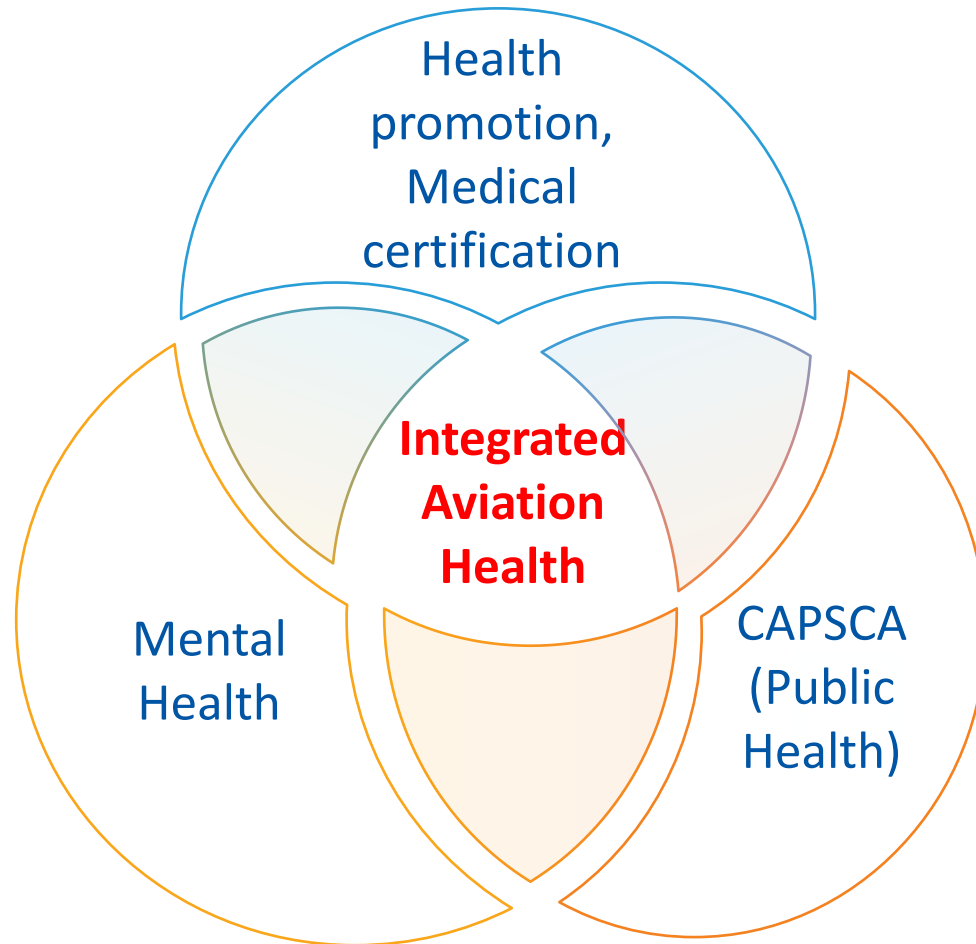
- Measures to mitigate transmission
- Screening and referral
- Emergency care at airports and on-board



Medical response

- Contact tracing
- Isolation and quarantine

— Aviation Health Management in ICAO



Ebola Outbreak – ICAO Activities

- A new Ebola 2026 repository website <https://www.icao.int/capsca>

ICAO References:

- **CAPSCA guidance** for the New Ebola outbreak (20 May 2026)
- International air services remain safe amid Ebola outbreak, **ICAO News Release** (25 May 2026)
- **ICAO State Letter 26/48**: Public Health Emergency of International Concern – Ebola disease caused by Bundibugyo virus (1 June 2026)
- **Summary** of key public health and social measures for managing BVD outbreak in Aviation (5 June 2026)

Ebola Outbreak – ICAO Activities

- A new Ebola 2026 repository website <https://www.icao.int/capsca>
 - WHO
 - Africa CDC
 - US CDC
 - ECDC
 - IATA
 - Others

Ebola Outbreak – ICAO Activities

Outbreak updates and discussions in CAPSCA global meetings:

- Outcomes of Ebola **Simulation Exercise** – Geneva, Switzerland.
- **Contact tracing** procedures and operations – ICAO FAL, CDC and EASA.
- WHO updates
- Updates on WHO Emergency Meetings/Committees.

Outcomes World Health Assembly WHO Health Emergencies Programme

- Together with UN agencies, Member States and relevant partners:
 - **streamline country-level coordination**
 - **identify areas to rationalize resources** within the cluster coordination mechanism



Outcomes World Health Assembly

Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005)

- Policy & technical support to **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** in the travel and transport sector, such as ICAO and IMO, to promote alignment of their legal frameworks with the 2024 amendments to the IHR.

Outcomes World Health Assembly

Strengthening health emergency prevention, preparedness, response and resilience

- **Coordinate** with international travel, transport and migration partners to align health emergency policies, strategies and guidance with amendments to the IHR
 - strengthened global health emergencies governance
 - protection of essential workers
- **A global mapping exercise**
 - identified guidance gaps and priorities
 - development of operational guidance on risk-informed governance

2026 priorities



- **Collaboration**

- Alignment project: ICAO CAPSCA and WHO IHR
- Formal agreements: industry stakeholders

- **Manuals**

- Procedures for CAPSCA Regional Coordinators
- Update CAPSCA Cross-Border Risk Management

- **Training**

- CAPSCA Technical advisers
- CAPSCA focal points in member states

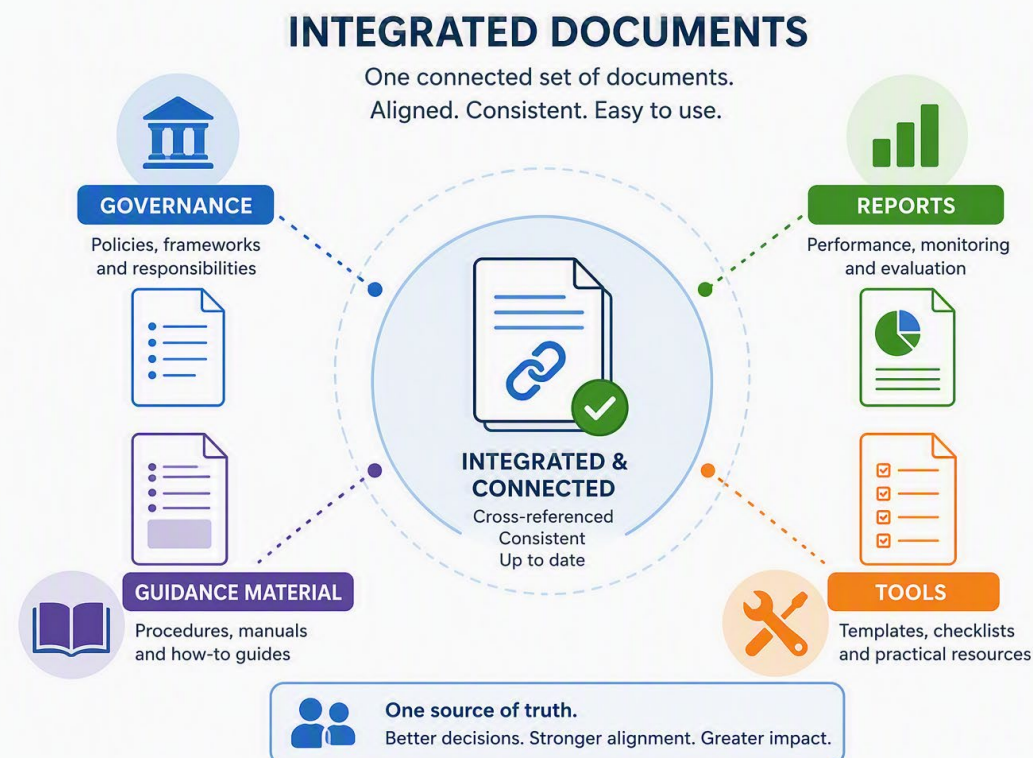


Alignment project: CAPSCA and WHO

- Review and compare various ICAO and WHO documents
- Identify areas of alignments and gaps
- Provide recommendations on areas of integration
- Provide summary of gaps and how it can be addressed to improve alignment
- Review WHO resources that can be used as a training material for CAPSCA regional coordinators and CAPSCA national focal points.

Alignment Methodology

- Structured comparison of ICAO and WHO documents
- 40 documents reviewed
 - 27 ICAO and CAPSCA documents
 - 13 WHO Documents
- 16 variables



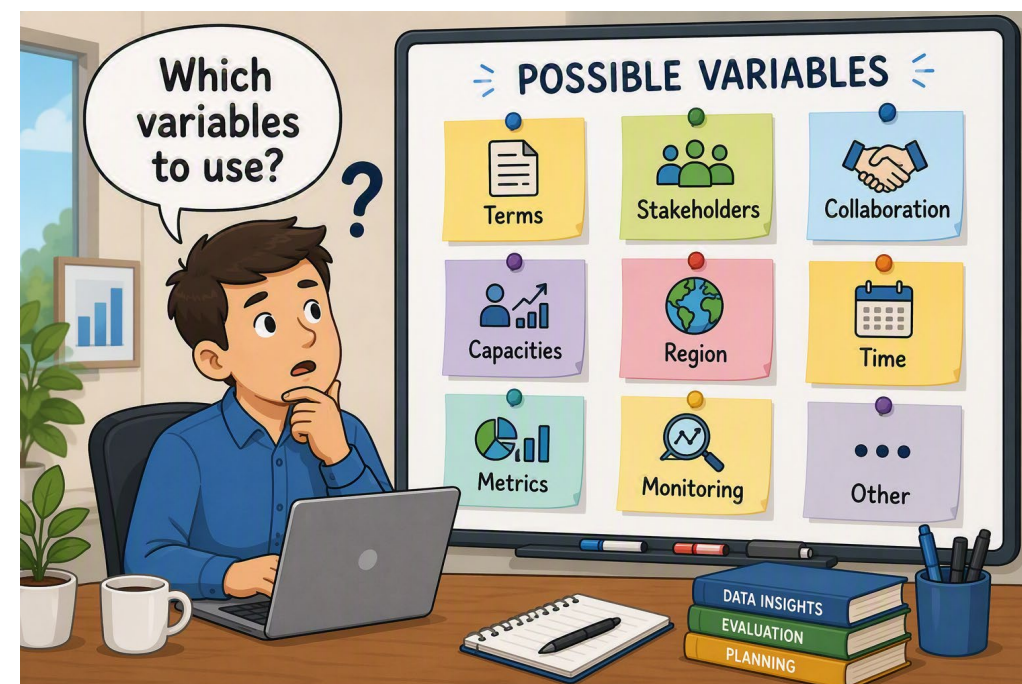
Documents reviewed



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

Variables for comparison

1. Legal nature and purpose
2. Definitions and terms
3. Coordination with authorities
4. Mechanism for collaboration
5. Information sharing: disease outbreaks
6. Risk communication
7. Public health surveillance at airports
8. Core capacities at points of entry
9. Core capacities during PHEIC



Variables for comparison

- 10. Vaccination certificates
- 11. Implementation of Public Health & Social Measures (in travel & transport)
- 12. Facilitation of international travel and trade during emergencies
- 13. Implementation support, monitoring and evaluation
- 14. Management of illness onboard an aircraft
- 15. Passenger data and contact tracing
- 16. **Human rights, dignity, equity & solidarity**



Guiding Question:

Where do WHO and ICAO requirements for managing public health events in aviation align, where do they differ and how can they be integrated?

Observations:

- Generally, requirements are complementary

REPORT

Report Title: _____ Date: _____ Prepared by: _____

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GUIDING QUESTION _____

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OBSERVATIONS _____

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Positive Progress

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Effective Strategies

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Challenges Identified

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Opportunities

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Next Steps

Observations:

- 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.

REPORT

Report Title: _____ Date: _____ Prepared by: _____

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GUIDING QUESTION _____

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OBSERVATIONS _____

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Positive Progress

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Effective Strategies

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Challenges Identified

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Opportunities

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Next Steps

Areas of strong alignment

- National coordination and multisectoral collaboration:
 - Facilitation programmes and committees
 - National IHR Authority and National IHR focal point
- Core capacities to respond to PHEIC
 - Public health emergency planning
 - Public health response



Areas of strong alignment

- Core capacities:
 - To be maintained at all times at Points of Entry
 - Preparedness at airports
 - Management of ill travellers at airports



Areas of strong alignment

- Procedures, measures and activities to prevent the spread of diseases while avoiding unnecessary disruption to international traffic
- Passenger data and contact tracing needs to be improved

REPORT

Report Title: _____ Date: _____ Prepared by: _____

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GUIDING QUESTION _____

STRONG ALIGNMENT _____

Procedures

Measures

Activities

ICAO

Areas of weak alignment

- Legal nature and purpose of frameworks:
 - Difference in mandates and governance structures
 - Different implementation and accountability mechanisms.

Areas of weak alignment

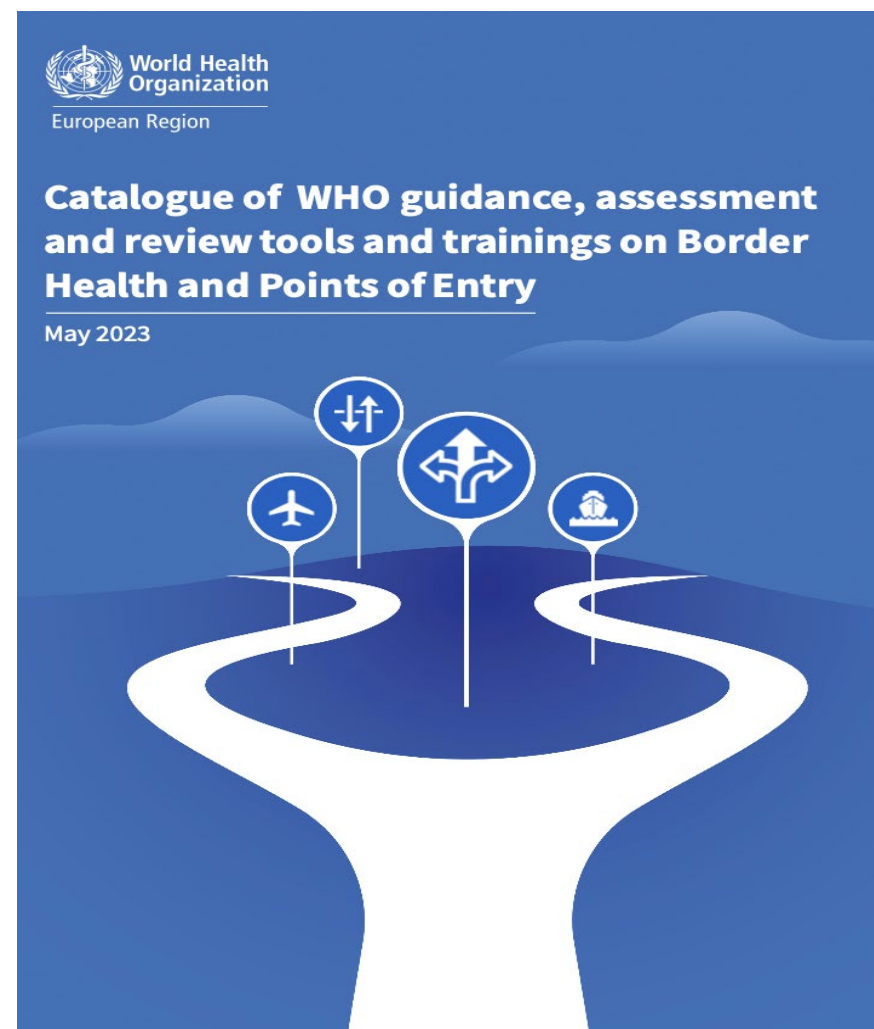
- Monitoring and evaluation tools:
 - Fragmented mechanisms and different compliance expectations
 - WHO SPAR/JEE tools
 - Only IHR designated airports
 - Scored = systematic tracking
 - WHO encourages use of JEE/SPAR results into National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS)

Areas of non-alignment

Monitoring and Evaluation Tools (ICAO)	Definitions and Terms
CAPSCA assessments at any international airport, not only IHR-designated airports	Inconsistent terminology used
CAPSCA checklists are comprehensive; but no scoring mechanism.	Example 1: conveyance and aircraft
Recommendations from assistance visits not systematically followed up.	Example 2: traveller and passenger
Findings not recorded in USOAP or USAP.	Inconsistent terminology affect how guidance and recommendations are interpreted, implemented, and evaluated.

Public health training resources

- WHO:
 - PoE Catalogue
 - Previous WHO EPI-WINs
 - OpenWHO
- CAPSCA:
 - Previous technical advisor course
 - Public Health Corridor iPack
 - Training for CAPSCA regional coordinators under development





Manual for CAPSCA Regional Coordinators

- Serves as a user manual
- Reference document to the CAPSCA Regional Coordinators
- Provides an overview of CAPSCA's history
- Consolidation of CAPSCA information
- Provide guidance to CAPSCA National Focal Points
- Contains appendices, attachments and checklists



CAPSCA Governance

- Global
- Regional governance
- Functional alignment
- Roles of stakeholders



CAPSCA Engagement with stakeholders

- Communication strategy
- Regional engagement procedures
- Roles of different entities
- Technical Assistance processes
- Cooperation and collaboration between public health and aviation authorities
- Cooperation and collaboration with non-governmental CAPSCA stakeholders
- Templates and Tools



CAPSCA events

- Procedures for planning and managing
 - Regional and global meetings, symposia, conferences.
 - Training events and capacity building workshops
- Templates

Training

- CAPSCA Regional Coordinators
- Training and Capacity building for States' National Focal Points
- Training of CAPSCA Technical Advisors
- Include training modalities, material for familiarization and training

Thank You

