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WHO Procedures for Airport and Port Certification

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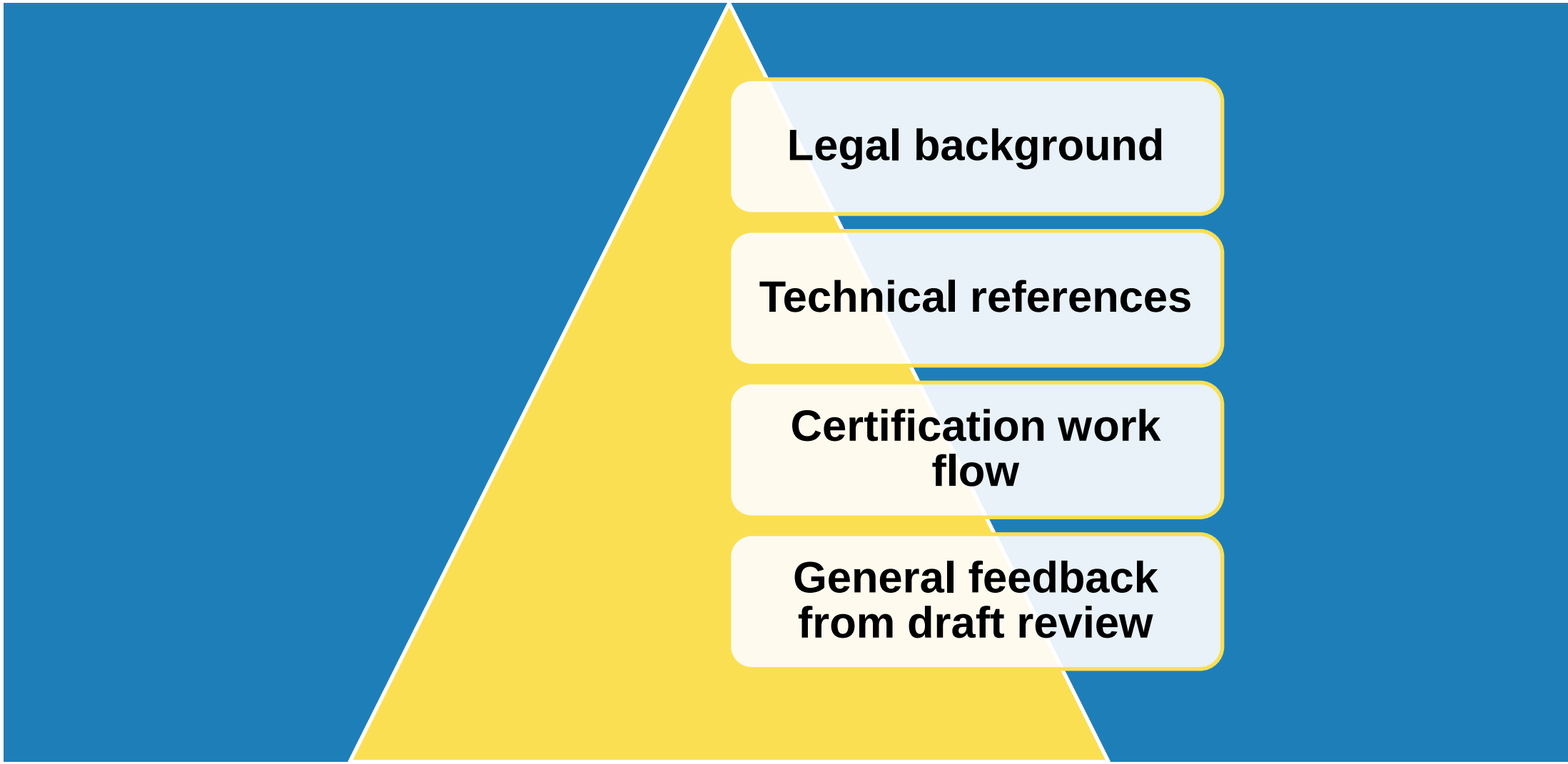
WHO Procedures for Airport and Port Certification



Legal Ground

IHR Art 20. Airports and Ports

4. WHO may, at the request of the State Party concerned, arrange to certify, after an appropriate investigation, that an airport or port in its territory meets the requirements referred to in paragraph 1 and 3 of this article. These certification may be subject to periodic review by WHO, in consultation with State Party.

5. WHO, in collaboration with competent intergovernmental organizations and international bodies, shall develop and publish the certification guidelines for airports and ports under this Article. WHO shall also publish a list of certified airports and ports.

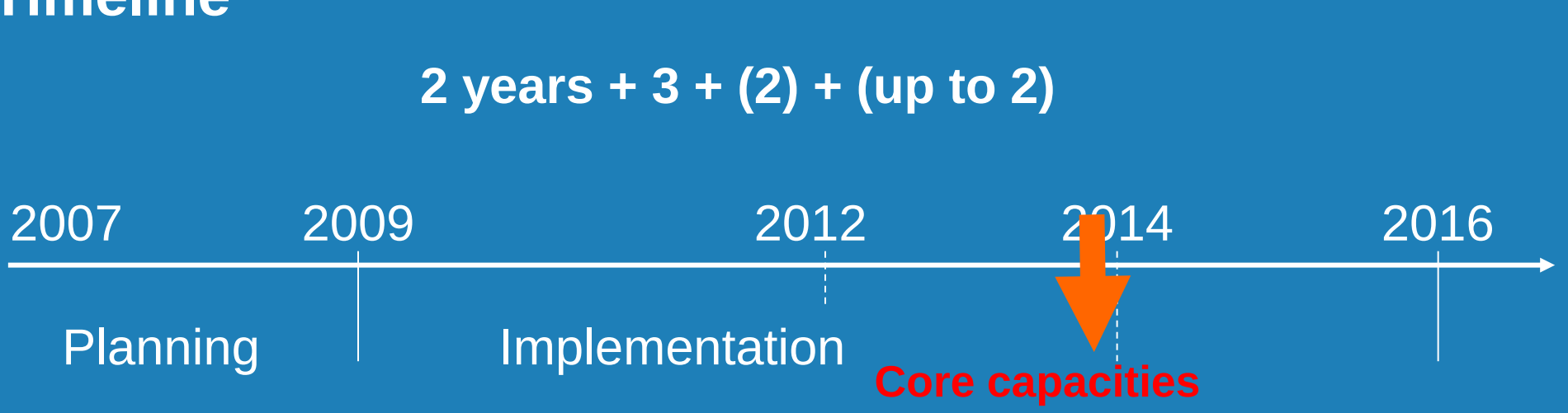
WHO CERTIFICATION AIRPORTS AND PORTS - IHR(2005)

- FOR AIRPORTS AND PORTS, AS INDICATED IN IHR(2005)
- NOT FOR ALL AIRPORTS AND PORTS : Applies only to airports and ports designated by State Parties to develop core capacities for public health under IHR(2005)
- NOT AN OBLIGATION: Under request of State Party, WHO may arrange to certify an airport or port
- WHO SHALL PUBLISH LIST OF CERTIFIED AIRPORTS AND PORTS
- WHO SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION
- The certification aims to verify specific core capacities under IHR Annex 1 (Health surveillance and response for activities related to PoE, at all times and to respond to events that may constitute a PHEIC) and for issuance of ship sanitation certificates.

Timeline for Strengthening National Capacity

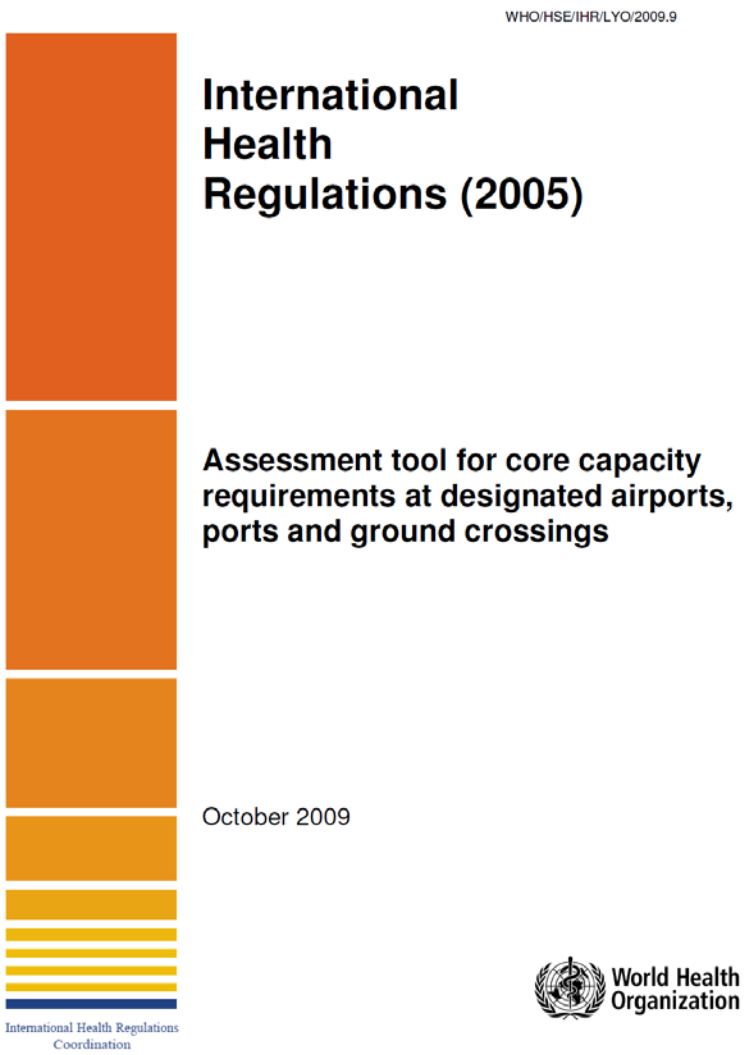
1. **Strengthen national disease surveillance, prevention, control and response systems**
2. **Strengthen public health security in travel and transport**

- **Timeline**



Airport and Port Certification to be pursued, on the voluntary basis, by the countries who already have the capacities in place and functioning

Basis for Certification

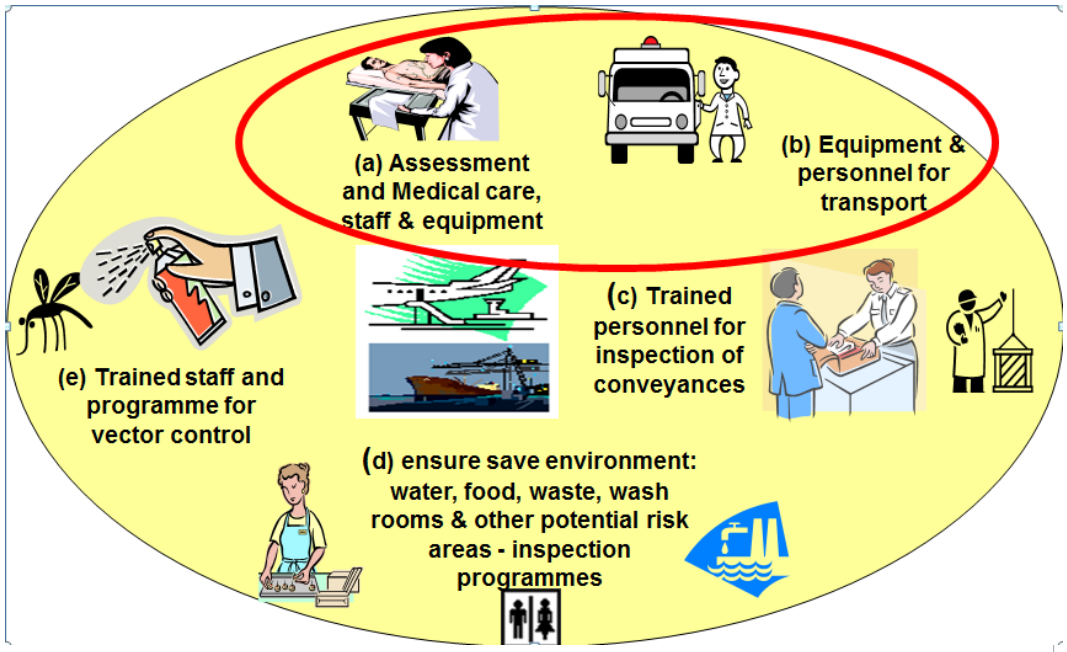


- Assessment tool provided to support State Parties during core capacity assessment at designated airports, ports and ground crossings at who.int/ihr/ports_airports/PoE/en/ww
- Administrative procedures and technical guidance build on assessment tools

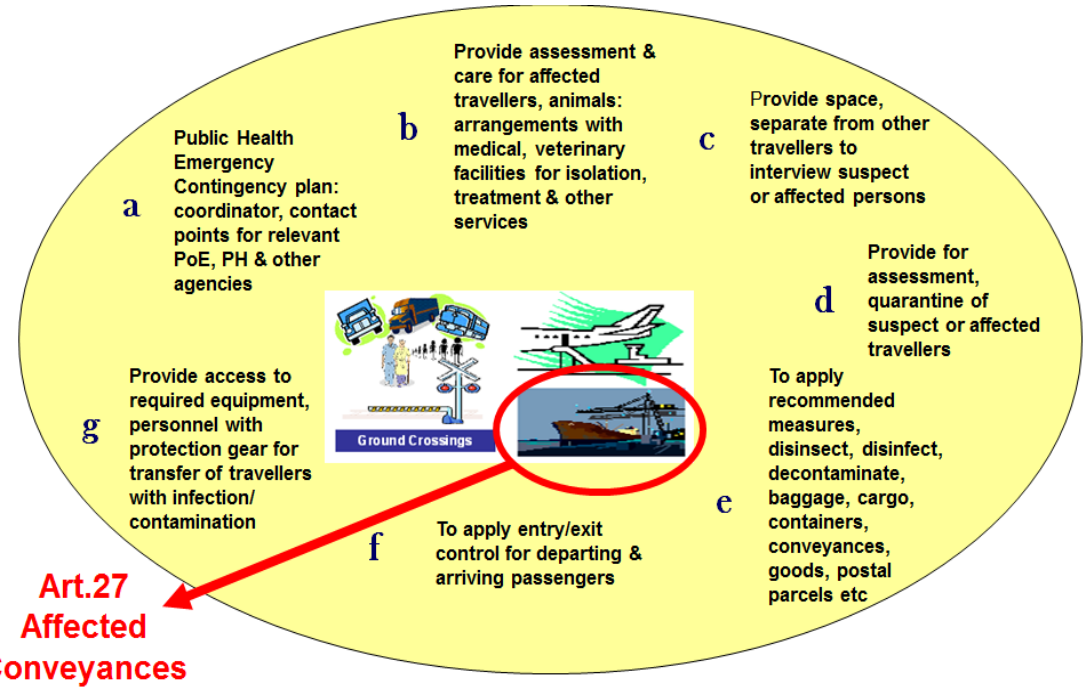
WHO Airport and Port Certification--- What

What to be certified?

Routine times

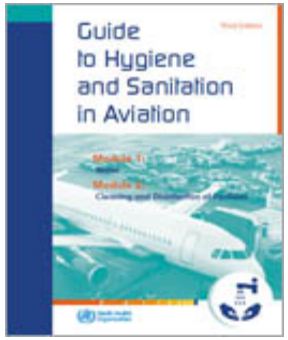


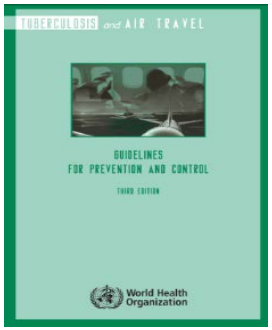
Public Health Emergency

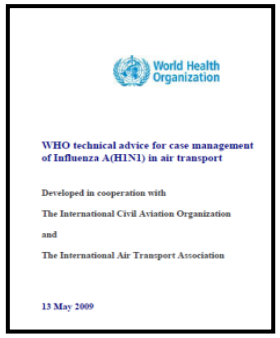


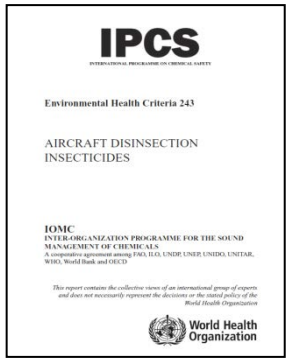
Technical References

Air travel

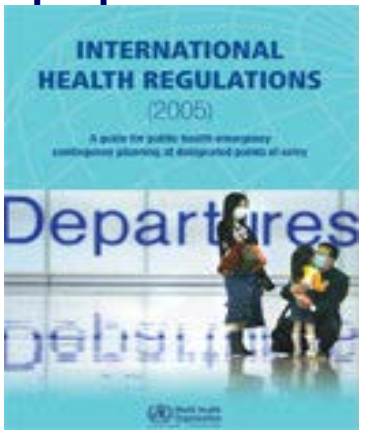




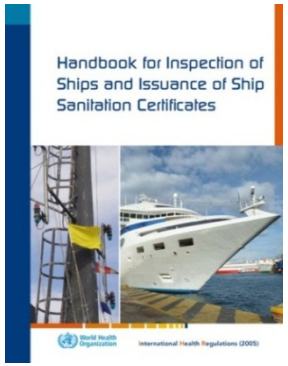


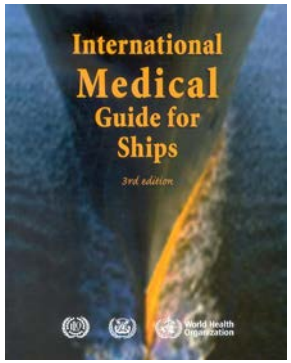


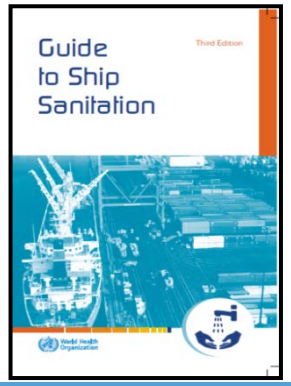
Public health emergency preparedness

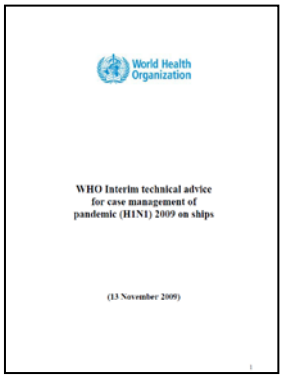


Ports and Ships

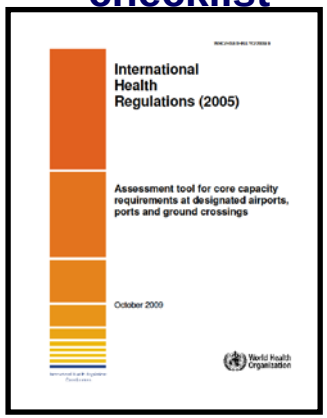








PoE core capacity checklist



WHO Learning Program for Ship Inspection and Issuance of SSC under IHR 2005

Technical References

Event management

- WHO Technical Advice for Event Management in Air Transport
- WHO Technical Advice for Event Management on board ships

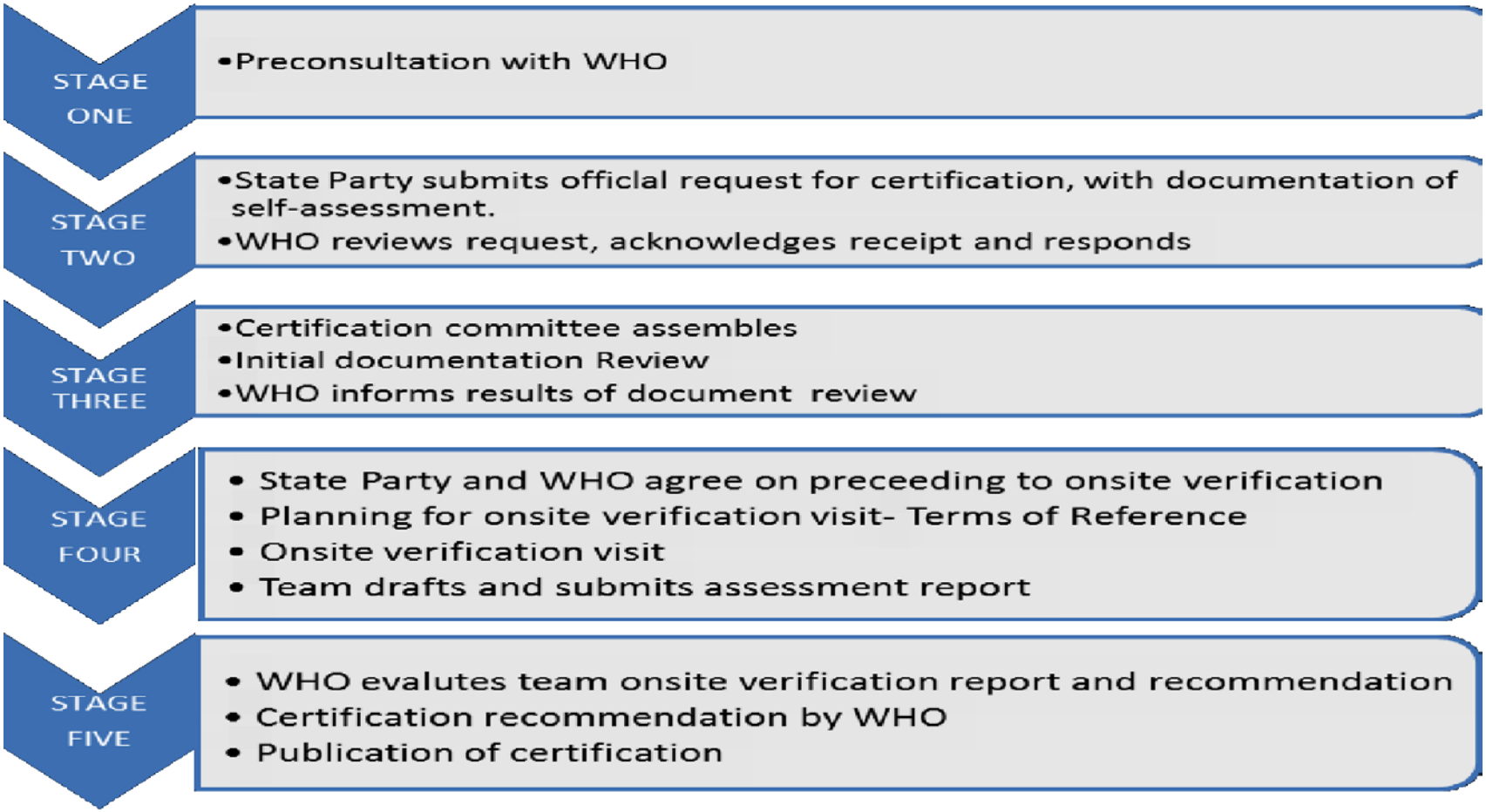
Others

- Surveillance at points of entry
- Procedures for Airport and Port Certification

Vector

- Aircraft disinsection – chemical safety
- Vector Surveillance and Control at PoE
- PoE Vector Identification Platform

Proposed Procedures – 5 Stages



Stage One- Preconsultation

- Informal discussions between National authorities and WHO
- No commitment to proceed but information exchange

Stage Two – Official Request

- State Party submits official request for certification
- WHO confirms receipt of request
- National authority should have completed core capacity assessment and believe capacities are sufficiently developed
- Documentation file must accompany official request

Stage Three – Documentation Review

- WHO assembles certification team
- Certification team reviews documentation submitted with request
- There may be exchange between State Party and certification team to request additional documentation
- Documentation review report provided to State Party

Stage Four – Onsite Verification

- Terms of Reference for onsite verification to be developed by WHO in agreement with State Party
- Planning for onsite verification
- Onsite verification including observation of core capacities, additional documentation review, interviews with key stakeholders
- Preliminary and final reports confirming findings and results of onsite verification provided to State Party

Stage Five – WHO Evaluation and Certification

- WHO HQ evaluates Certification team's onsite verification report and findings
- If, in opinion of WHO HQ, airport and port has met core capacity requirements, recommendation for certification to be forwarded to Director/Assistant Director
- Certification awarded, to be valid for period of ? Years

Publishing and Periodic Review

Publishing

- WHO will publish the names of Certified Airports and ports

Periodic Review

- Certification will be valid for set number of years.
- State Party may request renewal of certification upon expiry
- At any time, State Party may request re-certification if airport operations have changed significantly

Resources and collaboration required

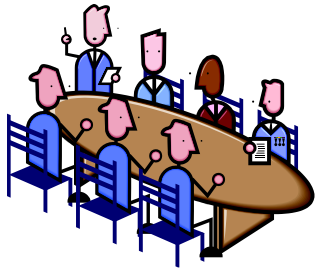
Collaboration with Air Transport sector and Maritime sector to finalize procedures

Pool of experts for assessment team and training plan / resources

Support of WHO Regional and Country offices, National authorities and Points of Entry

General Feedback

- Clarification of applicant (i.e. State, PoE)
- Cost to States as potential barrier
- Additional documents may be required for review
- Team members: expectations of teams, subject matter expertise, language requirements, training



Thank you !