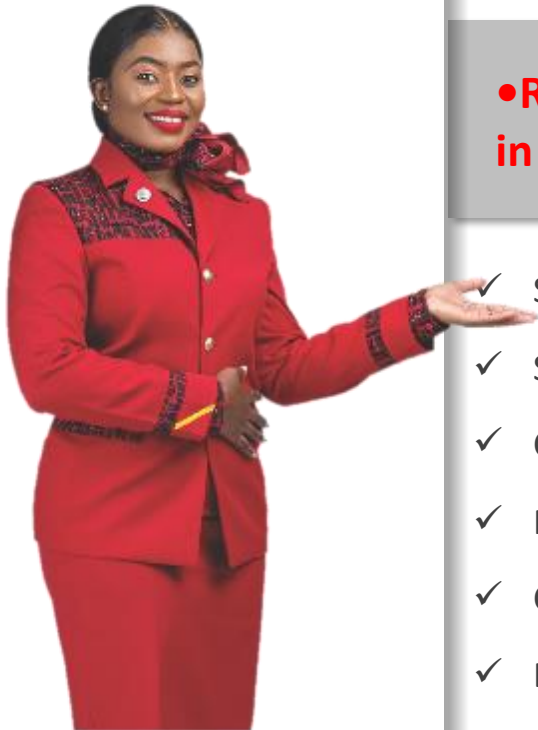


From Outbreak Response To Public Health Resilience

Kenya Airways Experience During the 2026 Ebola & Hantavirus Outbreaks



Aviation & Public Health: Why Airlines Matter



•Role of Airlines in Public Health

- ✓ Surveillance
- ✓ Screening
- ✓ Contact Tracing
- ✓ Passenger Communications
- ✓ Crew Health Monitoring
- ✓ Emergency Response

Role of Airports

- ✓ Aviation Accelerates Global Movement Of People And Pathogens.
- ✓ Airports Are Often First Points Of Detection.

2026 Aviation Public Health Landscape

- ✓ Ebola outbreak in DRC and Uganda.
- ✓ Hantavirus alerts in multiple regions.
- ✓ Increased government travel restrictions.
- ✓ Enhanced crew and passenger health requirements.

Aviation is not outside the public-health system. It is one of its interfaces

Public Health Emergencies 2026

Ebola Virus Disease and Hantavirus

Ebola Virus Disease

Transmission

- ✓ Direct contact with infected bodily fluids.
- ✓ Contaminated materials.
- ✓ Healthcare and household exposures.

Aviation relevance

- ✓ Potential onboard exposure concerns.
- ✓ International contact tracing requirements.
- ✓ Passenger screening and monitoring.

Preparedness systems built

Hantavirus

Transmission

- ✓ Exposure to infected rodent urine, faeces or saliva.
- ✓ Rare person-to-person transmission reported with some variants.

Aviation significance

- ✓ Awareness for returning travellers.
- ✓ Cabin crew illness reporting.
- ✓ Public health monitoring.
- ✓ Enhanced disease surveillance programmes.

for one outbreak rapidly

Public Health Emergency Impact.

Operational risks

- ✓ Passenger screening.
- ✓ Crew deployment challenges.
- ✓ Government travel restrictions.
- ✓ Regulatory compliance.
- ✓ Public perception.

Commercial risks

- ✓ Travel avoidance.
- ✓ Medical evacuation contingencies.
- ✓ Additional PPE and screening costs.
- ✓ Increased operational complexity.

become useful for another.

Other Notable Sentinel outbreak with aviation significance include Mpox

The KQ Public Health Response Framework

A layered model: Prevention at the perimeter, detection at the frontline, escalation through a connected command chain - BCP.



01 PERIMETER Awareness • Traveler Information • Airport Interface • Hygiene • Environmental Controls

02 FRONTLINE Cabin Crew • Ground Teams • Medical Teams • Early Recognition • Escalation

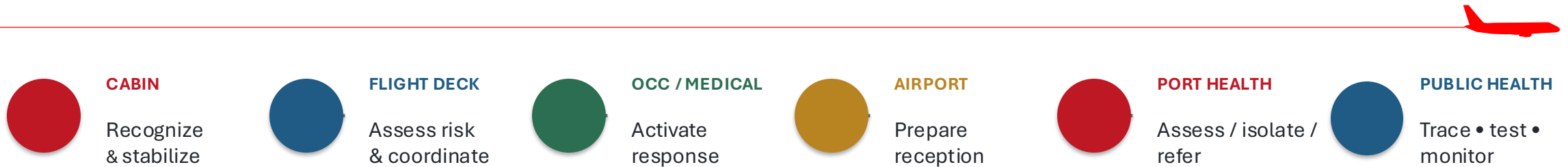
03 RESPONSE Isolation/Containment • PPE • Notification • Referral • Aircraft/Ground Coordination

04 NETWORK KQ Medical • OCC • Airport/Port Health • KCAA • Ministry Of Health • WHO/ICAO/IATA

EVIDENCE
→ ACTION

Design Principle: No single layer is sufficient; resilience comes from overlap, redundancy and rapid hand-off.

Onboard-to-Ground: Response Pathway



KQ Medical Response

Clinical preparedness

- Ebola case definitions issuance.
- Risk assessment development
- SOPs distributed, PPE training.
- Referral pathways through Port Health.
- Emergency evacuation protocols.
- Occupational health monitoring.

Outstation support

- Uganda station engagement.
- DRC station engagement.
- Continued briefings and webinars.
- Country-specific health guidance.

BCP Design Test: Can The System Move From Signal → Decision → Coordinated Action Within Minutes, Not Hours?

Managing International Restrictions



Countries Impacting operations: DRC, Uganda, Ethiopia, SSD, USA, India, Thailand, South Africa, Canada, UK, UAE.

Most Impacted Routes

Uganda (EBB), Rwanda (KGL), DRC (FIH, FBM), South Sudan (JUB).

- ✓ Passenger Loss in Numbers – 15.4% YTD.
- ✓ Revenue loss – 6.90% YTD.

Typical requirements for Travel

- ✓ Health declarations.
- ✓ Airport screening.
- ✓ Documentation requirements.
- ✓ Entry restrictions.
- ✓ Quarantine rules.

KQ operational response

Crew Clustering and Network Management

A visual roster diagram

- ✓ Cluster A
- ✓ No DRC/Uganda operations
- ✓ USA-qualified crews

Cluster B

- ✓ DRC/Uganda operating crews
- ✓ Restricted from USA and other restricted countries
- deployment

Result

- ✓ Maintained compliance.
- ✓ Preserved route integrity.
- ✓ Reduced operational disruption.
- ✓ Protected network continuity.

Preparedness Is Multidisciplinary

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

- PPE and infection-prevention resources
- Medical / emergency response capability
- Aircraft and ground readiness
- Cleaning, disinfection and waste controls

PEOPLE & TRAINING

- Cabin and flight crew readiness
- Ground and passenger-facing awareness
- Medical / occupational-health expertise
- Refresher training, drills and debriefs

EVIDENCE & INTELLIGENCE

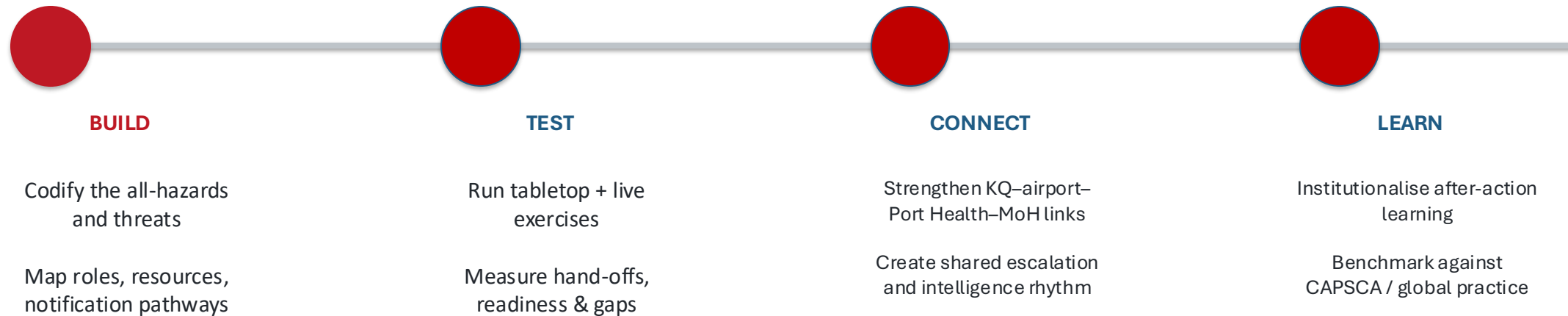
- WHO / Africa CDC / ICAO / IATA monitoring
- National public-health and aviation alerts
- Scientific evidence translated into SOPs
- Proportionate, adaptive risk communication

KQ's posture is to keep the capability warm — not wait for the next outbreak to teach us what we need

Looking Ahead: The BTCL Resilience Loop



Build - Test - Connect - Learn Model.



MEASURE: Time-to-notify • Time-to-coordinate • Training Coverage • Drill Performance • Corrective Actions Closed • Partner Connectivity

Key Lessons for Airlines



What worked



- ✓ Early preparedness
- ✓ Health and Operations integration
- ✓ Daily intelligence monitoring
- ✓ Port Health partnerships
- ✓ Crew-centred risk management
- ✓ Evidence-based decision making

Future Priorities



- ✓ Digital health surveillance.
- ✓ Faster crew exposure tracking.
- ✓ Enhanced international harmonization.
- ✓ Increased simulator and tabletop exercises.

Recommendations for CAPSCA.



- ✓ Maintain scalable preparedness plans.
- ✓ Establish & maintain cross-functional outbreak teams.
- ✓ Foster the use of risk-based operational decision-making.
- ✓ Strengthen Airline-Public health partnerships and collaboration.

Preparedness is not tested during routine operations. It is tested during uncertainty



Thank you

