



## **SAFETY DECISION 2020-01**

**Issue 09**

**Date of Issue: March 24, 2020**

### **SUBJECT:**

FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS SARS-CoV-2

### **REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:**

N/A

### **APPLICABILITY:**

This Safety Decision applies to all aircraft operators conducting flights from/to the UAE.

This Safety Decision does not apply to:

- aircraft operated for the purpose of evacuation (this Safety Decision does not alleviate the need for obtaining necessary authorisation from UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation);
- UAE registered aircraft that are out of base on 24 March 2020 23:59 Local Time will be allowed to return to base carrying only UAE nationals and operator's crewmembers;
- domestic flights; and
- over-flights.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Following the global developments concerning the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2, also named 2019-nCoV) outbreak in the city of Wuhan, People's Republic of China (PRC), and based on the reports published by the WHO, and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the GCAA, in collaboration with the concerned entities including NCEMA, has decided to impose restrictions on flights from affected areas by SARS-CoV-2.

Note 1: On 12 February 2020, the novel coronavirus was renamed "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2" (SARS-CoV-2), while the disease associated with it is referred to as COVID-19.

This issue will supersede **ISSUE 06 on and after 24 March 2020 23:59 Local Time.**

This issue will **immediately** supersede **ISSUE 08** (flight restrictions will start on 24 March 2020 instead of 26 March 2020 and will be limited to 14 days). The UAE government is closely monitoring the situation and will provide further updates and instructions as necessary.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

From **24 March 2020 23:59 Local Time to 7 April 2020 23:59 Local Time (included)**, aircraft operating a scheduled or non-scheduled flight from/to the UAE shall meet the following conditions:

- Flight carrying passengers:**



- i. The flight is not permitted;
- b) **Flight carrying cargo only:**
  - i. The flight departs from an airport other than an airport located within (1) the **Province of Hubei in People's Republic of China** or (2) **Islamic Republic of Iran**;
  - ii. The flight is limited to crew and personnel required for the intended flight;
  - iii. All persons on-board are SARS-CoV-2 screened on arrival at the UAE airport, unless an alternative means has been accepted by the GCAA;
  - iv. The screening regime shall be as prescribed by the UAE Health Authority;
  - v. The destination airport is equipped to conduct the prescribed screening regime; and
  - vi. The operator has made the necessary pre-arrangement with the airport operator and screening provider.

**CONTACT:**

Further instructions or guidance may be obtained through:

- a) UAE operators: their principal flight operations inspectors;
- b) Foreign operators: Foreign Operators Affairs, at e-mail [foa@gcaa.gov.ae](mailto:foa@gcaa.gov.ae)