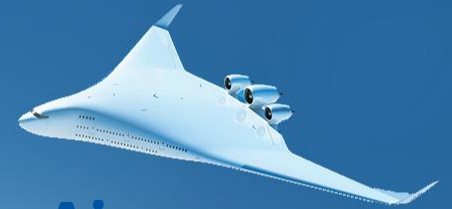




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High-Level Ministerial Meeting on Enhancing Air Transport Connectivity and growth in West Africa

ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART)

Outcomes of CART Phase III

17 March 2021



Background

- **CART Phase I** (April to June 2020)
 - 10 Key Principles
 - 11 Recommendations
 - Take-off: Guidance for Air Travel through the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis (TOGD)
- **CART Phase II** (August to November 2020)
 - 3 Additional Recommendations
 - Updated TOGD
 - Reviewed *Manual on Testing and Cross-Border Risk Management Measures*



CART Phase III (January to March 2021)

- **Mandate**

- provide recommendations and guidance to States to support their endeavors when restarting and recovering the aviation industry and to help them cope with the significant fallouts caused by the prolonged duration of the crisis.
- It is also important to note the positive developments brought by the growing medical and scientific evidence on vaccination and by technological advancements

- **Structure**

- Two Working Groups (Technical and Strategic)
- Three CART Meetings and many Working Group, Sub-Group and drafting meetings
- Cooperation between States, UN Organizations, International and regional organizations and Secretariat



**PHASE III
HIGH-LEVEL
COVER
DOCUMENT**



3rd Edition



**Doc 10152
2nd Edition**



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Recommendations in High-Level Cover Document



- **The Phase III HLCD modifies 2 existing recommendations and introduces 6 additional complementary recommendations:**

Recommendation 12 (revised) – Aviation safety-related measures

Recommendation 14 (revised) – Public Health Corridors (PHCs)

Recommendation 15 – Safe transport of Cargo

Recommendation 16 – Facilitating air cargo movement

Recommendation 17 – Testing certificates

Recommendations 18 and 19 – Vaccinations

Recommendation 20 – Communication



Recommendation 12 (revised) – Aviation safety-related measures

Member States should plan to put in place the necessary measures to mitigate risks associated with prolonged regulatory alleviations, and to avoid extending alleviations (both core and extended COVID-19 Contingency Related Differences (CCRDs)) beyond 31 March 2021. States that are in need of alternative actions to enable service providers and personnel to maintain the validity of their certificates, licenses, and other approvals during the COVID-19 pandemic should use the Targeted Exemptions (TE) system from 1 April 2021. In addition, States are encouraged to facilitate cross-border access to medical and training facilities, including flight simulation training devices used for flight crew (national and foreign) and Air Traffic Controllers (ATCOs) to maintain their certifications, recency of experience, and proficiency.



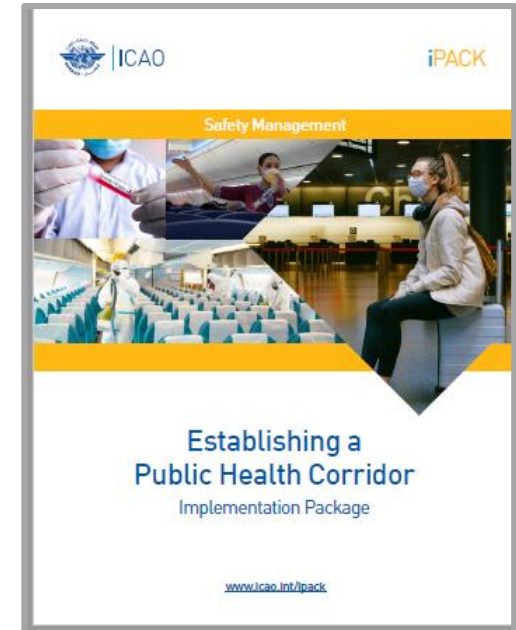
Recommendation 14 (revised) - Public Health Corridors (PHCs)

States considering the formation of a Public Health Corridor (PHC) should actively share information with each other to implement PHCs in a harmonized manner. To facilitate the implementation, the ICAO Implementation Package (iPack) on establishing a PHC is available to States, in addition to PHC-specific tools published on the ICAO website and the App providing a template PHC arrangement between States.



Recommendation 14 Public Health Corridors (PHCs)

- A PHC opens one or more routes between cities, regions and States
- Also referred to as ‘travel bubbles’ or ‘air bridges’
- Formed through mutual recognition of public health mitigation measures between States
- Guidance contained in the updated TOGD and the *ICAO Manual on Testing and Cross-Border Risk Management Measures*
- ICAO facilitates implementation of PHCs through the ICAO Implementation Package (iPack) on establishing a PHC
- New tools available to States:
 - **General PHC tools published on the ICAO website**
 - **PHC APP**





Recommendation 15 – Safe transport of Cargo

Member States are urged to implement Addenda Nos. 1 and 2 to the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* (Doc 9284) without delay in order to facilitate the transport of COVID-19 vaccines and to permit certain dangerous goods to be carried on board aircraft to provide for a safe, sanitary operating environment for passengers and crew. If any State wishes to be more restrictive, they are reminded of their obligation to file a State variation to the Technical Instructions.



Recommendation 16 – Facilitating air cargo movement

Member States are encouraged to consider the temporary lifting of restrictions to air cargo operations, including but not limited to granting extra-bilateral rights, in particular for all-cargo services, to foreign airlines to facilitate the transportation of essential goods, supplies and COVID-19 vaccines.



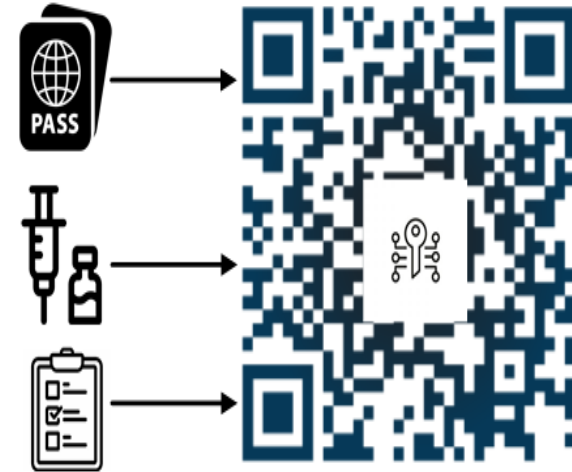
Recommendation 17 – Testing certificates

Member States should implement testing certificates based on the protocol, minimum dataset and implementation approaches outlined in the *Manual on Testing and Cross-Border Risk Management Measures* (Doc 10152) to facilitate air travel. States are encouraged to request evidence of testing that is secure, trustworthy, verifiable, convenient to use, compliant with data protection legislation and internationally/globally interoperable. Existing solutions should be considered and could incorporate a visible digital seal. This may be applicable to vaccination certificates.



Recommendation 17 Testing certificates

- Many States require pre-departure testing for COVID-19 as an entry requirement.
- Testing protocols in the Manual (Doc 10152) has been updated in view of available scientific knowledge
- ICAO has established a minimum dataset for testing certificates to facilitate States' recognition and harmonization of their use for air travel (provided in Doc 10152 and PHC Form 5 in the TOGD).
- The solutions adopted for the verification of certificates should be secure, trustworthy verifiable, convenient to use, compliant with data protection legislation and internationally/globally interoperable. ICAO has developed a solution based on Doc 9303 – *Machine Readable Travel Documents* specifications, incorporating the concept of Visible Digital Seals (VDS).
- Detailed information can be found in Guidelines – VDS for Travel Related Public Health Proofs.





Recommendation 18 – Vaccinations

Member States should facilitate access for air crew to vaccination as quickly as possible within the World Health Organization (WHO) Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) Stage III recommendations



Recommendation 19 – Vaccinations

Vaccination should not be a prerequisite for international travel. If and at such time as evidence shows that vaccinated persons would not transmit the SARS-CoV-2 virus or would present a reduced risk of transmitting the virus, Member States could consider exempting such persons from testing and/or quarantine measures, in accordance with a State's accepted risk threshold, national framework, the COVID-19 situation and the multilayered risk mitigation framework described in the *Take-off: Guidance for Air Travel through the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis*.



Recommendation 20 – Communication

Member States should ensure that ICAO's CART guidance is taken into consideration by the wider State administration in the decision-making processes on national recovery planning.



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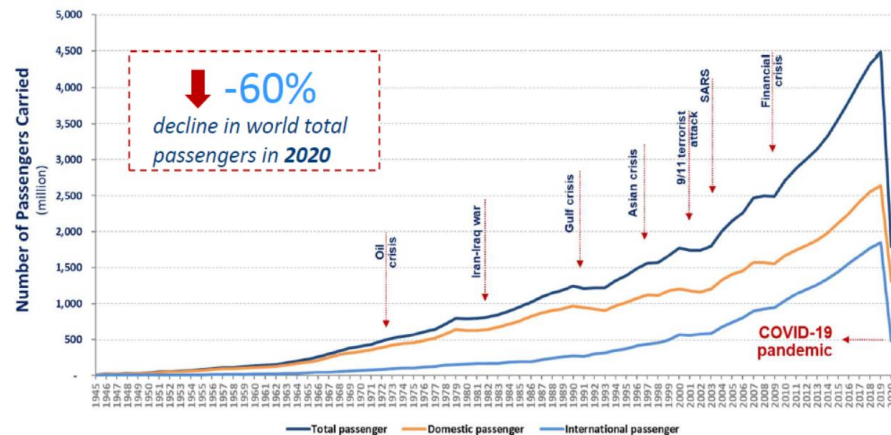
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Take-off Guidance Document (3rd Edition)

Economic Impact (Year 2020)

- **Air passenger traffic:** 60% and 66% reduction of total passengers and revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs), compared to 2019
- **Airports:** 57% decline in airport passengers
- **Revenue:** USD 371 billion losses in airline passenger revenues and USD 112 billion losses in airport revenues
- **Tourism:** USD 1.3 trillion losses in export revenues from tourism
- **Near-term projection:** 59% to 66% reduction in passenger numbers for the first half of 2021 (compared to 2019 levels)

World passenger traffic evolution 1945 - 2020





Public health risk mitigation measures

- Face masks

Additional considerations

- Testing protocols and reporting
- Testing certificate standardization
- Vaccination
- Considerations for testing and quarantine following vaccination
- Evidence of Vaccination
- Vaccination considerations for aviation workers

Public health corridor (PHC)

- Reference to new tool in CRRIC



Modules

- Aligned terminology with WHO
- Updated references
- Use of masks and disposable gloves
- Flight crew risk assessment

Forms and Posters

- Crew COVID-19 Status Card
- Dataset on reporting COVID-19 testing results
- Guidance on how to use non-medical and medical masks



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Manual on Testing and Cross-Border Risk Management Measures (Doc 10152) (2nd Edition)



- Risk based & evidence based approach to support States in implementing a multi-layer risk management strategy.
- First edition published November 2020, second edition published March 2021
- Updated acronyms and definitions
- Additional guidance on the aviation multi-layer risk mitigation framework
- Testing protocols updated in view of latest scientific knowledge, with additional guidance on standardization and validation of testing certificates
- New section on vaccination concepts, its potential role in the multi-layered risk management strategy and vaccination protocols for aviation workers
- Expanded section on Public Health Corridors (PHC)
- Living document with regular updates as technology advances and evidence evolves





Further considerations



- Incorporating civil aviation component into national risk management strategies
- Monitoring and adapting to post-pandemic economies and society
- Using the lessons learned to build a more resilient international civil aviation system



- ICAO to consider:
 - safety issues related to targeted exemptions and regulatory alleviations
 - feedback from States on the challenges in implementing previous CART recommendations
 - results of the survey on the implementation of COVID-19 public health measures
 - ongoing work of UN organizations as well as other partner organizations
 - constant revision of guidance as new scientific evidence becomes available
 - High-Level COVID-19 Conference



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