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Date: 08 May 2022

**CIVIL AVIATION CIRCULAR (CAC-GEN) 06/2022**

**Subject:** Guidelines for Air Operators on Preventing Spread of COVID-19 on Commercial Aircraft.

**Ref:** Civil Aviation Circular (CAC-GEN) 01/2020 dated 10 May 2020.

**Introduction**

1. With the remarkable improvement of COVID-19 pandemic situation, the amended and updated Circular of the above reference has been published as under for compliance by the air operators.

**Guideline for Attending Passenger While Check-in**

2. All the staffs in check-in counter shall wear standard mask and gloves while attending passengers.
3. Body temperature of each passenger by Non-contact Infrared thermometer shall be carried out by airport authority before entrance to airport terminal.
4. Close liaisons with concern security and airport health authority shall be made while dealing with suspected passengers.
5. Adequate hand sanitizer and tissue paper shall be made available for passengers in final boarding counter.

**Guidance for In-flights Service**

6. In case of ill passengers found on board aircraft with symptoms including fever ( $> 99.5F$ ), fatigue or cough, the occurrence should be dealt with in compliance with the handling measures of in-flight emergencies of COVID-19 and the crew should timely communicate with destination airports, and then hand over the ill passengers after landing in cooperation with local health authorities; In-flight two seats to be kept vacant in the last row against the cabin bulkhead for management of the ill passenger.
7. Lavatory shall be frequently and regularly cleaned and disinfected.

### Guidance for Crew members

#### 8. During Flight:

- a. Crew members shall wear mask and gloves while handling any suspected COVID-19 patient.
- b. Discarded masks should be placed in a distinct bin for disposal.
- c. The flight crew of an aircraft shall, upon identifying a suspected case(s) of communicable disease, or other public health risk, on board the aircraft, promptly notify the A TS unit at the destination airport.

#### 9. During Layover:

- a. If crew members develop fever, cough, headache or difficulty in breathing, they should, immediately self-isolate and be excluded from being assigned duties, until cleared by their local public health authorities;
- b. Shall avoid all contact with sick people;
- c. To maintain all preventive health care measures while in hotel and avoid public gathering.

### Cleaning and Disinfection of Aircraft

10. Cleaner shall wear medical masks, disposable cap, goggles, disposable protective suits, rubber gloves and disposable shoe covers during cleaning;
11. After each flight, and during stopover the aircraft is to be disinfected with WHO approved insecticide.

#### 12. Maintenance of Oxygen Mask

- a. If a crew member is suspected of having infection, it is recommended to disinfect or replace the equipment used by the crew member;
- b. In case of decompression event requiring the use of oxygen mask or portable equipment with suspected passenger, it is recommended to disinfect or replace all the equipment within a six-foot radius of the suspected passenger.

### **Management of Suspected Case On-Board**

13. At least two universal precaution kits shall have to carry on aircraft during pandemic period. If a traveler develops symptoms of COVID-19, efforts should be made to minimize contact of passengers and cabin crew with the ill person.

### **Special Guidance for Helicopter Operators**

14. Helicopters, while their operation tends to be more local, shall also follow disinfection procedure mentioned above for all operators.

15. Flight crew shall avoid being involved in the handling of the medical passenger in order to maintain some separation and to use personal protective equipment such as gloves and face mask, as compatible with the mission.

16. The interior of aircraft shall be cleaned prior to disinfection in accordance with the WHO and manufacturer's guideline.

### **Focus on Mental Health especially for Front-line Personnel of Air Operators**

17. Due to long prevalence of COVID-19 pandemic, it is normal to have certain negative emotions, if he/s remains away from job during the pandemic, and these unusual emotions can be disastrous especially in case of crew members. So to avoid any unusual occurrence he/s should be motivated and if need be to be consulted by a psychologist for management of such case.

18. This Circular shall be effective as soon as it may be promulgated by this authority and shall be applicable on scheduled passenger flights.

19. Notwithstanding any other circular, directives, order or any text of any other CAAB documents (promulgated on subject matter issue) contrary with this circular, the contents of this circular shall prevail. However, the instructions/guidelines promulgated (on the subject matter) by any other documents of CAAB shall be retained in a nature that the status of the other documents shall not be treated as repealed.



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