



International Civil Aviation Organization

Cooperative Arrangement for the Prevention of Spread of Communicable Disease through Air Travel (CAPSCA)

Background

The CAPSCA project is an International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) initiative that improves preparedness planning and response to public health emergencies that affect the aviation sector, such as an influenza pandemic. Since 2006, ICAO has worked closely with States (governments), the World Health Organization, the International Air Transport Association, Airports Council International and other partners to develop relevant provisions in a number of Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation i.e. Annex 6 — *Operation of Aircraft*, Annex 9 – *Facilitation*, Annex 11 – *Air Traffic Services*, Annex 14 – *Aerodromes*, as well as the *Procedures for Air Navigation Services — Air Traffic Management* (Doc. 4444). Guidance material has been produced to support these developments. In October 2010 the ICAO Assembly adopted a Resolution on the subject that includes a resolving clause urging States to join the CAPSCA project. Since public health emergencies are often international in nature, they should be managed on several different levels: local, national, regional and global, and CAPSCA provides the framework for such management. The CAPSCA website provides a one-stop resource for the project at: <http://www.capsca.org>.

Activities

In addition to providing seminars and workshops on preparedness planning in the aviation sector, the CAPSCA project arranges assistance visits to States and international airports. These visits facilitate training for aviation and health professionals who are involved in contingency planning in the aviation sector. During these visits, preparedness plans that have been developed locally and/or nationally are reviewed, and improvements suggested. At the end of the visit, which normally takes two days, a report is provided that may be used by the State for future preparedness plan development. The CAPSCA project is currently operating in the following regions: Asia Pacific, Africa, Americas. It commences in the Middle East in February 2011.

Partners



Funding

To date, funding has been provided by States and by international organizations, in cash and in kind, but the main financial support has been a series of grants from the UN Central Fund for Influenza Action, a fund administered by the UN Development Programme. Additional funding is required for the continuity of the CAPSCA project in the medium term.

Future Action

The CAPSCA project has been incorporated into the ICAO Business Plan for the next triennium, 2011-2013, but CFIA funds will meet only a proportion of its activity costs. To ensure the future of CAPSCA, States are encouraged to:

- Join the CAPSCA project and to receive assistance visits
- Consider donating funds to support the CAPSCA project

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MEDICINE

CAPSCA

