MONTRÉAL, 30 July 2014 – The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is continuing to collaborate with representatives of the UN World Health Organization (WHO) over the Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The number of individuals affected continues to grow and as of 23 July the WHO had confirmed 1201 cases, including 672 deaths.

Despite the increasing number of cases, the WHO recently reiterated its advice that it does not recommend any travel or trade restrictions be applied to Guinea, Liberia or Sierra Leone, based on current information.

The WHO, ICAO and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) considered passenger screening revisions to the WHO document on travel and transport in light of recent events. These are still being reviewed by the WHO, which was also intending to seek inputs from the World Tourism Organization and Airports Council International (ACI).

The Organization remains in contact with the WHO on potential efforts which may be required to facilitate repatriation flights, as well as matters relating to air ambulance services in the affected areas.

ICAO coordinates on related international public health issues through its CAPSCA¹ Programme, a global effort to improve preparedness planning and responses to public health events that affect the aviation sector.

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Resources for editors:
The ICAO CAPSCA Programme
WHO document on travel and transport

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¹ Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation
A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency, capacity and environmental protection, amongst many other priorities. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 191 Member States.

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