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AIC
Series A

A009/09
28 MAY 2009

**REPORTING PROCEDURE BY PILOTS IN COMMAND ON BOARD AN AIRCRAFT OF A
SUSPECTED CASE OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE**

In response to the International Civil Aviation Organization encouraging all Contracting States to implement a reporting procedure in a harmonized manner by Pilots in Command (PICs), especially in the recent outbreak of the INFLUENZA A (H1N1), the following procedure comes into effect immediately.

1. The Belize Department of Civil Aviation will effect all necessary coordination with the Ministry of Health through its public authority.
2. All pilots, flight crew and aircraft operators of en-route aircraft inbound to the Philip S.W. Goldson International Airport are requested that upon identifying a suspected case(s) of communicable disease, or other public health risk, on board an aircraft, must inform the Belize ATS Unit immediately. This information must include the following:
 - a. aircraft identification;
 - b. departure aerodrome;
 - c. destination aerodrome;
 - d. estimated time of arrival;
 - e. number of persons on board;
 - f. number of suspected case(s) on board; and
 - g. nature of the public health risk, if known..
3. The Belize ATS units, upon receipt of a suspected communicable disease from the PIC, will forward a message to the ATS Unit serving the destination/departure aerodrome as promptly as possible.
4. When a report of a suspected communicable disease is received by Belize ATS Units from an aircraft inbound to Belize; or from another adjacent ATS Unit or Units; or from any aircraft; or an aircraft operator, the ATS Unit will forward this message as soon as possible to the public health authority, to the Director of Civil Aviation or his designated representative and the Belize Airport Concession Company Limited (BACC):.
5. The public health authority is expected to immediately contact the aircraft operator's representative to the operating agency and the BACC, if applicable, for subsequent coordination with the aircraft concerning clinical details and aerodrome preparation. Depending on the communication facilities available to the aircraft operator's representative or operating agency, it may not be possible to communicate with the aircraft until it is closer to the airport. Apart from the initial notification to the ATS Units whilst aircraft is en-route, ATC communications channels are to be avoided as far as is practicable.

6. All information will also be provided to the departure aerodrome, as it will prevent the potential spread of the communicable disease, or other public health risk, through other aircraft departing from the same aerodrome.
7. The method for transmitting all pertinent information related to suspected communicable disease will be done via the Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunication Network (Urgency message); telephone, facsimile or other available means

This information is aimed at improving the reliability of notification by the pilot in command.

All those concerned are therefore requested to comply with this Aeronautical Information Circular.

END