ICAO/CAPSCA Assistance Visit to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Int’l Airport
15-18 August, 2016

Presented to: CAPSCA/7 Americas By: Alex Naar
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Request to Host a CAPSCA Assistance Visit to a U.S. Airport

• U.S. DOT, FAA and CDC representatives participated in a September 2015 CAPSCA Americas meeting in Panama
  – CAPSCA Americas requested the U.S. host an airport Assistance Visit
  – Proposed timeframe: Spring/Summer 2016
  – CAPSCA Americas had not conducted a State Assistance Visit since 2013, in Haiti, and wanted to reinvigorate the program with a leading U.S. airport
  – Washington Dulles (KIAD) or Atlanta (KATL)
U.S.A Overview

- Population 320+ million
- 50 States plus territories
- 15,000 airfields/5200 paved
- 328 International Airports
- 900 million passengers/year (2015)
- FAA = 60,000 employees
- 19 airport based federal CDC Quarantine Stations
CDC Quarantine Stations
Assistance Visit Challenges

• United States does not “own” airports.
• Commercial airports are owned often by independent agencies at the city level.
• USA consists of fifty states which are in turn broken up into counties and then cities and towns.
• All emergencies are “local” emergencies.
  – Public health and safety authorities/ responsibilities from local level up.
• Use of the CAPSCA visit tool/checklist involved many agencies/organizations.
Challenges (continued)

• U.S. Public Health Policy is overseen by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
  – U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) part of HHS.

• National Preparedness Planning is led by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

• Coordination for Assistance Visit across multi-sector = multi department/agency
What about the FAA?

- FAA mission is to provide the safest, most efficient aerospace system in the world.
- Aero navigation services (ATC)
- National Airspace Security and Safety
- Airport Certification
- Flight Standards
- Aviation Safety
  - Certification of airframes and pilots and related equipment and services.
- No lead role in public health. (Support role)
Time for a Paradigm Shift?
Invitation Process

- CAPSCA asks US to invite CAPSCA
- FAA asks Washington Dulles (KIAD) to invite the U.S. Government to invite CAPSCA
- Response = NO
- Plan B (KATL)
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

- World’s Most Travelled Airport
- Five Runways
- Seven Terminals
  - 167 Domestic and 40 International gates
- 250,000+ passengers/day
- 101,500,000 passengers/year
- 2,700 arrivals/departures/day
- 741 international departures/week
- 4,700 acres (1,902 hectares)
Event Schedule

• Monday & Tuesday, 15 - 16 August
  – Visit to CDC HQ, Emory University Hospital,
    • WHO, CAPSCA Team, HHS, and FAA
    • Discussion of USA public health framework

• Wednesday, 17 August
  – Day One, Assistance Visit at ATL
    • Held at hotel, 100 participants

• Thursday, August 18
  – Day Two, Assistance Visit at ATL
    • Facility visit.
ICAO - CAPSCA Participants

• Dr. Ansa Jordaan
  – Chief, Aviation Medicine Section, ICAO

• Dr. José Valente Aguilar Zinser
  – Director Preventive Medicine, Transportation Sector, Mexico

• Dr. Anthony Evans
  – Aviation Medicine Expert, ICAO

• Jamie Calderon
  – ICAO Regional Officer, Aerodromes & Ground Aids
U.S. Government Participants

• Department of Transportation
  – Federal Aviation Administration
• Health and Human Services
  – Centers for Disease Control
  – Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (IHR Focal Point)
• Federal Emergency Management Agency
• Department of Homeland Security
  – Customs and Border Protection
• Washington, Regional and Local Offices
• **State of Georgia**  
  – Department of Public Health  
  – Fulton County  
  – Clayton County  

• **City of Atlanta**  
  – Mayor’s Office  
  – Airport General Manager  
  – Emergency Management  

• **Academic Research Project**  
  – Transportation Research Board
Airport Participants

- Airport Management
- Air Navigation Services Provider (FAA-ATC)
- Aircraft Operators (airlines)
- Quarantine Station Team (CDC)
- Security – Federal, State, Local
- Local Emergency Services Provider
  = People actually doing the job
- Customs and immigration
Logistics

• Dates, participants, agenda

• Foreign Visitor Clearances
  – DHS/CBP processing (FIS)
  – FAA clearance for Tower visit
  – CDC clearance for CDC/HQ visit

• Hotel
  – Atlanta Airport Marriott Gateway

• Transportation
  – USG two passenger vans (FAA), ATL Air Train

• Funding: ATL, CDC, and Agencies
Issues not covered

• No Exercise: Table top, functional
• CAPSCA Checklist review
  – Many Assistance Visit participants do not have working knowledge of ICAO Art. 14.
  – Checklist terminology not consistent with U.S. terminology.
• No examination of zoonotic aspect of communicable disease preparedness
Assistance Visit: Outcomes

• Accomplishments
  – CAPSCA team preliminary “thumbs up!”
  – KATL and all stakeholders well prepared to respond to communicable disease incident.
  – Relationships across sectors and local, state and federal levels affirmed and strengthened
    • Bringing people together
  – Checklist submission included over 30 reference documents: First time all looked at together.
Assistance Visit: Outcomes

• Gaps
  – No Exit Screening
  – National Aviation Plan for Communicable Diseases
  – Some unclear lines of responsibility at federal level
  – Need to link IHR engagement to CAPSCA efforts
    • Better efficiencies
  – Lack of separation of incoming and outgoing passengers
  – Lack of separation of domestic and international passengers.
**Assistance Visit Next Steps**

- Receive CAPSCA Assistance Visit report  
  - Meet in person with key stakeholders at KATL.
- Develop and coordinate inputs to CAPSCA State and Airport Assistance Visit Checklist
- Conduct periodic coordination meetings
- Adopt Assistance Visit format for internal USA use
- Document national framework bringing together existing aviation and airport emergency plans and national public health structures.
- Plan next CAPSCA Assistance Visit
“Of course I believe in teamwork. I believe your team should do all the work.”
It comes down to people

Recall the five C’s”

– Communication
– Comprehension
– Cooperation
– Coordination
– Collaboration
My belief is that communication is the best way to create strong relationships.

Jada Pinkett Smith