

**2nd Steering Committee Meeting of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC
Bali, Indonesia, 11-12 June 2008**



DRAFT CONCLUSIONS

The 2nd Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) of the Cooperative Arrangement for the Prevention of the Spread of Communicable Diseases Through Air Travel (CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC) was held on Bali, Indonesia, on 11-12 June 2008, graciously hosted by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation of Indonesia, for which the SCM expressed its appreciation.

The SCM was attended by 67 representatives of 11 States/Administrations of the Asia/Pacific Region as well as representatives of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), Airports Council International (ACI), the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), plus other observers, including from public health departments, airports, airlines and air traffic management.

The SCM was provided with presentations by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) of Indonesia, WHO, ACI, CDC, FAA and ICAO, for which it presented its gratitude.

As per standing rotation principle, the 2nd SCM was chaired by DGCA Indonesia, which also accepted the Chairmanship of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC until the 3rd SCM.

This 2nd SCM of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC reached the following Conclusions:

Conclusion No.1

The SCM was provided with a presentation on the history of ICAO's CAPSCA Programme world wide as well as on the challenges faced. The SCM agreed on the following recommendations:

- The CAPSCA Programme to pursue the development of national and airport facilitation programmes to include pandemic preparedness planning
- A letter to be sent by ICAO to Directors General of Civil Aviation Authorities and a similar letter, appropriate to the public health sector, by WHO to National Focal Points for Public Health, that:
 - Encourages participation by both public health and aviation authorities in the next Regional Aviation Medicine Team meeting, for CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC in Bangkok (12 September 2008) and in any future initiatives concerning public health preparedness planning in the aviation sector; contact details of both public health and aviation sector representatives to be provided to ICAO
 - Encourages the involvement of medical departments of civil aviation authorities and of public health officers, in preparedness planning for the aviation sector
 - Encourages States to provide regional experts to assist with the evaluation of international airports as part of the CAPSCA Programme.
- Encourages ACI and IATA to send a copy of the letter to their contacts in airport and aircraft operations in the various regions, adding the support of their organization to the goals outlined.

Conclusion No. 2

The SCM confirmed that the ICAO Guidelines for States concerning the management of communicable disease posing a serious public health risk are a fundamental requirement for pandemic planning by States. The SCM endorsed the CAPSCA-Programme objective of a harmonized Pandemic Preparedness Plan for civil aviation, ensuring a cohesive approach between all Government departments concerned, and endorsed the need for the guidelines to be kept up to date.

Conclusion No. 3

The SCM noted and encouraged the close cooperation between ICAO and WHO, which will facilitate closer interaction between States' aviation and public health sectors in their development of an aviation preparedness plan that is congruent with the national preparedness plan.

Conclusion No. 4

The SCM, having been presented with table top exercises about a hypothetical pandemic outbreak and certain possible responses, agreed that, in such scenarios, cooperation is the key to effective responses. In these scenarios, they agreed in particular that:

- Affected States, in cooperation with and the assistance of WHO, implement the Rapid Containment Strategy without delay
- Regional States and the International Community to ameliorate effects on affected States.

Conclusion No. 5

The SCM endorsed the plan for holding regional CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC seminars, including communications exercises between members in order to evaluate ICAO State guidelines to effect a harmonized response:

- ICAO SARPs: Pilot In Command to Air Traffic Services (onboard suspect case of communicable disease)
- Incoming suspect case of communicable disease
- Local outbreak of disease of public health concern in proximity to airport X containment strategy

Conclusion No. 6

The SCM was provided with a presentation on the activities carried out by CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC so far and noted with appreciation its accomplishments to date. It also noted the challenges faced by CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC.

Conclusion No. 7

The SCM noted the draft work plan for CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC for the coming year, which, in part utilizing the grant funds provided for Asia/Pacific, includes:

- further updating of the State (ICAO), Airport (ACI) and Airline (IATA) guidelines for harmonized pandemic preparedness planning and initiate the preparation of guidelines for ATM
- preparation of a generic Communicable Disease Outbreak National Aviation Plan, which is a new Standard in Annex 9 applicable since June 2007, in coordination with the existing efforts to develop national pandemic preparedness plans
- carrying out of additional evaluations at major international airports of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC member Administrations in Asia/Pacific; and

- provide further training.

Conclusion No. 8

In order to better carry forward the technical work of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC and to provide additional assistance on the subject to States/Administrations in the Region, the SCM had earlier endorsed the establishment of a Regional Aviation Medicine Team (RAMT) for Asia/Pacific, under the CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC Steering Committee. The RAMT consists of representatives of participant States/Administrations of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC, other partner States, international airports, airlines in the Region as well as regional/international organizations and other parties having a stake in pandemic preparedness planning for civil aviation. The 1st RAMT met at the ICAO Regional Office in October 2007 and its Terms of Reference were agreed upon. The SCM noted that the 2nd Meeting of RAMT is scheduled to again be held at the ICAO Regional Office in Bangkok on 12 September 2008. A 3rd RAMT Meeting is tentatively planned for 7 September 2009, again at ICAO's Regional Office in Bangkok.

Conclusion No. 9

The SCM noted the update on CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC membership, contributions and budget. Furthermore, it:

- Urged all States/Administrations in Asia/Pacific that have not yet joined CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC to do so at the earliest opportunity in order for the Programme to reach its full objective
- Requested all participating States/Administrations to consider providing contributions in kind to support the Programme
- Encouraged donors and partners to join the CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC project and provide contributions in funds and in kind to support Programme operations
- Expressed its appreciation to the Central Fund for Influenza Action (CFIA) for the contribution it has made to CAPSCA-ASIA PACIFIC.

Indications were received that additional States may join CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC, including consideration being given by Bangladesh, India, Japan and Viet Nam.

Conclusion No. 10

The SCM was advised of a recent grant contribution to CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC from the Central Fund for Influenza Action (CFIA), a fund administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to be applied to States/Administrations in Asia/Pacific and to carry out similar activities in Africa. It noted that, to effect a harmonized approach and achieve maximum efficiency, experience gained in the initial activities of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC is being applied as far as possible to the new CAPSCA-AFRICA Project. The SCM

expressed its appreciation to CFIA/UNDP for having provided, and congratulated ICAO for having obtained, the grant in 2007 which will help sustain CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC activities through 2008 and 2009, particularly for activities in lower and lower-middle income economies.

Conclusion No. 11

The SCM requested CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC to continue its efforts at appraising States in the Region of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC's objectives, including to seek a resolution at the forthcoming DGCA's Conference Asia/Pacific in Kuala Lumpur, with a view to urging all States in the Region to join and make this Programme as effective as possible.

Conclusion No. 12

The SCM noted the kind offer of Macao, China, to host the 3rd SCM of CAPSCA-ASIA/PACIFIC in the early part of June 2009, tentatively 9-10 June 2009, details of which will be communicated as soon as possible.

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