

# HEALTH SAFETY PROTOCOL



**This Document has to be followed by all stakeholders at the airports, including airlines, their ground and flight staff, passengers, aerodrome operators and ground handlers, concerning the flights from/to the Republic of Cyprus.**

## **Preventing the Spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)**

### **Infection Control and Prevention Measures concerning flights to/from the Republic of Cyprus**

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## A. INTRODUCTION

The protection of the public health and the healthcare system are of highest priority and a responsibility of the Republic of Cyprus. The necessity of implementing immediate specific measures concerning flights to/from the Republic of Cyprus is imperative to tackle possible spread of the virus. Human resources, material and technical infrastructures and the Rules issued based on the Quarantine (Definition of Measures for the Prevention of COVID-19 coronavirus Spread) will be taken under consideration.

To support a return to normal operations, the European Commission, in cooperation with the European Council, put forward a European roadmap on 15 April to phase-out the containment measures due to the coronavirus outbreak<sup>1</sup>. The Commission's Guidelines on "Progressively restoring transport services and connectivity" were subsequently published on 13 May 2020<sup>2</sup>.

In line with this, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (**EASA**) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (**ECDC**) have developed guidance on airline passenger management for airports, airlines and national aviation authorities in order to support the restart of the aviation sector whilst mitigating the further spread of the virus.

This Document describes the conditions, the criteria and the measures that has to be in place in order for flights to/from the Republic of Cyprus to be permitted.

**It should be noted that all the measures will be under ongoing review based on the continuous analysis of epidemiological data of the Country.**

Any change in entry requirements will be communicated to airlines through IATA Timatic. A NOTAM by the Republic of Cyprus will also be issued.

Moreover, information is available in the following link:

<https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/en/info.html>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response/european-roadmap-lifting-coronavirus-containment-measures\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response/european-roadmap-lifting-coronavirus-containment-measures_en)

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_854](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_854)



*Ref: IATA, Passenger Process Restart, Building the trust*

## B. COUNTRIES AND CONDITIONS FOR PASSENGERS TO FLY FROM /TO THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

### 1. Criteria for Countries

1.1 In terms of epidemic prevention and control, the Epidemiological data of Countries, will be considered and re-evaluated on a regular basis, in order to decide the various stages of lifting the restrictive measures for flights to Larnaca and Paphos Airports, until the full and free reopening of the Republic's airports.

Countries will be categorized as Category Green, Orange, Red and Grey (Special Permission) Category. In Grey Category are included all Third Countries which are not featured in the other Categories.

Cyprus' air connectivity will be established with countries from all Categories but with different requirements.

1.2 Passengers must be checked for clinical symptoms before boarding and if they display any they will not be allowed to travel.

1.3 Passengers will be placed in quarantine or self-isolation or hospitalized (depending on their clinical severity) if they have symptoms of the disease during their flight and have been tested positive after laboratory testing upon their arrival.

1.4 An official announcement which will categorize Countries will be published, which will be continuously changed on the basis of the epidemiological criteria and data.

1.5 Any change in entry requirements will be also communicated to airlines through IATA Timatic. A NOTAM by the Republic of Cyprus will also be issued.

Moreover, information is available in the following link:  
<https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/en/info.html>

1.6 In order to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 epidemic, the mandatory targeted and detailed prevention and control measures of this Document have to be followed by all stakeholders at the airports, including airlines, their ground and flight staff, passengers, aerodrome operator and ground handlers, concerning the flights from / to the Republic of Cyprus.

## **C. PRE- FLIGHT CRITERIA AND CONDITIONS**

### **1. Pre - Flight Criteria and Conditions for Passengers and Crew Members**

#### **1.1 Conditions for passengers**

1.1.1 When booking a flight, passengers have to be informed in advance by airlines and/or travel agents and/or internet booking platforms and in any case before the final step of flight booking that the following requirements have to be fully satisfied for their travel to the Republic of Cyprus. Passengers shall also be informed that the following requirements, have to be completed by them within 24 hours before their commencement of their travel through an official web electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus (<https://www.cyprusflightpass.gov.cy>), except in the case where the web electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus is temporarily unavailable due to technical issues or scheduled maintenance, officially announced in the electronic platform. In this case, passengers will have to fill in in writing the required forms which are also posted and can be downloaded from that electronic platform

<https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/en/download-forms> and have to carry with them, in paper form, the required Documentation for each Country Category as well as , the certificate, if required based on the Country Category, which confirms negative PCR for Covid-19, issued from a certified laboratory, with the Covid-19 test having been conducted, during the last 72 hours before the commencement of their travel to the Republic of Cyprus. In case the passengers do not have the "CyprusFlightPass" or, in the event that the electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus is temporarily available due to technical problems or scheduled maintenance, have not completed in advance the required documents by hand, **airlines will not permit passengers to board the aircraft and travel to the Republic of Cyprus.**

The use of the web electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus (<https://www.cyprusflightpass.gov.cy>) for passengers traveling to the Republic of Cyprus is **mandatory**.

**ALL** passengers, from every Country Category, including passengers from Category Green countries, who intend to travel to the Republic of Cyprus are required, for boarding purposes, to present the CyprusFlightPass.

In order to obtain the CyprusFlightPass, passengers must apply within 24 hours before their commencement of their travel by completing the required documents electronically on the online platform <https://www.cyprusflightpass.gov.cy> An automated electronic text («Cyprus Flight Pass») will be send back to them.

The categorization of Countries can be found here <https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/en/country-categories> It should be noted that Countries are categorized according to their epidemiological situation into categories Green, Orange, Red and Grey (Special Permission) Category, with category Green having the most favorable epidemiological status. **The categorization of Countries is updated weekly by the Ministry of Health. For that**

**reason airlines have to inform their passengers that they should constantly visit the electronic platform in order to be informed of possible changes that will affect their trip.**

The prerequisites for passengers travelling to Cyprus from each Country category can be found here <https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/en/download-forms>

Consequently, when booking a flight, passengers have to be informed in advance by airlines and/or travel agents and/or internet booking platforms and in any case before the final step of flight booking that the acquisition of CyprusFlightPass is necessary for their travel to the Republic of Cyprus. Without the CyprusFlightPass, airlines will not permit passengers to board the aircraft and travel to the Republic of Cyprus.

Upon arrival of passengers in the Republic of Cyprus, a sample Covid-19 test and a sample check of the certificates, documents and declarations may be performed.

## **1.2 Duration of the validity of Health certificates**

1.2.1 Documents used by the passengers for their Departure from Country of Origin, may be used for their Departure from the Republic of Cyprus, provided that they are acceptable by the Country of Arrival and the passenger has not been assessed, as a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, during his/her stay on the Republic of Cyprus or during his/her whole process of Departure from the Republic of Cyprus.

1.2.2 In case of suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, during his/her whole process of Departure from the Republic of Cyprus the passenger will be placed in quarantine for 14 days, in accordance with the instruction of the local health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus. In case of tourists, the quarantine of 14 days will take place in the designated by the Republic of Cyprus hotels and the costs of accommodation and Covid-19 tests will be covered by the Republic of Cyprus. In case of Cypriot citizens and permanent residents of the



Republic of Cyprus, there will be an obligation, for self-isolation of 14 days in their permanent residence in the Republic of Cyprus, in accordance with the instruction of the local health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus.

### **1.3 Management of Crew Members due to COVID-19<sup>3</sup>**

- 1.3.1 Aircraft operators have to take appropriate measures to avoid long stopovers and layovers in the Grey Category Countries, as much as possible, in order to reduce the risk of contamination posed by the need for the crew members to exit the airport's restricted area and to be in unnecessary contact with the local population.

Where crew members, maintenance or cargo/load specialized personnel are involved in flights with a short stopover to/from Grey Category Countries, they generally do not need to be under medical quarantine and observation, provided that they did not have a symptomatic passenger or crew member on board or they did not have contact with a confirmed case that was assessed after the flight.

- 1.3.2 Mitigation measures have to be put in place by aircraft operators flying to /from the Republic of Cyprus, in case the crew members have to enter and/or spend their overnight in the Republic of Cyprus, to ensure that risk of exposure by contact of the crew members with local population is reduced to the strictly needed.

Crews arriving from countries categorized by Cyprus as orange, red or grey have to conduct either either an RT- PCR test for Covid-19, with the sample taken during the last 72 hours or a rapid test within 24 hours before their travel to the Republic of Cyprus and possess a certificate which confirms their negative test results for Covid-19, issued from a certified laboratory. Moreover, the health condition of crew members entering the Republic of Cyprus, will be checked by temperature screening upon arrival.

Crews entering the Republic of Cyprus from countries which have been categorized as grey are obliged to comply to the instruction's

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<sup>3</sup> See also EASA Guidelines on Management of Crew Members (issue date: 30/06/2020 Issue No 2),

guidelines regarding the necessary strict self-isolation in their accommodation during their stay at the Republic of Cyprus. Especially the following shall be applied:

(a) Crew members should not be transferred to and from the resting facilities (hotel) through the public areas of the airport terminals.

(b) Once they reach their resting facilities (hotel), crew members shall: (i) At all times comply with local public health regulations and policies; (ii) Avoid unnecessary contact with the public and other crew members, observe good personal hygiene, respiratory hygiene and physical distancing measures and wear a medical facemask when required to leave the room; (iii) Remain in the room as much as practical except to seek medical attention, for emergency situations or for essential activities, while respecting physical distancing requirements; (iv) Not use the common facilities of the accommodation unless physical distancing measures are in place; (v) Consider dining in-room, getting take-outs or dining in a restaurant preferably within the accommodation facility, maintaining physical distancing; and (vi) Regularly monitor for COVID-19 relevant symptoms including fever.

1.3.3 Temperature Screening has to be completed at least twice a day and in any case at the home base airport after completing the mission.

1.3.4 Crew members have to inform the aircraft operator of potential signs of infection and have to monitor for symptoms such as fever, persistent coughing, or breathing difficulties. If any crew member shows symptoms such as fever, persistent cough, difficulties breathing or other flu-like symptoms and has an epidemiological context (such as having recent contact with confirmed positive cases), then he/she shall be:

- Quarantined on board, following the same principles applied for a suspected passenger on board and shall wear a medical mask and have as much as possible no close contact with the other crew members and passengers during the flight,

- Transferred in accordance with instructions of the local public health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus after the flight has landed and all passengers and crew members have been disembarked,
- Be required to contact the local public health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus as soon as practicable and follow their instructions including being tested for Covid-19, as soon as practicable,
- Be placed in quarantine or self-isolation in accordance with instructions of the local public health authority of the Republic of Cyprus, pending the results of the test. In particular for foreign crew members the quarantine will take place in designated hotels.

If the test result is positive then the quarantine or self isolation will be extended until the crew member is considered fully recovered. If the test is negative, the crew member may resume flying duties, in accordance with instructions of the local public health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus.

- The other crew members that were in close contact (less than 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with the suspected crew member within 3 days preceding the onset of symptoms shall be placed in quarantine pending the result of the test of the suspected crew member. If the result is positive they will be placed in quarantine for 14 days from the moment of the last contact. If the test is negative they can resume flight duties.

1.3.5 Aircraft Operators have to develop clear and detailed procedures for the situation, when a crew member becomes symptomatic, covering the cases when the crew member is at his or her home base, down-route or while on active duty. Crew-members who came into direct contact with a confirmed or suspected case shall be placed under a 14-day quarantine, unless they were be tested and the test was negative. Where possible, after return to home base, but no later than 48 hours from the first contact with the suspected passenger, the respective crew member(s) shall be asked to take appropriate self - isolation measures pending the result of the passenger's test. If the test is positive, the respective crew member(s) shall be placed in

quarantine for 14 days from the last contact with the confirmed positive passenger, as specified by the local public health authorities. If the test is negative they may resume flying duties.

1.3.6 The aircraft operator shall equip their aircraft operating with one or more UPK<sup>4</sup> (Universal Precaution Kit), as mandated by the EASA Safety Directives and Safety Information Bulletins and provide training material to their crew members on how to safely put on and remove the PPE in accordance with the guidance provided by WHO (WHO, 2020) (WHO, 2020), ECDC (ECDC, 2020).

1.3.7 Facial masks shall be worn by crew members having direct contact with the passengers, at all times and replaced regularly (at intervals not exceeding 4 hours)<sup>5</sup>.

1.3.8 Where the local public health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus inform an aircraft operator that a flight of the respective operator carried a passenger who was confirmed positive, the operator shall notify the crew members flying the flight segment concerned and inform them that they are placed in quarantine for a duration of 14 days from the end of the respective flight. This should apply for the flights taking place within 5 days before the collection of the test sample for asymptomatic persons or within 3 days prior to the onset of symptoms for the symptomatic passengers unless otherwise specified by the local public health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus. For flights taking place outside this interval the risk of the passenger being contagious during the flight is considered low.

### **Additional Instructions to aircraft crew members, permanently residing, in the Republic of Cyprus**

1.3.9 Crew members travelling to category Orange are required to undergo an antigen rapid test examination every 7 days, as well as thermal

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<sup>4</sup> The content of the UPK is, in accordance with the Attachment B of ICAO Annex 6 (ICAO, 2020): • Dry powder that can convert small liquid spill into a sterile granulated gel • Germicidal disinfectant for surface cleaning • Skin wipes • Face/eye mask (separate or combined) • Gloves (disposable) • Protective apron • Large absorbent towel • Pick-up scoop with scraper • Bio-hazard disposal waste bag • Instructions

<sup>5</sup> The use of gloves it is not recommended.

screening (body temperature check) and a regular self-monitoring of symptoms, prior to and following each flight.

1.3.10 Crew members travelling to Category Red and Grey countries are required to undergo an antigen rapid test examination twice a week, as well as thermal screening (body temperature check) and a regular self-monitoring of symptoms, prior to and following each flight.

1.3.11 Crew members who travel to category Orange or Red or Grey countries, on a nonregular basis, are required to carry out an antigen rapid test examination immediately following the flight without requiring to self-isolate. During the flight crew members are required to wear facial masks, maintain good hand hygiene and should avoid close contact with passengers if possible.

1.3.12 In case of stay in a category Grey country, crew members will self-isolate in their hotels and must not come into contact with citizens of that country. See EASA guide (21/05/2020).

1.3.13 In case of a symptomatic confirmed case of COVID-19 on board, crew members serving the passenger shall perform a molecular examination (PCR) and shall remain self-isolated for a period of 14 days or for 10 days, if they choose to repeat a COVID-19 molecular test on the 10th day at their expense and obtain a negative result. The result of the laboratory test has been sent to the following electronic address: monada@mphs.moh.gov.cy.

1.3.14 In case the passenger is asymptomatic, crew members serving the passenger, shall perform a molecular examination (PCR) and shall remain self-isolated for a period of 7 days provided they will perform a molecular test (PCR) on the 7th and 10th day.

1.3.15 It is noted that in all cases crew members wear facial masks, maintain good hand hygiene and should avoid close contact with passengers, if possible.

Note: All rapid test examinations costs, except for the initial test conducted for contact tracing purposes in case of a positive case, are covered by the crew members and/or the aircraft operator themselves.

## **1.4 Crew Changes for Vessels**

1.4.1 For crew changes of vessels or aircraft, crew members, travelling as passengers ONLY from Third Countries categorized in Grey Category, need to have a special permission by the Shipping Deputy Ministry, in case of vessels or the Department of Civil Aviation in case of aircraft. Crew members' applications for the granting of a Special Entry Permit must be submitted online through the CyprusFlightPass platform following the link <https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/en/special-permission-request>

It is emphasized that the obtaining of a Special Entry Permit to the Republic of Cyprus applies only to persons from Third Countries categorized in Grey Category, in accordance with the categorisation of countries as announced by the Ministry of Health.

With respect to requests for aircraft crew changes and seamen these shall be submitted to and become accepted ONLY by ground handling service providers and agents and must contain, amongst other, the following additional details:

### **Aircraft Crew Changes**

- Name of Ground Handling Service Providers and Airline Company
- Name or Aircraft Registration Number in the case of a private flight by which the crew members are employed

### **Ship's name and Agent's Details:**

- Name, Surname, Agent's company, contact number.

Requests for the granting of a special permit may be submitted through the e-platform within 14 days prior to the expected travel date and the approval granted shall be valid for a month since the date of issue.

Upon the granting of the special permit a unique number will be sent exclusively connected to the passenger's identity card number or passport number.

The passenger would then be able to use the said number in filling out his/her application for acquiring a CyprusFlightPass, (<https://www.cyprusflightpass.gov.cy>), by selecting the following category of passengers "Persons, having a special permission by the Republic of Cyprus" and writing it down in the required space as special permit number. After the completion of all required information and Declarations, therein, the "CyprusFlightPass" will be granted. When they present this "CyprusFlightPass" to the airlines, they will be allowed to board the aircraft.

1.4.2 Upon entry into the Republic of Cyprus, if they have used the option to perform the laboratory test Covid -19, upon their entry into the Republic of Cyprus, they will perform the laboratory test Covid -19, by paying the cost of the laboratory test.

1.4.3 In case, where the web electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus is temporarily unavailable due to technical issues or scheduled maintenance, they will be able to complete the required forms manually. Forms are posted and can be found on the web electronic platform (<https://www.cyprusflightpass.gov.cy>).

## **D. BEFORE THE DEPARTURE OF PASSENGERS FROM THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN TO THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**

### **1. During the check in and preboarding process**

1.1 During the check in and preboarding process the relevant departments of the airlines shall confirm whether the passengers complete the necessary documents on the web electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus in advance and have with them the «Cyprus Flight Pass»

1.2 In case of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID -19, the relevant authorities of the Country of Departure will inform the Health Services and the responsible airline at the airport. The responsible airline will deny boarding of those passengers.

- 1.3 Before boarding, passengers have to be reminded by airlines and aerodrome operator that they have to ensure a sufficient supply of masks for the entire duration of their journey.

## **E. DURING THE FLIGHT / INBOUND TO THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS PASSENGERS**

### **1. Personal Protection for Passengers**

- 1.1 Passengers must wear personal protective equipment (PPE) (medical face masks<sup>6</sup>, hand hygiene either with soap and water or with alcohol based solution with >60% alcohol<sup>7</sup>) during the flight. Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Passengers of flights of more than four hours should change their masks at least once every 4 hours. Passengers should carry with them a sufficient number of medical masks.

### **2. Personal Protection for Crew staff and Flight attendants**

- 2.1 Staff working on different posts should follow respective personal protection standards. Flight crew members shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE) during the flight. Crew members that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Crew members for flight more than four hours, shall change their masks at least once every 4 hours.

### **3. Temperature Screening of crew staff and flight attendants**

- 3.1 For flights longer than 4 hours, measurement of body temperature shall be taken during flight operation.
- 3.2 In case of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID -19 concerning crew staff or flight attendants are found during the flight, they should be dealt with in compliance with the guidance for the handling of in-flight emergency incidents (Annex I), and the crew should timely

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<sup>6</sup> A **medical face mask** (also known as a surgical or procedure mask) is a medical device covering the mouth, nose and chin ensuring a barrier that limits the transition of an infective agent between the hospital staff and the patient. They are used to prevent large respiratory droplets and splashes from reaching the mouth and the nose of the wearer and help reduce and/or control at the source the spread of large respiratory droplets from the person wearing the face mask. Medical masks comply with requirements defined in European Standard EN 14683:2014. **Non-medical face masks** (or 'community' masks) include various forms of self-made or commercial masks or face covers made of cloth, other textiles or other materials such as paper. They are not standardised and are not intended for use in healthcare settings or by healthcare professionals.

<sup>7</sup> The use of gloves it is not recommended.



communicate with the airport and Air Traffic Control Services (Air Traffic Management (Doc 4444) (PANS-ATM) details the procedures to be followed by the pilot-in-command in communication with air traffic control) of the Republic of Cyprus and cooperate in the handover of the passenger(s) after landing.

#### **4. On Board Service during Flight**

4.1 Airlines shall reduce on-board service to the minimum necessary to ensure comfort and wellbeing standards for passengers and limit the contact between crew members and passengers. The following should be considered:

- No duty free sales on board.
- No lottery on-board.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- For short haul flights, only bottled or canned non-alcoholic drinks should be served.
- For medium and long haul flights, in addition to bottled or canned non-alcoholic drinks, food service may be considered depending on the duration of the flight.
- Wherever possible, payment procedures involving touch or contact, such as cash payments, should be avoided to mitigate transmission between crew members and passengers.

4.2 For airlines, that provide meal, it is permitted to provide pre-packaged food and bottled water before or during passenger boarding. Except for special needs, catering service should not be provided onboard.

#### **5. Disposable protective equipment During Flight**

5.1 All disposable protective equipment, after their use, shall be placed in waste bags and they will be treated as domestic waste.

#### **6. Last two rows of seats (Quarantine Area)**

6.1 Depending on the configuration of the aircraft, the actual occupancy and distribution of passengers, the position of the symptomatic case and to the extent that is practicable, the last two rows of seats on flights should be reserved as a quarantine area for handling possible in-flight

emergencies and the rear lavatory on the right side has to be designated for the exclusive use by those under quarantine. In case of suspicious passengers on board showing symptoms as fever, fatigue or dry cough, an arrangement should be made to sit him/her in the quarantine area.

## **7. Measures into place to Avoid passengers queuing**

7.1 Airlines have to put measures into place to avoid passengers queuing in the aisle or the galleys for the use of the lavatories. Subject to sufficient lavatories on board, the airlines should reserve a lavatory, preferably the closest one to the flight deck, for crew use only.

## **8. Cabin Ventilation**

8.1 Aircraft operators using the recirculation of cabin air are recommended either to install and use HEPA filters, according to the manufacturer's specifications, or to avoid the use of cabin air recirculation entirely, provided it is confirmed that this will not compromise any safety critical functions (e.g. avionics cooling, etc.) Aircraft operators, should consider reviewing their procedures for the use of recirculation fans in air conditioning systems based on information provided by the aircraft manufacturer or, if not available, to seek advice from the manufacturer. When HEPA filters are installed, recirculation fans should not be stopped but increased fresh air flow has to be used by selecting high pack flow whenever possible. Operators should confirm the practice of selecting the configuration high pack flow with the aircraft manufacturer and follow their instructions for continuous use, (EASA guidelines, ISSUE DATE 30/06/2020 Issue No 2).

## **9. Physical distancing**

9.1 Where allowed by the passenger load, cabin configuration, mass and balance requirements, airlines should ensure, to the extent possible, physical distancing among passengers. In case physical distancing cannot be guaranteed because of the seat configuration or other operational constraints, passengers and crew members on board an aircraft should adhere at all times to all other preventive measures including strict hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette and shall wear medical mask. Where HEPA filters are not used, airlines shall take measures to ensure physical distancing throughout the entire duration

of the flight through risk mitigation measures. Family members and individuals travelling together shall be seated next to each other. Passengers are forbidden to change seats during their flight. The aircraft operator shall provide, if requested, the local public health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus information regarding the seat number of passengers in a particular flight.

#### **10. Sufficient amount of face masks**

10.1 Airlines shall carry a sufficient amount of face masks on board to provide to passengers, especially for long haul flights of more than 4 hours. Acquisition of masks in case passengers have no access to medical masks beforehand shall be available during flight.

#### **11. Passenger with symptoms compatible with COVID - 19 after take -off**

11.1 In the event that, after take-off, a passenger shows symptoms compatible with COVID-19 such as fever, persistent cough, difficulty breathing or other flu-like symptoms, the following measures have to be applied:

- The crew shall make sure that the passenger is wearing their face mask properly and has additional masks available to replace it in case it becomes wet after coughing or sneezing. If a face mask cannot be tolerated, the sick person shall cover their mouth and nose with tissues when coughing or sneezing. In the event the passenger is having difficulty breathing, medical assistance must be sought and oxygen supplementation offered.
- The passenger shall be isolated on board on the designated isolation area. Depending on the configuration of the aircraft the actual occupancy and distribution of passengers, the position of the symptomatic case, and to the extent that is practicable:
  - the suspected passenger shall be seated in the last right window seat.
  - The lavatory closest to the suspected passenger shall be specifically designated for the sick passenger and not be used by the rest of the passengers or the crew.

- According to the composition of the cabin crew, the Senior Cabin Crew member shall designate specific crew member(s) to provide the necessary in-flight service to the isolation area(s). This cabin crew member should be one that had prior contact with the suspected passenger. The designated crew member shall make use of the PPE equipment in the aircraft's Universal Precaution Kit. The designated crew member shall minimise close contact with other crew members and avoid other unnecessary contact with other passengers.
- Where possible, the individual air supply nozzle for the symptomatic passenger shall be turned off in order to limit the potential spread of droplets.
- If the suspected passenger is travelling accompanied, the passenger's companion shall be also confined in the isolation area even if they do not exhibit any symptoms.
- After the flight has landed and other passengers have disembarked, the isolated passenger shall be transferred in accordance with the instructions provided by the local public health authorities. The guidance for the handling of in-flight emergency incidents (Annex I) is applied.
- The crew member designated to provide on-board services for the suspected passenger and other crew members which may have been in direct contact with the suspected passenger, shall be provided with transportation to facilities where they can clean and disinfect before having physical contact with other people. Alternatively, as a last resort, after carefully disposing of the used PPE and washing and disinfecting their hands, the respective cabin crew members could be isolated on board, in a quarantine area, before return to base or a layover destination.
- Every effort should be made to receive information about the testing of the suspect case as soon as possible. The crew member(s) who served the passenger with COVID-19 compatible symptoms shall be asked to take appropriate self-isolation measures after returning to home base. If the test is

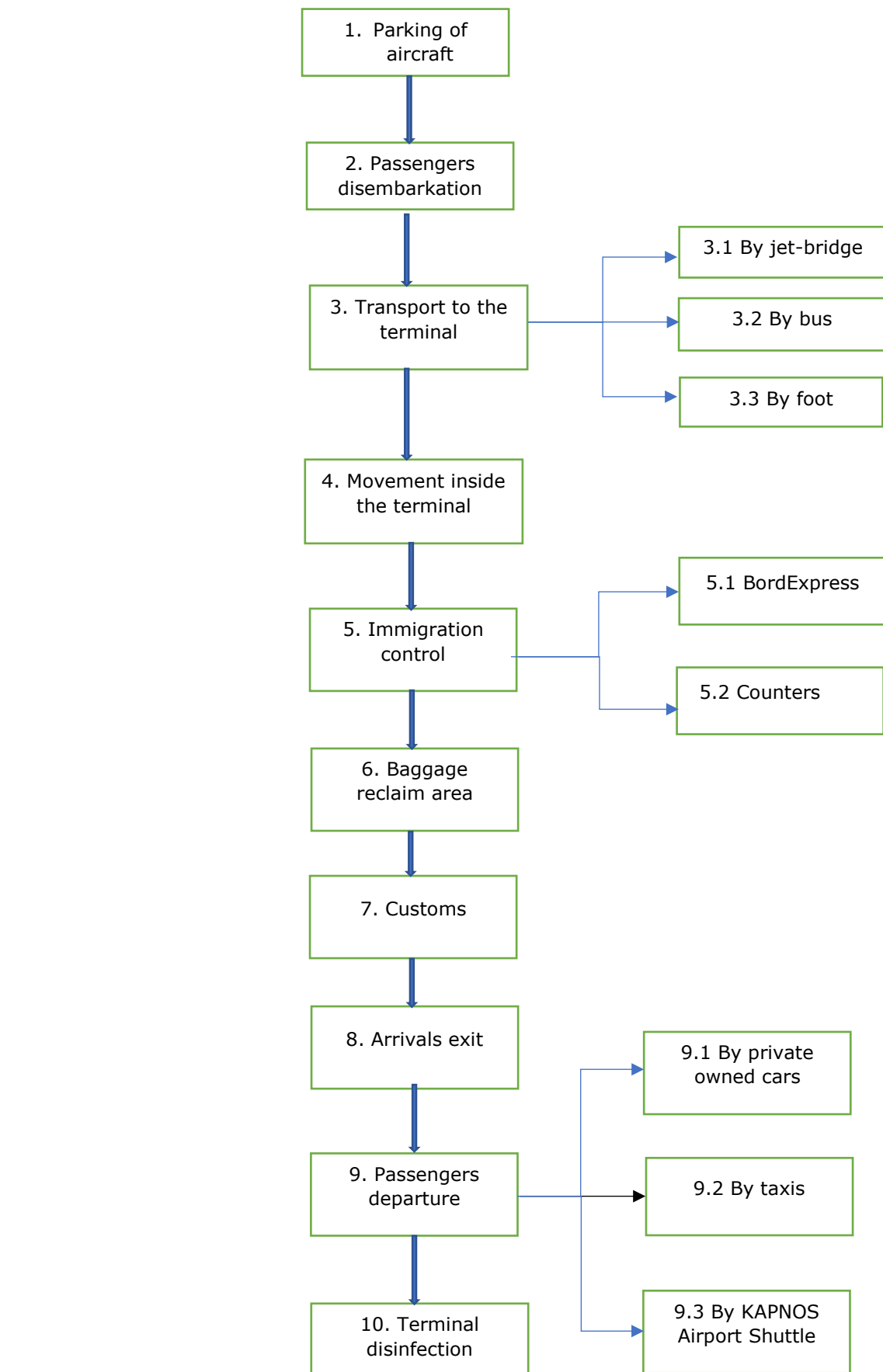
positive, the respective crew member(s) shall be placed in quarantine for 14 days from the last contact with the confirmed positive passenger, unless otherwise specified by the local public health authorities. If the test is negative they may resume flying duties.

**12. Passenger with symptoms compatible with COVID-19 identified on board before take-off**

- 12.1 If a suspected passenger is identified on board before take-off, the airport and local health authorities shall be informed and their instructions will be followed. At this point, if no specific direct contact of no more than 15 minutes has taken place between the symptomatic passenger and crew members, no additional measures need be taken in regard to the management of the crew members, unless as otherwise advised by the local public health authorities.

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## F. ARRIVAL OF PASSENGERS TO THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS



## **1. Areas with high passenger concentration**

- 1.1 Areas at the airports of the Republic of Cyprus, where a high passenger concentration is expected, during arrival, are typically the following:

Arrival flow:

- Disembarking facilities (e.g. air bridges, buses and stairs).
- Arrival hall.
- Baggage claim area.
- Passport and custom control area, where applicable.
- The corridors connecting the above areas.
- Toilet and shower facilities.

Airport operator in cooperation with airlines, immigration authorities, ground handlers and health authorities (if applicable) have to take appropriate measures to avoid queuing in these high passenger concentration areas as much as practicable, in order to reduce the risk of contamination posed by unnecessary human interaction.

## **2. Parking of aircraft**

- 2.1 The aircraft will be parked at the designated by aerodrome operator parking position. All personnel approaching the aircraft shall take appropriate health and safety measures (i.e. drivers and workers must wear personal protective equipment (PPE)).

- 2.2 When an aircraft arrives with a possible COVID-19 passenger or with an affected passenger the guidance for the handling of in-flight emergency incidents (Annex I) is applied. If Ramp Buses are required, the following will also be applied:

- The responsible Ground Handler will use the same buses for the whole disembarkation service and disinfect once the process is finalized,
- The responsible Ground Handler will define a communication protocol between the ground personnel and cockpit crew to avoid direct contact,
- The sequence of disembarkation will depend on the location of the passenger relative to the doors and should be designed to minimize contact between that person and other passengers,

- The Ground crew and cabin crew will agree on the number of passengers to disembark at given time,
- A hand signal shall be provided by both the cabin crew and ground crew once the agreed limits are reached to maintain the “physical distancing”,
- The buses and boarding devices shall be disinfected prior use for the next process.

### **3. Documentation by airlines proving disinfection**

3.1 The airline, upon arrival, will provide to the Health authorities at the airport, documentation which proves the preventative disinfection of aircraft before flight, in case of a suspected or confirmed case. A pertinent certification on the General Declaration as provided for in Appendix 1 of Annex 9 or, in the case of residual disinfection, the Certificate of Residual Disinfection (Appendix 4, Annex 9) is acceptable documentation.

### **4. Post flight Disinfection**

4.1 Post flight disinfection shall be carried out in case of a suspected or a confirmed case during the flight. If animal remains or suspicious contaminants of a contagious nature are found in the cargo hold, post-flight terminal disinfection must also be performed in accordance with the requirements of Health Services. Post-event cleaning and disinfection procedures should meet the requirements under 3.2.4 and Annex F of the Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation, ICAO Annex 9 Chapter 2 (E) requirements. IATA Guidelines for cleaning crew<sup>8</sup> to manage affected aircraft carrying suspected communicable disease, also outlines general considerations. Moreover, the guidance for the handling of in-flight emergency events (Annex I) is applicable.

4.2 Disinfection personnel shall only perform their duty if properly qualified or professionally trained.

4.3 Aircraft cleaning and disinfectant products to be used should be approved for airworthiness (EASA SIB No 2020 -03 and 2020 - 04, dated 25.06.2020)<sup>9</sup> to avoid corrosion to aircraft components (see also the

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.iata.org/contentassets/f1163430bba94512a583eb6d6b24aa56/health-guidelines-cleaning-crew.pdf>  
<sup>9</sup> <https://ad.easa.europa.eu/ad/SD-2020-03>, <https://ad.easa.europa.eu/ad/SD-2020-04>



EASA Interim guidance on Aircraft Cleaning and Disinfection)<sup>10</sup>  
Furthermore, proper consideration should be given, in this context, to the ECDC interim guidance for environmental cleaning in non-healthcare facilities exposed to COVID -19<sup>11</sup>.

- 4.4 The airline reserves the right of disinfection at a different Country (Departure with no passengers), provided that no COVID-19 case has been detected within the crew.

## **5. Stop-over flights carrying passengers with suspicious symptoms**

- 5.1 For stop-over flights carrying passengers with suspicious symptoms, as a first move, their sitting areas should be disinfected during the stop-over, and after the flight is over, an aircraft disinfection shall be conducted covering the whole cabin.

## **6. Aircraft Maintenance**

- 6.1 During ground operation and maintenance, aircraft auxiliary power unit (APU) shall be used for ventilation, the use of bridge load air supply should be avoided.
- 6.2 After arrival, doors of cabin and cargo hold shall be opened for ventilation before maintenance work is performed, and natural ventilation time shall be extended.
- 6.3 High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters shall be replaced in accordance with standards specified in the manufacturer's manual, in strict compliance with the prevention and protection requirements of the Aircraft Maintenance Manual, and based on the personal prevention and protection programme for aircraft maintenance personnel.
- 6.4 Used HEPA shall be placed in a special plastic bag, disinfected with chlorine disinfectant and sealed.

## **7. Maximum time without air conditioning/ventilation while aircraft is on the ground with passengers onboard**

- 7.1 In accordance with EASA Safety Information Bulletin (SIB No.: 2020-02R2)<sup>12</sup>, while aircraft is on the ground with passengers onboard, the

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/document-library/general-publications/guidance-aircraft-cleaning-and-disinfection>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/coronavirus-SARS-CoV-2-guidance-environmental-cleaning-non-healthcare-facilities.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> <https://ad.easa.europa.eu/sib-docs/page-1>

maximum time without air conditioning/ventilation shall be less than 30 minutes. In accordance with EASA Safety Information Bulletin (SIB No.: 2020-02R4) aircraft operators and aerodrome operators should collaborate as much as possible to ensure that passengers are not kept on board of an aircraft without proper ventilation for longer than 30 minutes.

## **8. Passengers disembarkation**

8.1 Measures have to be established by airlines in order to encourage minimum 1.5 metres physical distancing when passengers disembark, between passengers and passengers and staff.

8.2 Passengers until their final exit from the terminal and Staff facilitating passenger disembarkation shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE, e.g. hand hygiene, face medical masks<sup>13</sup>). Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted.

8.3 Mixed flow with passengers shall be avoided. Passengers shall disembark one by one.

8.4 Special announcements, before disembarking, shall be addressed to passengers:

i) who belong to the group of passengers who have the option to request the COVID-19 test to be carried out on their arrival in the Republic of Cyprus.

ii) who are travelling to the Republic of Cyprus from Countries of Category Green (Country of Origin) who voluntary wish to undertake a covid-19 test. These passengers will bear the cost for the test.

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<sup>13</sup> A **medical face mask** (also known as a surgical or procedure mask) is a medical device covering the mouth, nose and chin ensuring a barrier that limits the transition of an infective agent between the hospital staff and the patient. They are used to prevent large respiratory droplets and splashes from reaching the mouth and the nose of the wearer and help reduce and/or control at the source the spread of large respiratory droplets from the person wearing the face mask. Medical masks comply with requirements defined in European Standard EN 14683:2014. **Non-medical face masks** (or 'community' masks) include various forms of self-made or commercial masks or face covers made of cloth, other textiles or other materials such as paper. They are not standardised and are not intended for use in healthcare settings or by healthcare professionals.

iii) who will be selected for COVID-19 sample testing, upon their arrival to the Republic of Cyprus

These passengers will disembark last, after the disembarkation of all other passengers. Airlines and/or their ground handlers have the responsibility to transfer these passengers to the designated area, in order to perform COVID -19 test. Following the completion of the Covid-19 test, these passengers will be transferred by the Airline and/or their ground handlers back to the airport terminal for the immigration control.

8.5 After all passengers have deplaned, flight crew members shall open the cockpit door and have their protective equipment changed in the clean area before deplaning. All disposable protective equipment, after their use, shall be placed in waste bags and they will be treated as domestic waste. Crew shall disembark when all passengers have left the aircraft.

## **9. Transport to the terminal**

By jet-bridge: if a jet-bridge is used, proper physical distancing (constant and regular flow of passenger, while disembarking) has to be ensured and personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be worn by all staff and passengers. Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Disinfection of the area used by the passengers shall be done in accordance with the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health.

By bus: if a bus is used to transport passengers to the terminal, adequate distances should be kept between all passengers and staff members escorting the passengers. Passengers shall wear personal protective equipment(PPE). Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Buses have to operate at a low speed with windows open to maintain natural ventilation. Preventative disinfection needs to be performed, in accordance with the written Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the Ground handler, during which frequently touched surfaces such as hanging straps, handrails and seats shall be wiped particularly with disinfectant. If the bus has carried passengers with suspicious symptoms, it must be subject to

disinfection immediately. Staff needs to wear adequate personal protective equipment (PPE). People that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Ground handlers have to ensure that the number of passengers on buses will not exceed the prescribed number (40 people / 50% of the capacity of the buses) according to the directives prepared by the aerodrome operator in consultation with Ministry of Health.

By foot: if passengers are walking to the terminal, proper distancing has to be ensured and personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be worn by all staff and passengers. Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Disinfection of the area used by the passengers shall be done, in accordance with the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health .

## **10. Movement inside the terminal**

- 10.1 Hand sanitizers and disinfection products, including masks, will be available, before their entrance in the terminal.
- 10.2 All arriving passengers, crew members, flight attendants shall have their body temperatures taken, just after their entrance in the terminal. Sampling inspection of the **validity** of the required documentation carried by the passengers, either electronically or manually, may be also take place at this stage by authorized officers of the Ministry of Health.
- 10.3 In case of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID -19, concerning passenger(s) or crew and staff members found, the event should be dealt with in compliance with the guidance for the handling of in-flight emergency events (Annex I).
- 10.4 A quarantine area has to be set up. Once suspected or a confirmed case are found, the event should be dealt with in compliance with the guidance for the handling of in-flight emergency events (Annex I).
- 10.5 During the movement of passengers inside the terminal, minimum distances shall be respected and staff and passengers shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE). Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are

exempted. Sanitizers shall be available at several locations inside the arrivals building.

## **11. Sample tests from asymptotic passengers**

11.1 Triage centres may be installed outside and/or inside the airport to collect sample tests from asymptotic passengers.

## **12. Immigration control**

12.1 BordExpress: sanitizers shall be available before and after BordExpress equipment. Equipment shall be disinfected in accordance with the instructions of Health Services and the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health. Minimum distances between passengers and between staff and passengers to be respected. Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

12.2 Counters: when passengers report to the Immigration channels for the necessary formalities, minimum distances shall also be respected. All areas used by passengers shall be disinfected in accordance with the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health. Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

12.3 At the immigration control counters, passengers that have completed the required documentation on the electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus, have to show to the immigration officer, the automated text they have received (**«CyprusFlightPass»**).

12.4 At the immigration control counters, passengers, who have not obtained the CyprusFlightPass, in cases where the web electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus was temporarily unavailable due to technical issues or scheduled maintenance, officially announced at the platform have the obligation, upon entering the airport terminal, to submit all the required documentation manually <https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/en/download-forms>), including, whenever is required based on the Country Category, the certificate which confirms negative PCR for Covid-19 to the immigration officer. Sampling inspection of the **validity** of the submitted

documents, may be also take place before this stage by the authorized officers of the Ministry of Health.

12.5 Passengers who meet the requirements for a test in Cyprus as described on the following link <https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/en/passengers-eligible-for-a-test> and they have chosen to have the test performed upon their entry to the Republic of Cyprus, they have the obligation to show to the immigration officer, the «**CyprusFlightPass**» received by the web electronic platform, with the indication that the covid-19 test will be performed in the Republic of Cyprus. In case of Passengers of the above categories, who have not complete in advance the required documentation, on the electronic web platform (**only in cases where the web electronic platform of the Republic of Cyprus was temporarily unavailable due to technical issues or scheduled maintenance, officially announced at the platform**) they have the obligation to submit all the other required documentation manually (<https://cyprusflightpass.gov.cy/en/download-forms>) to the immigration officer.

### **13. Baggage reclaim area**

- 13.1 After immigration control is completed and passengers are directed to the reclaim area, minimum physical distancing of at least 1.5 meter between each other shall be respected. Staff in contact with passengers shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 13.2 Carousels to be allocated taking into consideration passenger numbers and capacity of baggage reclaim belts.
- 13.3 The Lost and Found Office at the Arrivals must use protective screens (e.g. plexiglass). Staffing levels shall ensure proper distancing between staff members; staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 13.4 If possible, all baggage reclaim should be done online. No need for passengers to queue at an arrivals hall desk in order to make a claim should their baggage be mishandled.

13.5 If possible, inform passengers to approach the carousels only when their bag has arrived.

#### **14. Customs**

14.1 During the passengers' presence at the Customs area, minimum distances of at least 1.5 meter between each other shall be respected, even when opening a bag for hand search. Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

14.2 Where declarations are required on arrival, electronic options should minimize human to human contact.

#### **15. Arrivals exit**

15.1 Once Customs control is completed, passengers should be guided to the exit of the arrivals lounge. Minimum distances of at least 1.5 meter between each other again need to be respected.

15.2 No persons other than passengers and airport staff shall be allowed to enter the airport terminal.

15.3 All passengers shall be directed outside of the arrivals building.

15.4 All entries to the terminal shall be forbidden and controlled at all times.

#### **16. Passengers departure from the airport**

16.1 By private (owned) cars: passengers leaving with private (owned) cars shall be waiting outside the arrivals until picked up by their families. Minimum distances of at least 1.5 meter between each other between all persons waiting outside the building shall be kept.

16.2 By public transport (bus, taxi): passengers taking a public transport to their final destination shall meet their driver outside the building. No drivers will be allowed inside the terminal building. The instructions of Ministry of Health for measures to control and prevent the spread of COVID19 virus in buses and other public transport will be followed<sup>14</sup>.

16.3 By KAPNOS Airport Shuttle: passengers taking KAPNOS Airport Shuttle to their destination shall contact the relevant Office at the airport.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/en/info.html>

Personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be used by staff. A protective screen at KAPNOS Airport Shuttle Office shall be used. The instructions of Ministry of Health for measures to control and prevent the spread of COVID19 virus in buses and other public transport will be followed.<sup>15</sup>

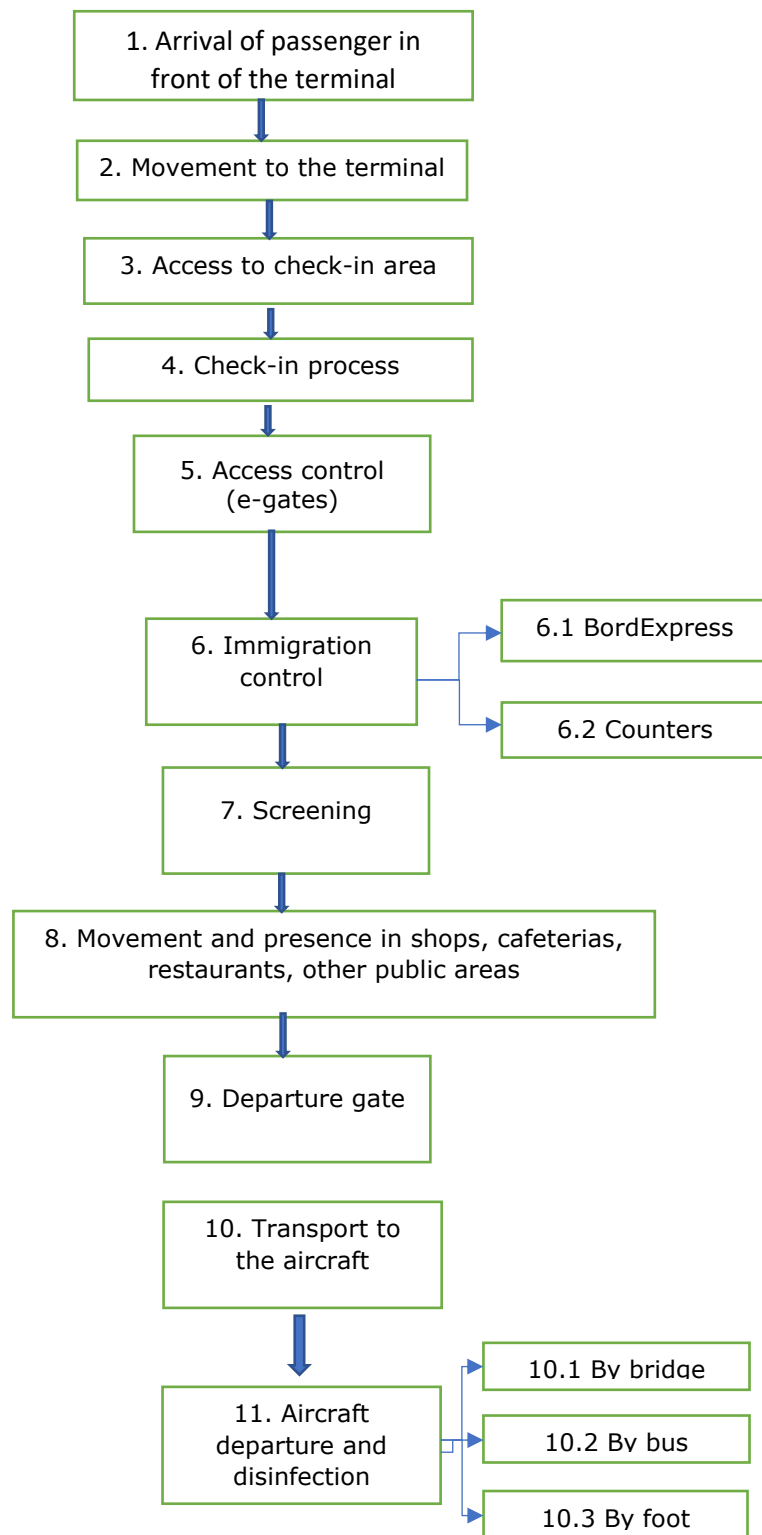
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<sup>15</sup> <https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/en/info.html>



## G. DEPARTURE OF PASSENGERS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS



## **1. Areas with high passenger concentration**

- 1.1 Areas at the airports of the Republic of Cyprus, where a high passenger concentration at the departure is expected, are typically the following:

Departure flow:

- Check-in areas
- Security check area
- Passport Control, where applicable
- Gate/airline lounges
- Boarding facilities (e.g. air bridges, buses and stairs)
- The corridors connecting the above areas
- Toilet and shower facilities
- Restaurants/bars and shops
- Smoking lounges

Airport operator in cooperation with airlines, immigration authorities and ground handlers shall take appropriate measures to avoid queuing in these high passenger concentration areas as much as practicable, in order to reduce the risk of contamination posed by unnecessary human interaction.

## **2. Access to airport premises**

- 2.1 Access to airport premises is limited to passengers, crew members and staff (airport and other service providers that are required to enter the premises in order to complete their tasks). Access for accompanying persons will be provided in special circumstances (e.g. accompanying or picking up a passenger requiring assistance – Persons with Reduced Mobility/ unaccompanied minors) and only after a permission is granted by the aerodrome operator, in close consultation with the airport health authorities.

- 2.2 Airport operator shall clearly signal the point beyond which accompanying persons are not allowed to cross.

## **3. Arrival of passenger in front of the terminal**

- 3.1 The passenger arrives in front of the terminal, either by his/her own car or by public transport. No drivers will be allowed inside the building. Minimum distances to be respected.

- 3.2 He/she will be offloaded with his/hers bags.
- 3.3 Only passengers will be allowed to be directed to the terminal.
- 3.4 All other escorts will depart as soon as the passenger is off-loaded.
- 3.5 No cars shall be allowed to be parked in front of the building for periods of time exceeding a reasonable time necessary for unloading the passenger and his/her bags.
- 3.6 Minimum physical distancing of at least 1.5 meter between each other between passengers and other persons shall be respected at this area.

#### **4. Movement to the terminal**

- 4.1 The passenger with his/her bags is directed to the airport terminal (check-in area).
- 4.2 Minimum distances of at least 1.5 meter between each other with other passengers and staff shall be respected.
- 4.3 The passengers must wear personal protective equipment (PPE) (medical face masks<sup>16</sup>) before they enter to the airport terminal. The wearing of medical face masks is enforced for all passengers within the airport from the moment they enter the terminal building at the departure until they exit the terminal building at the destination airport, except where it is requested to take them off for regular airport checks, as security check, border control etc. by the competent airport personnel. Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Face medical masks have to be replaced after being worn for 4 hours, if not advised otherwise by the mask manufacturer, or when becoming wet or soiled. Passengers must have sufficient supply of masks adequate for the entire duration of their journey.

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<sup>16</sup> A **medical face mask** (also known as a surgical or procedure mask) is a medical device covering the mouth, nose and chin ensuring a barrier that limits the transition of an infective agent between the hospital staff and the patient. They are used to prevent large respiratory droplets and splashes from reaching the mouth and the nose of the wearer and help reduce and/or control at the source the spread of large respiratory droplets from the person wearing the face mask. Medical masks comply with requirements defined in European Standard EN 14683:2014. **Non-medical face masks** (or 'community' masks) include various forms of self-made or commercial masks or face covers made of cloth, other textiles or other materials such as paper. They are not standardised and are not intended for use in healthcare settings or by healthcare professionals.

4.4 Triage centres may be installed outside and/or inside the airport to collect sample tests from asymptomatic passengers.

## **5. Access to check-in area**

5.1 The passenger enters the check-in area.

5.2 All departing passengers, crew, staff, flight attendants shall have their body temperatures taken, just after their entrance in the terminal.

5.3 In case of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID -19, the airport and local health authorities shall be informed and their instructions will be followed.

5.4 A quarantine area must be set up.

5.5 During the movement of passengers inside the terminal, minimum distances shall be respected and staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

5.6 Sanitizers shall be available at several locations inside the terminal building. A written plan for enhanced cleaning and disinfection shall be prepared by the airport operator and passenger/ground handling service providers, according to the standard operating procedures outlined in the *WHO Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation third edition, Geneva 2009*<sup>17</sup> and *ECDC*<sup>18</sup>.

## **6. Check-in process**

6.1 Where possible, passengers should arrive at the airport ready to fly, so that they do not have to go through additional processing at the airport and interact as little as possible with airport equipment.

6.2 Other operational considerations have to be addressed:

6.2.1 Opening check-in time has to be revisited by the airline in order to allow enough time for avoiding passenger queuing.

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<sup>17</sup> [https://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/aviation\\_guide/en/](https://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/aviation_guide/en/)

<sup>18</sup> [https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Environmental-persistence-of-SARS\\_CoV\\_2-virus-Options-for-cleaning2020-03-26\\_0.pdf](https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Environmental-persistence-of-SARS_CoV_2-virus-Options-for-cleaning2020-03-26_0.pdf)

- 6.2.2 Queuing at check-in counters and self-check-in kiosks has to be organized to encourage physical distancing.
- 6.2.3 Make use of off-airport baggage facilities, where possible (e.g. hotel check-in).
- 6.2.4 No more than one piece of hand luggage for each person should be allowed.
- 6.2.5 Before boarding, passengers should be reminded that they should ensure a sufficient supply of masks for the entire duration of their journey.
- 6.3 During the check in and preboarding process the relevant departments of the airlines must confirm that the passengers carry with them the necessary documents requested by appropriate authorities of the Country of destination. Without the required documentation airlines will not permit a passenger to board the aircraft and fly from the Republic of Cyprus.

## **7. Access control (e-gates)**

- 7.1 Use e-gates to allow access of passengers to the departures area.
- 7.2 In case e-gates are not operational, passengers have to show their boarding pass without the need of physically handing them over. Same applies for access control of staff. Avoid physical contact with the identification card carried.
- 7.3 Minimum distances of at least 1.5 meter between each other between passengers and passengers and staff have to be respected.
- 7.4 Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

## **8. Immigration control**

- 8.1 BordExpress: sanitizers shall be available before and after BordExpress equipment. Equipment shall be disinfected in accordance with the instructions of Health Services and the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health. Minimum distances

between passengers and between staff and passengers to be respected. Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

8.2 Counters: when passengers report to the Immigration channels for the necessary formalities, minimum distances shall also be respected. All areas used by passengers shall be disinfected in accordance with the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health. Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

## **9. Security Screening**

9.1 Passenger and staff security screening has to:

9.1.1 Minimize the use of hand search for security screening by using alternative screening methods and reminding persons on proper divestment before proceeding for screening.

9.1.2 Avoid face-to-face with passengers or other persons being screened

9.1.3 Apply one swab per person for ETD screening.

9.1.4 Security staff must have all the necessary personal protective equipment ( face medical masks, disinfectants<sup>19</sup>).

9.1.5 Arrange security lanes not to be adjacent to each other, where is feasible.

9.1.6 Cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and security screening equipment.

9.1.7 Passengers or non-passengers moving through security screening to wear their protective medical masks.

9.1.8 Screeners have to limit pat down/hand search activities to a bare minimum e.g. by allowing passengers or non-passengers who alarm an archway metal detector to move back, further divest and re-present to the archway until no alarm (within reason) results.

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<sup>19</sup> The use of gloves it is not recommended.

- 9.1.9 Security personnel has to make use of hand-held metal detection equipment to assist them in identifying areas that persist in alarming and/or where additional divestment may be applicable.
- 9.1.10 All security personnel when physically touching a passenger and/or his/her belongings, they should ensure, if they use gloves, that gloves are changed, sanitized or cleaned after each search or pat-down.
- 9.1.11 Where additional and/or randomized screening is required (in addition to that already performed by 'standard' screening processes or technologies) use ETD equipment, as applicable.
- 9.1.12 Where security staff are required to physically come into contact with passengers and non-passenger's, they shall attempt to engage, interact, communicate and/or touch passengers when positioned from behind (where possible) e.g. in the case of a pat-down search and/or from the side and/or at a distance (e.g. when examining the contents of a bag, discarded/x-rayed items and/or items or devices the person has brought through the archway or other screening process with them (e.g. walking aides, wheelchairs etc.).
- 9.1.13 Where screening equipment is removable, replaceable, cleanable etc. e.g. ETD swabs, they shall be replaced and/or discarded after a single use.

## **10. Movement and presence in shops, cafeterias, restaurants, other public areas**

- 10.1 Respect all hygienic recommendations when preparing and serving food, even with self-service restaurants, in accordance with the Health Protocol of Ministry of Health<sup>20</sup>.
- 10.2 Individual portions have to be served rather than providing common-use serving utensils.
- 10.3 Minimum Distancing of at least 1.5 meter between each other shall be observed at all times (when queuing and when sitting at the restaurant).
- 10.4 Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 10.5 Frequent cleaning and disinfection of all areas and equipment used.

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<sup>20</sup> <https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/pdf/erg6.pdf>

10.6 Systematic installing of hand sanitising stations and use, whenever feasible.

10.7 Increased frequency of waste collection.

10.8 A written plan for enhanced cleaning and disinfection should be prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health.

## **11. Departure gate**

11.1 Due to existing seating arrangements and limited space available in front of counters at departure gates it might be difficult to maintain physical distancing at this point, therefore airlines shall request passengers to board by seating zones (e.g. calling forward those seated at the rear of the aircraft first) to reduce the interaction between and/or through seated passengers and/or those wishing to board. In addition, passengers have to remain seated within the pre-boarding waiting area(s) until their aircraft seating zone is called forward, to avoid long / closely aligned queues being generated at the boarding gate, on the air bridge and/or in the cabin itself.

11.2 Re-arrangement of seating in terminals have to be applied in order to comply with physical distancing requirements.

11.3 Adequate communication through announcement, video, posters or simulations has to be put in place to properly inform passengers and staff.

11.4 Staff shall wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

11.5 During the preboarding process the relevant departments of the airlines must check and confirm that the passengers carry with them the required by the appropriate authorities of the Country of destination documents. Without the required documentation airlines will not permit a passenger to board the aircraft and fly from the Republic of Cyprus.

11.6 In case of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID -19, the Health Services at the airport and the responsible airline will be informed. Airline will deny boarding of those passengers. The instructions of local



health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus shall be followed concerning the handling of the passenger.

## **12. Transport to the aircraft**

By jet-bridge: if a jet-bridge is used, proper distancing has to be ensured (constant and regular flow of passenger) and personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be worn by all staff and passengers. Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Disinfection of the area used by the passengers shall be done in accordance with the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health.

By bus: if a bus is used to transport passengers to the aircraft, an increased quantity has to be provided in order to accommodate for physical distancing inside them. Adequate distances should be kept between all passengers and staff members escorting the passengers. Passengers must wear personal protective equipment (PPE). Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Buses have to operate at a low speed with windows open to maintain natural ventilation. Preventative disinfection needs to be performed, in accordance with written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the ground handler in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health , during which frequently touched surfaces such as hanging straps, handrails and seats shall be wiped particularly with disinfectant. If the bus has carried passengers with suspicious symptoms, it must be subject to disinfection immediately. Staff needs to wear adequate personal protective equipment (PPE). Ground handlers have to ensure that the number of passengers on buses will not exceed the prescribed number (40 people / 50% of the capacity of the buses) according to the directives prepared by the aerodrome operator in consultation with Ministry of Health

By foot: if passengers are walking to the aircraft, proper distancing has to be ensured and personal protective equipment (PPE) shall be worn by all staff and passengers. Children under 6 years of age and people that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted.

Disinfection of the area used by the passengers shall be done, in accordance with the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health.

### **13. Aircraft departure and disinfection**

13.1 Before flight, preventative cleaning of aircraft shall be carried out. In case of a confirmed or suspected case, cleaning and disinfection procedures shall meet the requirements under 3.2.4 and Annex F of the Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation, ICAO Annex 9 Chapter 2 (E) requirements. IATA Guidelines<sup>21</sup> for cleaning crew to manage affected aircraft carrying suspected communicable disease, also outlines general considerations.

13.2 Aircraft cleaning and disinfectant products to be used shall be approved for airworthiness (EASA Safety Bulletin 2020 -03 and 2020 - 04, dated 25.06.2020, see also the EASA Interim guidance on Aircraft Cleaning and Disinfection<sup>22</sup>) to avoid corrosion to aircraft components. Furthermore, proper consideration should be given, in this context, to the ECDC interim guidance for environmental cleaning in non-health care facilities exposed to COVID -19<sup>23</sup>.

13.3 Disinfection personnel shall only perform their duty if properly qualified or professionally trained.

13.4 When all health and safety procedures were properly implemented, the aircraft will be allowed to depart.

13.5 All equipment and departures areas used for aircraft and passengers departing process shall be disinfected in accordance with the written Facility Cleaning & Sanitization Plan prepared by the aerodrome operator in accordance with guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health.

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<sup>21</sup> <https://www.iata.org/contentassets/f1163430bba94512a583eb6d6b24aa56/health-guidelines-cleaning-crew.pdf>

<sup>22</sup> <https://ad.easa.europa.eu/ad/SD-2020-04>, <https://ad.easa.europa.eu/ad/SD-2020-03>  
<https://www.easa.europa.eu/document-library/general-publications/guidance-aircraft-cleaning-and-disinfection>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/coronavirus-SARS-CoV-2-guidance-environmental-cleaning-non-healthcare-facilities.pdf>

## **H. DURING THE FLIGHT / OUTBOUND PASSENGERS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS**

### **1. Personal Protection for Passengers**

- 1.1 Passengers shall wear face medical masks during the flight. Passengers for flight more than four hours, shall use hand hygiene and change their masks at least once every 4 hours.

### **2. Personal Protection for Crew staff and Flight attendants**

- 2.1 Staff working on different posts should follow respective personal protection standards. Flight crew members shall wear face medical masks during the flight. Crew members for flight more than four hours, shall change their masks at least once every 4 hours.

### **3. Temperature Screening of crew staff and flight attendants**

- 3.1 For flights longer than 4 hours, measurement of body temperature should be taken during flight operation.
- 3.2 In case of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID -19, the crew should timely communicate with the destination airport and Air Traffic Control Services (Air Traffic Management (Doc 4444) (PANS-ATM) details the procedures to be followed by the pilot-in-command in communication with air traffic control) and cooperate in the handover of the passenger(s) after landing.

### **4. On Board Service during Flight**

- 4.1 For airlines, that provide meal, It is permitted to provide pre-packaged food and bottled water before or during passenger boarding. Except for special needs, catering service must not be provided onboard. The following should be considered:

- No duty free sales on board.
- No lottery on-board.
- No alcoholic beverages.
- For short haul flights, only bottled or canned non-alcoholic drinks should be served.
- For medium and long haul flights, in addition to bottled or canned non-alcoholic drinks, food service may be considered depending on the duration of the flight.

- Wherever possible, payment procedures involving touch or contact, such as cash payments, should be avoided to mitigate transmission between crew members and passengers.

4.2 Airlines shall reduce on-board service to the minimum necessary to ensure comfort and wellbeing standards for passengers and limit the contact between crew members and passengers.

## **5. Disposable protective equipment During Flight**

5.1 All disposable protective equipment, after their use, shall be placed in waste bags and shall be treated as domestic waste.

## **6. Last two rows of seats (Quarantine Area)**

6.1 Depending on the configuration of the aircraft, the actual occupancy and distribution of passengers, the position of the symptomatic case and to the extent that is practicable, the last two rows of seats on flights should be reserved as a quarantine area for handling possible in-flight emergencies and the rear lavatory on the right side has to be designated for the exclusive use by those under quarantine. In case of suspicious passengers on board showing symptoms as fever, fatigue or dry cough, an arrangement should be made to sit him/her in the quarantine area.

## **7. Measures into place to Avoid passengers queuing**

7.1 Airlines have to put measures into place to avoid passengers queuing in the aisle or the galleys for the use of the lavatories. Subject to sufficient lavatories on board, the airlines should reserve a lavatory, preferably the closest one to the flight deck, for crew use only.

## **8. Cabin Ventilation**

8.1 Aircraft operators using the recirculation of cabin air are recommended either to install and use HEPA filters, according to the manufacturer's specifications, or to avoid the use of cabin air recirculation entirely, provided it is confirmed that this will not compromise any safety critical functions (e.g. avionics cooling, etc.) Aircraft operators, should consider reviewing their procedures for the use of recirculation fans in air conditioning systems based on information provided by the aircraft manufacturer or, if not available, to seek advice from the manufacturer. When HEPA filters are installed, recirculation fans should not be stopped

but increased fresh air flow has to be used by selecting high pack flow whenever possible. Operators should confirm the practice of selecting the configuration high pack flow with the aircraft manufacturer and follow their instructions for continuous use. (EASA guidelines ISSUE DATE 30/06/2020 Issue No 2).

## **9. Physical distancing**

9.1 Where allowed by the passenger load, cabin configuration and mass and balance requirements, airlines should ensure, to the extent possible, physical distancing among passengers. In case physical distancing cannot be guaranteed because of the seat configuration or other operational constraints, passengers and crew members on board an aircraft should adhere at all times to all other preventive measures including strict hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette and shall wear medical mask. Where HEPA filters are not used, airlines must take measures to ensure physical distancing throughout the entire duration of the flight through risk mitigation measures. Family members and individuals travelling together shall be seated next to each other. Passengers are forbidden to change seats during their flight. The aircraft operator shall provide, if requested, the local public health authorities of the Republic of Cyprus information regarding the seat number of passengers in a particular flight.

## **10. Sufficient amount of face masks**

10.1 Airlines shall carry a sufficient amount of face masks on board to provide to passengers, especially for long haul flights of more than 4 hours. Acquisition of masks in case passengers have no access to medical masks beforehand shall be available during flight.

## **11. Passenger with symptoms compatible with COVID-19 after take-off**

11.1 In the event that, after take-off, a passenger shows symptoms compatible with COVID-19 such as fever, persistent cough, difficulty breathing or other flu-like symptoms, the following measures have to be applied:

- The crew shall make sure that the passenger is wearing their face mask properly and has additional masks available to replace it in case it becomes wet after coughing or sneezing. If a face mask cannot be

tolerated, the sick person shall cover their mouth and nose with tissues when coughing or sneezing. In the event the passenger is having difficulty breathing, medical assistance must be sought and oxygen supplementation offered.

- The passenger shall be isolated on board on the designated isolation area. Depending on the configuration of the aircraft the actual occupancy and distribution of passengers, the position of the symptomatic case, and to the extent that is practicable:
  - the suspected passenger shall be seated in the last right window seat.
  - The lavatory closest to the suspected passenger shall be specifically designated for the sick passenger and not be used by the rest of the passengers or the crew.
  - According to the composition of the cabin crew, the Senior Cabin Crew member shall designate specific crew member(s) to provide the necessary in-flight service to the isolation area(s). This cabin crew member should be one that had prior contact with the suspected passenger. The designated crew member shall make use of the PPE equipment in the aircraft's Universal Precaution Kit. The designated crew member shall minimise close contact with other crew members and avoid other unnecessary contact with other passengers.
  - Where possible, the individual air supply nozzle for the symptomatic passenger shall be turned off in order to limit the potential spread of droplets.
  - If the suspected passenger is travelling accompanied, the passenger's companion shall be also confined in the isolation area even if they do not exhibit any symptoms.
  - After the flight has landed and other passengers have disembarked, the isolated passenger shall be transferred in accordance with the instructions provided by the public health authorities of Country of destination.
  - The crew member designated to provide on-board services for the suspected passenger, and other crew members which may have been in direct contact with the suspected passenger, shall be provided with transportation to facilities where they can clean and

disinfect before having physical contact with other people. Alternatively, as a last resort, after carefully disposing of the used PPE and washing and disinfecting their hands, the respective cabin crew members could be isolated on board, in a quarantine area, before return to base or a layover destination.

- Every effort should be made to receive information about the testing of the suspect case as soon as possible. The crew member(s) who served the passenger with COVID-19 compatible symptoms shall be asked to take appropriate self-isolation measures after returning to home base. If the test is positive, the respective crew member(s) shall be placed in quarantine for 14 days from the last contact with the confirmed positive passenger, unless otherwise specified by the local public health authorities. If the test is negative they may resume flying duties.

## **12. Passenger with symptoms compatible with COVID-19 identified on board before take-off**

- 12.1 If a suspected passenger is identified on board before take-off, the airport and local health authorities shall be informed and their instructions will be followed. At this point, if no specific direct contact of no more than 15 minutes has taken place between the symptomatic passenger and crew members, no additional measures need be taken in regards to the management of the crew members, unless as otherwise advised by the local public health authorities. The guidance for the handling of in-flight emergency incidents (Annex I) is applied.

# **I. APPOINTMENT OF A COORDINATOR BY THE AERODROME OPERATOR**

## **1. Uniform application of preventive measures by all stakeholders according to airport's emergency plan**

- 1.1 Airport operator shall, according to their airport emergency plan, appoint a coordinator, in order to ensure the uniform application of preventive measures by all stakeholders providing services at the airport. This coordinator shall be in direct contact with the airport public health authorities and the national public health authority of the Republic of Cyprus.

- 1.2 The airport operator through its appointed coordinator shall have the overall responsibility, including the compliance monitoring for the implementation of the preventive aerodromes' measures of this Health protocol.

## **J. TERMINAL                      DISINFECTION,                      VENTILATION                      AND REARRANGEMENT OF SEATING**

### **1. Written plan for enhanced cleaning and disinfection**

- 1.1 A written plan for enhanced cleaning and disinfection has to be prepared by the airport operator and ground handling service providers, according to guidelines of health authorities/Ministry of Health and ECDC guidance. Close risky airport facilities where people tend to gather (e.g, smoking areas, etc.) have to be closed.
- 1.2 Regular cleaning of surfaces shall be performed using standard detergents with particular care of frequently touched surfaces (e.g. door handles, bannister rails, buttons, etc.). Studies have shown that the plastic security screening trays are frequently contaminated with respiratory viruses<sup>24</sup>, therefore cleaning of these shall be intensified and hand-disinfectant shall be placed at the exit of the security locations to encourage hand hygiene.
- 1.3 Cleaning activities shall be performed in such a way as not to aerosolise the particles that have already set on the various surfaces (e.g. avoiding air blowing procedures, use of vacuum cleaners etc.). Enhanced cleaning and maintenance shall also include toilets and the air conditioning system, including the employment of air filters and increasing the frequency of the filter replacement. The Health Protocol<sup>25</sup> of the Department of Electrical and Mechanical has to be followed, accordingly.
- 1.4 Cleaning of the designated isolation area will be performed after each use of the area.
- 1.5 Airport operators shall ensure that hand washing basins are available and in working condition in all the toilets throughout the facility for

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<sup>24</sup> Ikonen, N et al, Deposition of respiratory virus pathogens on frequently touched surfaces at airports. BMC Infect Dis 18, 437 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-018-3150-5>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/pdf/erg6.pdf>, [www.mcw.gov.cy/ems](http://www.mcw.gov.cy/ems)



passengers and staff. Soap and hand dryers or single-use paper towels shall be available.

1.6 Alcohol-based hand disinfectant dispensers shall also be available at the entrance to the terminal and in all high traffic/high-risk areas used by passengers.

1.7 Airport operators and service providers shall make available alcohol-based hand disinfectant for their staff members after interaction with passengers.

## **2. Terminal Ventilation**

2.1 The control of air-conditioning systems and natural ventilation in terminals should be enhanced. Practical measures must be taken to improve air circulation. Proper air ventilation shall be ensured, avoiding air recirculation and favouring when possible the use of fresh air in accordance with international guidance for ventilation of indoor public spaces<sup>26</sup>. With moderate temperature, doors and windows can be opened; where air-conditioning systems are used, full fresh air operation mode can be started as appropriate, and exhaust system should be turned on to keep the air clean.

## **3. Rearrangement of Terminal seating**

3.1 Rearrangement of seating in terminals is applied in order to comply with physical distancing requirements.

# **K. INFORMATION MATERIAL**

## **1. Information material**

1.1 Information material (leaflets, banners, posters, electronic slides, announcements, floor markings for spatial distancing etc.) for distribution to arriving or departing travelers as well as staff will be widely provided at the airport premises by the aerodrome operator. Health safety promotion materials have to be widely available at the airport premises (entrances, info screens, gates, lounges etc.). Particular attention has to be given to the high-risk areas described above.

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<sup>26</sup> REHVA Federation of European Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Associations  
<https://www.rehva.eu/activities/covid-19-guidance>

- 1.2 Airport operator shall provide information regarding the proper donning of masks and the proper way to dispose of used masks in his health safety promotion material.
- 1.3 Passengers shall be regularly instructed via visual and audio messaging to adhere to the preventive measures in place at various levels in the airport, with particular focus on the fact that wearing a face mask does not provide complete protection and proper consideration should be given to the full suite of preventive measures, including physical distancing.
- 1.4 Airlines shall inform in advance future passengers via promotional measures of the travel restrictions and requirements in order to travel to/from the Republic of Cyprus
- 1.5 Airlines shall inform their passengers that symptomatic passengers identified in the airport will be denied boarding.
- 1.6 Airlines shall provide guidance material to passengers regarding application of the preventive measures on board, including:
- Hand hygiene
  - Appropriate use of face masks
  - Respiratory etiquette
  - Limiting contact with cabin surfaces
  - Minimised on-board service
  - Reducing the use of individual air supply nozzles to the maximum extent possible
- 1.7 Passengers shall be regularly instructed via visual and audio messaging to adhere to the preventive measures in place at various levels on-board the aircraft, with particular focus on the fact that wearing a face mask does not provide complete protection and proper consideration should be given to the full suite of preventive measures, including physical distancing. Airlines must emphasise in their safety demonstrations that in case of emergency the passengers should remove their face masks before using the aircraft oxygen masks. Furthermore, airlines should instruct their crew members to remove

their protective face masks in case of emergency in order to facilitate the communication of instructions to passengers.

## **L. PROTECTION OF AIRPORT STAFF**

### **1. General Instructions for airport staff**

- 1.1 All businesses and their staff working at the airports have to follow the guidance issued by Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance and the Ministry of Health.
- 1.2 Access to critical areas has to be restricted to minimum.
- 1.3 Use of protective screens (e.g., staff) at counters and points of staff contact with passengers is mandatory. Wherever staff members interact with passengers from a fixed location such as, but not limited to check-in, ticketing, passport control and information counters, protective screens shall be installed in such a way as to allow the handover of the required documents but provide some protection to the staff member from the respiratory droplets of passengers, and vice versa.
- 1.4 Stagger work deployment wherever possible.
- 1.5 Use of Personal Protective Equipment (face medical masks, hand disinfectant, face shields) by airport staff with close contact with other staff or passengers is mandatory, due to their large number and frequency of contact. People that cannot wear a face mask due to medical reasons are exempted. Airport operator and service providers must provide the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) to their staff members and ensure that they are trained in the appropriate use of this PPE. Especially:
  - Staff members who interact with passengers directly (e.g. security check agents, assistants for passengers with reduced mobility, cleaning staff, etc.) must wear a medical face mask<sup>27</sup> and their

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<sup>27</sup> A **medical face mask** (also known as surgical or procedure mask) is a medical device covering the mouth, nose and chin ensuring a barrier that limits the transition of an infective agent between the hospital staff and the patient. They are used to prevent large respiratory droplets and splashes from reaching the mouth and the nose of the wearer and help reduce and/or control at the source the spread of large respiratory droplets from the person wearing the face mask. Medical masks comply with requirements defined in European Standard EN 14683:2014. **Non-medical face masks** (or 'community' masks) include various forms of self-made or commercial masks or face covers made of cloth, other textiles or other materials such as paper. They are not standardised and are not intended for use in healthcare settings or by healthcare professionals.

uniforms; uniforms have to be changed daily in order to reduce the spread of the virus, and where uniforms cannot be changed daily, a protection suit shall be used as an alternative. Security check agents performing body checks shall wear face shields or face masks according to the guidelines of the Health Services to further mitigate the risk of droplet inhalation caused by their very close contact with passengers being checked.

- Staff members who interact with passengers from behind a protection screen have to wear personal protective equipment (face medical masks), also in case that only one staff member is behind the protection screen. In addition, and as screens need to have openings for handling documents, passengers must stand at least 1.5 metres away from the counter unless handing in documents and luggage. This has to be facilitated with specific floor marking(s), which has to be extended to the queue in order to maintain physical distancing.
- Notwithstanding the use of PPE, hand hygiene has to be reinforced at all times. The use of gloves is not recommended but if they used, they should be regularly changed. Not all types of gloves can be disinfected with alcohol-based gels. Some can deteriorate significantly and contribute to contamination. The disinfection of gloves is therefore not recommended.

1.6 Crew members and airport staff members may be exempt from the airport's COVID-19 screening procedures, subject to the airline or the airport operator, as applicable, having implemented an equivalent procedure to monitor their staff members' health status . Furthermore, aircraft operators and passenger handlers in coordination with the airport operator and governmental agencies shall ensure that physical distancing of crew from the passengers is ensured at all times. Crew members, if they have to perform a covid-19 test, they will have priority, during the process of laboratory testing. Additional operational measures are described in EASA Guidelines for management of crew members<sup>28</sup>.

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<sup>28</sup> <https://www.easa.europa.eu/document-library/general-publications/guidance-management-crew-members>

## **M. DANGEROUS GOODS (INCLUDING ALCOHOL BASED SANITIZERS)**

### **1. Use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer in the galley or installed in aircraft lavatories<sup>29</sup>**

- 1.1 Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are classified as dangerous goods and are not specifically permitted by the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations and ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous goods by Air (Technical Instructions) under the provisions for dangerous goods in operator's property (DGR 2.5, ICAO Technical Instructions Part 1.2.2). Airlines that wish to add alcohol-based hand sanitizer to the items carried in galleys or installed in lavatories will need to request authorization from their Civil Aviation Authority (State of the Operator) in accordance with the provision that is set out in Part 1, 2.2.1 a) of the ICAO Technical Instructions, which reads as follows:

*"2.2 EXCEPTIONS FOR DANGEROUS GOODS OF THE OPERATOR*

*2.2.1 The provisions of these Instructions do not apply to the following:*

*a) articles and substances which would otherwise be classified as dangerous goods but which are required to be aboard the aircraft in accordance with the pertinent airworthiness requirements and operating regulations or that are authorized by the State of the Operator to meet special requirements";*

The request for authorization should address the following:

- the classification and UN number of the hand sanitizer; and
- the quantity of hand sanitizer in each container and the number of containers to be carried on the aircraft; and
- what steps will be taken to ensure that the hand sanitizer is kept away from sources of heat or ignition; and

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<sup>29</sup> IATA, Coronavirus, Dangerous Goods(including alcohol based sanitizers) guidance for Operators- 07 March 2020

- provision of information to crew members on the carriage of the hand sanitizer.

## **2. Carriage of Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer in Passenger and Crew Baggage<sup>30</sup>**

2.1 Paragraph 2.3.5.1 of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations sets out the allowances for passengers and crew to have in their checked or carry-on baggage medicinal or toiletry articles, which may include articles containing alcohol as follows:

*"2.3.5.1 Medicinal or Toiletry Articles and Aerosols in Division 2.2 Non-radioactive medicinal or toiletry articles (including aerosols). The term "medicinal or toiletry articles" is intended to include such items as hair sprays, perfumes, colognes and medicines containing alcohols. Aerosols in Division 2.2, with no subsidiary hazard, for sporting or home use.*

**Note:** *The total net quantity of all such articles carried by each passenger or crew member under the provisions of 2.3.5.1 must not exceed 2 kg or 2 L and the net quantity of each single article must not exceed 0.5 kg or 0.5 L. Release valves on aerosols must be protected by a cap or other suitable means to prevent inadvertent release of the contents."*

2.2 Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is acceptable under the provisions of 2.3.5.1, however, it should be noted that where passengers wish to have the hand sanitizer in their carry-on baggage, the following will apply:

- (a) No approval of the air carrier is required (alcohol contained up to 70%); and
- (b) Visual check of the label to reasonably ascertain that such liquid is indeed a hand disinfectant; and

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<sup>30</sup> IATA, Coronavirus, Dangerous Goods(including alcohol based sanitizers) guidance for Operators- 07 March 2020

- (c) In case the quantity exceeds 250 ml, screening by Liquid Explosive Detection Systems (LEDS) before transportation in airport security restricted areas and the aircraft.

2.3 Points 2.2(a) and 2.2(b) above shall also be implemented in case crew members wish to have the hand sanitizer in their carry-on baggage, in addition to screening by x-ray equipment. Point 2.2(c) shall not apply in such cases.

## **N. MINIMUM DISTANCING AND ADDITIONAL PREVENTIVE MEASURES**

The use of face masks in airport will be considered only as a complementary measure and not as a replacement for established preventive measures. Acquisition of masks in case passengers have no access to medical masks beforehand shall be available at the airport and during flight.

In addition to the wearing of face medical masks, the following preventive measures shall be observed by passengers, airport staff and crew at all times:

- Physical distancing of minimum 1.5 metres (between groups of passengers or family members travelling together is not required physical distancing in between themselves.) Current scientific studies and articles<sup>31</sup> confirm that in general, the distance that large respiratory droplets travel is 1.5 metres for normal speech and up to 2 metres when coughing. For this reason, airport operators and service providers shall ensure that physical distancing of a minimum of 1.5 metres is maintained. Physical distancing shall be implemented particularly in the high risk areas identified in Paragraphs F and G. This shall be achieved by floor markings, enabling the use of every other seat in the waiting rooms, gate allocation planning and other measures. Monitoring of the

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<sup>31</sup> <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15459620590918466>  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1600-0668.2007.00469.x>  
<https://asmedigitalcollection.asme.org/biomechanical/article-abstract/129/3/341/469879/Transport-Characteristics-of-Expiratory-Droplets?redirectedFrom=fulltext>  
<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2007800>  
<https://medium.com/@Cancerwarrior/covid-19-why-we-should-all-wear-masks-there-is-new-scientific-rationale-280e08ceee71>



crowding, needs to be maintained as passengers will necessarily crowd only certain areas of the airport. Airlines, governmental agencies and airport operator shall cooperate to ensure physical distancing is respected at all times, especially during check-in, security check, pre-boarding and boarding, immigration control and during the process of laboratory testing. When physical distancing is not possible, due to infrastructure or operational constraints, airport operator shall propose risk mitigation measures to be assessed and approved by the relevant national health authorities. Airport operator shall also, as far as practicable, put in place separate flows for departing and arriving passengers.

- Hand hygiene – by washing with water and soap or, where this is not available, using alcohol based hand sanitising gel
- Respiratory etiquette – covering the mouth and nose with a paper towel cover or a flexed elbow when sneezing or coughing
- Limiting the direct contact (touch) of airport and aircraft surfaces to only when necessary.

Preventive measures will be implemented in such a way as to consider both the actual risk factors and the practical need for mitigation measures in different circumstances.