



# **Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)**

- WHO declared Ebola outbreak a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) under the International Health Regulations (IHR)
- WHO established Ebola Emergency Committee ICAO adviser
- Countries with widespread and intense transmission are:
  - Guinea
  - Liberia
  - Sierra Leone



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Emergency Committee Meeting - 22 October

- The event remains a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.
- Outbreaks in Senegal and Nigeria declared over as of 17 and 20 October.
- Primary aim stop the transmission of Ebola within the three most affected States.
- Increase public confidence in the effectiveness of exit (departure) screening.
- Entry (arrival) screening less effective required resources are significant.
- No general ban on international travel or trade.
- The cancellation of mass gatherings by States without Ebola transmission is not recommended.
- Strengthen education and communication efforts to combat stigma, disproportionate fear and inappropriate measures. Such efforts may encourage self-reporting and early diagnosis and care.

## **EVD Related Flight Restrictions**

- Restrictions on flights and passengers implemented by the following States as published in NOTAMs
  - Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia, Ivory
    Coast, Kenya, Mauritius, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Somalia, Trinidad and Tobago, Zambia
- WHO/ICAO recommendations are not being implemented
- Aviation restrictions are being required at a political level by health authorities and Heads of Governments
- Flight cancellations and other travel restrictions continue to isolate affected countries
  - Detrimental economic consequences
  - Hinder relief and response efforts
  - Increased number of cases
  - Risks further international spread through migration
- Impact on travel, trade, emergency response, economies



#### **ICAO EVD Related Recent Actions**

- ICAO chairs and coordinates the Joint Ebola Travel and Transport Task Force
  - participation of WHO, ICAO, IATA, ACI, IMO, ICS, CLIA, UNWTO, WTTC
- Several joint communication messages have been issued to reinforce:
  - Health regulations and aviation standards and guidance
  - Joint recommendations discouraging travel restrictions imposed by States and the suspension of services by operators
- Joint WHO/ICAO State letter sent to Ministers of Health and Aviation
- ICAO attended the East Africa Community Ministerial Meeting on Ebola which resulted in a declaration for States to avoid imposing restrictions on flights
- WHO and ICAO recommend exit screening of passengers, not entry
- ICAO has facilitated the lifting of restrictions on flights by some States
- ICAO has signed a MOU with the UNDP on "Operational Aspects of Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund"



#### **ICAO EVD Related Future Actions**

- Action Plan for States and International Organizations has been developed by ICAO to facilitate harmonized implementation of WHO recommendations relevant to the aviation sector;
- States to implement PHE preparedness plans and procedures
- States to communicate the measures implemented
- States to cancel flight and passenger restrictions
- States to join CAPSCA for assistance (visits, training, advice, etc.)
- Joint ICAO/WHO assistance visits to States and international airports have been requested by States and will be undertaken under CAPSCA (www.capsca.org)
- The next annual CAPSCA Global Coordination Meeting will be held in Cairo from 17 to 20 November.