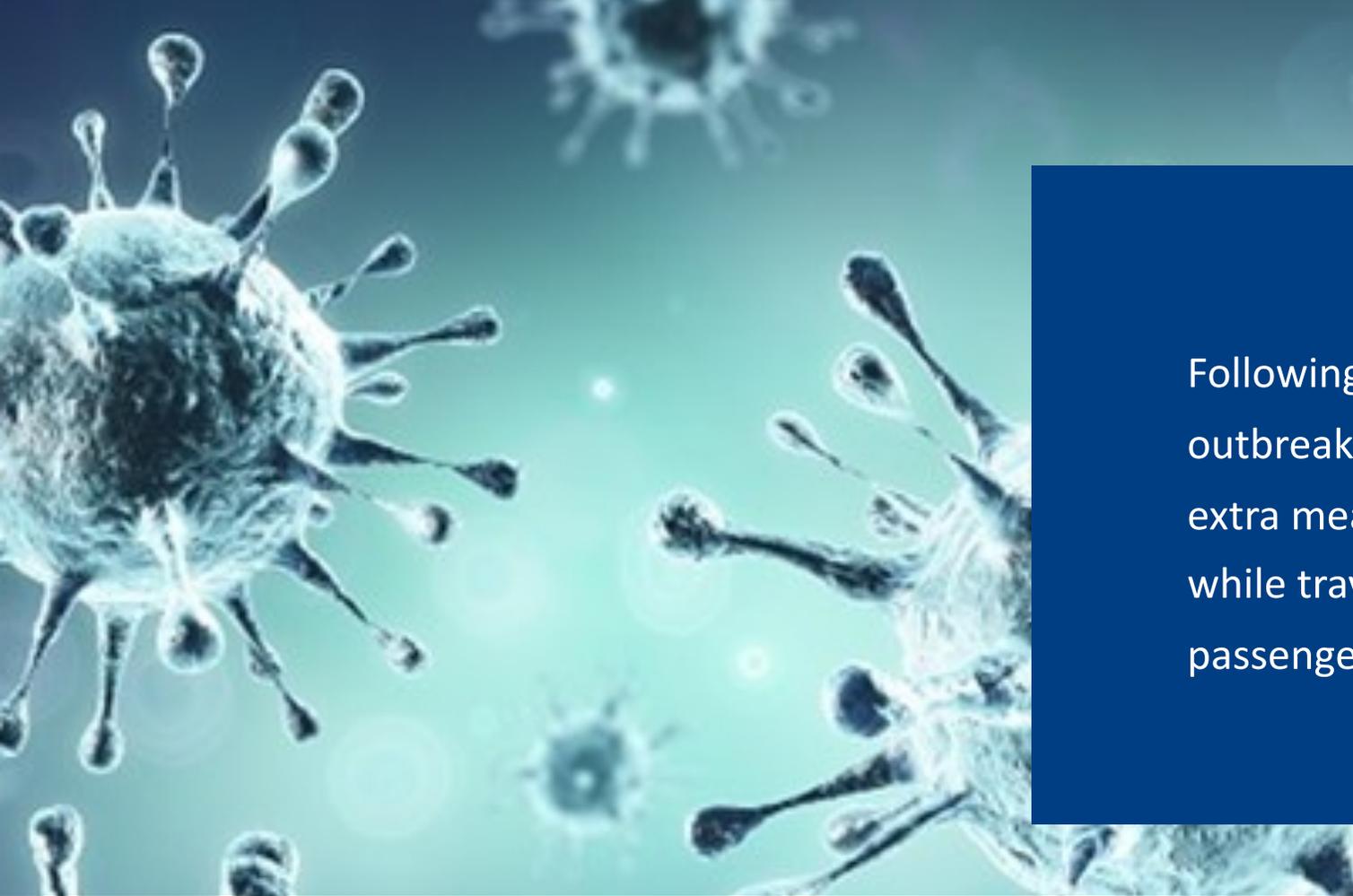




CORONAVIRUS

ONBOARD PRECAUTIONS

Cabin Cleaning
& Appearance
March 2020



Following the evolution of the novel Coronavirus outbreak, MEA has conducted a research about the extra measures to prevent the spread of the virus while traveling onboard its flights and protect its passengers and crew.

Recommendations for international traffic:

WHO continues to advise against the application of travel or trade restrictions to countries experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks. In general, evidence shows that restricting the movement of people and goods during public health emergencies is ineffective in most situations and may divert resources from other interventions. *(Updated WHO recommendations for international traffic in relation to COVID-19 outbreak Feb 29, 2020)*

MEA CLEANING PROGRAM

Transit cleaning

- Covering all basic cabin parts that the passenger is frequently touching: Tables, screens, armrest, windows, headrest covers replacement, carpet, lavatories, galley surfaces, NTF etc.

Night stop cleaning

- Mini deep cleaning

Deep cleaning

- Covering all parts of the cabin in details

ALL DETERGENTS USED WHILE CLEANING THE AIRCRAFT ARE APPROVED FOR AIRCRAFT USE.

IHR (International Health regulation):

If indications of a public health risk, including sources of infection and contamination, are found on board an international aircraft, the aircraft may be required to undergo health measures, such as disinfection, disinsection or decontamination, as appropriate, that are necessary to control risk and to prevent spread of disease (Article 27).

Centers for Disease Control (CDC): Aircraft Cleaning Procedure__Applied by MEA

If no symptomatic passengers onboard:

- Follow routine operating procedures for cleaning aircraft, and wear PPE (personal protective equipment).

If symptomatic passenger(s) onboard or immediately after the flight:

- Enhanced cleaning:
- Clean porous (soft) surfaces (e.g., cloth seats, cloth seat belts) at the seat of the symptomatic passenger(s) and within 6 feet (2 meters) of the symptomatic passenger(s) in all directions.
 - Clean surfaces by using cleaners and disinfectants (compatible with aircraft surfaces)
- Clean lavatories
- Properly dispose of any items that cannot be cleaned (e.g., pillows, passenger safety placards, and other similar items as described below).
- For items that can be laundered (blankets, pillow covers..), use the warm setting and dry items completely on high heat.

Recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during Enhanced Cleaning (if symptomatic passengers are identified) :

Disposable gloves

Disposable gowns

If splashing is possible, eye protection, such as a faceshield or goggles and facemask General Recommendations

During the Enhanced Cleaning Process:

Cleaning staff should dispose of PPE and other disposable items used in cleaning following the airline's routine procedures.

World Health Organization WHO

“Disinfection is normally undertaken on an infrequent basis, during periodic maintenance checks or after a public health event, such as the suspected carriage of an infectious passenger.” *Guide to Hygiene and Sanitation in Aviation, WHO.* **MEA is following a disinfection program and is as well disinfection all aircraft carrying a suspected passenger**

Standard disinfection procedures **Applied by MEA**

- Put on protective gloves.
- Wear eye protection if a danger from splashing exists.
- The following surfaces should be cleaned and then disinfected at the seat of the suspected case(s), adjacent seat(s) in the same row, adjacent row(s) and other areas such as seat areas and lavatories.
- Clean the area of soil (remove solids and soak up liquid waste). Apply the disinfectant according to procedures approved by the original equipment manufacturer. Use a suitable disinfectant. Ethanol has been found to be an effective and suitable disinfectant for aircraft.

Personal protective equipment **Applied by MEA**

Those responsible for cleaning up potentially infectious materials should protect themselves with appropriate PPE:

Gloves

Protective clothing

WHO- Recommendation for cabin crew when onboard an aircraft with suspected passenger

In the event of a respiratory illness en route, the following immediate steps may be taken to reduce exposure and limit transmission to other passengers or aircraft crew:

- Designate one dedicated cabin crew member to look after the ill traveler **__All MEA crew are trained to such cases**
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when dealing with symptomatic patients (medical or surgical mask, hand hygiene, gloves) **__MEA fleet is equipped with PPE and the crew is trained to use it**
- The adjacent seat(s) of the patient should be left unoccupied, if feasible **__In such cases the passenger is isolated onboard**
- Passengers seated in the close vicinity should have their information on itinerary and contact details recorded for further follow up, as potential contacts, using a Passenger Locator Form³. This information may be collected on a voluntary basis for the remaining passengers **__MEA Beirut Duty Station Manager (DSM) informs the ministry of health**
- The patient on the aircraft should adhere to respiratory/cough etiquette either by wearing a medical or surgical mask (if available and tolerated) or the patient could contain his cough or sneeze by using disposable tissue. **__Passenger is advised by the crew**
- Practice hand hygiene (hand washing or hand rub) **__MEA fleet is equipped with hand sanitizers**
- Handle any blankets, trays or other personal products used by the patient with respiratory symptoms carefully **__MEA does not keep any of these items after a suspected passenger is onboard**
- In case of presence of spills (vomits, blood spills, secretions or others), practice environmental cleaning and spills-management **__A cleaning kit is available onboard**
- Notify the health authority at the point of arrival. **__MEA DSM notifies the health authority**
- Ensure the flight crew maintain continuous operation of the aircraft's air recirculation system (HEPA filters) **__All MEA fleet is equipped with HEPA filter that are continuously in operation**

European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)

Ref. to SD No.: 2020-02 issued 13 March 2020:

Subject: Operational measures to prevent the spread of Coronavirus `SARS-CoV-2` infection for TCO (third country operators)

- TCO should Clean and fully disinfect the aircraft after each flight coming from an airport located in an affected area (China, South Korea & Iran) with high risk of transmission of the CoViD-19 infection.__(**Not applicable to Lebanon, however MEA is implementing a disinfection program**)
- The TCO may implement different disinfection frequency based on a risk assessment which takes into account the operational circumstances and the duration of the disinfecting effects of the substance used. In such a case, the operator shall ensure that the aircraft is fully cleaned and disinfected not later than 24 hours after the departure from an airport located in an affected area with high risk of transmission of the CoViD-19 infection.__(**Not applicable to Lebanon, however MEA is implementing a disinfection program**)
- Equip the aircraft with one or more Universal Precaution Kits. Such kits shall be used to protect crew members who are assisting potentially infectious cases of suspected CoViD-19 and in cleaning up and correctly discarding any potentially infectious contents.__(**Not Applicable to MEA, however all MEA aircraft are equipped with universal precaution kits**)

Extra measures following the Coronavirus outbreak

MEA has taken the following actions to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

- All Libanet (cleaning services) personnel are wearing new disposable rubber gloves when cleaning each aircraft and are conducting hand sanitizing after wearing out the gloves and moving to a new aircraft.
- All Libanet personnel are wearing medical protective masks.
- Libanet personnel are using disinfectants while cleaning the cabin, the galleys and the lavatories:
 - RhobaAIR Aerclean cab: highly effective and safe special cleaning and disinfecting concentrate for the whole aircraft interior, biodegradable.

IF NO SUSPECTED CASE ONBOARD

MEA Disinfection program

MEA fleet is being frequently disinfected

Procedure: Following World Health Organization (WHO) requirements

Product used: Callington KI-OSE

⚠️ HEPA filters:

MEA fleet is equipped with HEPA (High-Efficiency-Particulate Arrestors) filters. HEPA have been shown in tests to provide air that meets the standards set for hospital operating theatres.

Airbus considers that the HEPA air recirculation filters capture viruses such as the MERS (Corona virus) and COVID-19 (Wuhan) Corona virus with extremely high efficiency.





Disinfection onboard MEA aircraft

Disinfection

IF SUSPECTED CASES ONBOARD

- After disembarking, staff is not allowed to enter the aircraft except the disinfection team.
- All blankets, pillows, pillow covers, magazine and headrest covers are thrown away and replaced.
- The whole aircraft is disinfected, extra attention is paid to the row where the suspected passenger was sitting and its surroundings.
- After cleaning and disinfection, the aircraft is closed for one hour.
- Disinfection team should be equipped with PPE.

IF SUSPECTED CASES ONBOARD

MEA Crew

MEA crew are being followed by their head of departments and are being isolated until the coronavirus test results of the suspected passenger are out. The crew will as well conduct the coronavirus test.

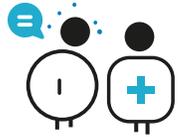
The crew is allowed to wear Protective masks and gloves when needed or when there is a suspected case onboard and take necessary action (isolation of suspected case, provision of protective mask and gloves...). MEA cabin crew showed high professionalism when treating the previous suspected cases. More trainings for the cabin are being provided to maintain this level of professionalism.



Coronavirus

Before or during a flight

- **Do not fly** if you have a fever, cough, cold, difficulty breathing or flu-like symptoms



- **Share** your travel history with your health care providers



- If you feel ill while travelling, **inform** crew and seek medical care ASAP



Food safety

- **Avoid** eating **raw or undercooked** animal products (meat, milk, etc.)
- **Wash your hands** every time you handle food

Protect Yourself and Others from illness while flying – reduce the risk

- Clean hands **frequently** and well with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water



- **Avoid** close contact with others who have a fever, cough, cold, difficulty breathing or flu-like symptoms

- When coughing and sneezing, **cover mouth and nose** with flexed elbow or tissue – **dispose** of tissue **immediately** and wash hands



- Avoid **touching** eyes, nose or mouth

IF A PASSENGER...

A. shows signs of being ill



- Make use of **protective equipment** (single use gloves and mask) when in contact with passengers exhibiting symptoms of an acute respiratory infection (cough, frequent sneezing, runny nose, sore throat, difficulty breathing)

- Use **gloves** when handling items such as used napkins, glasses and food trays.



B. is confirmed ill the crew should:



- Use the health part of the aircraft general declaration to **register the health information on-board** and submit it to the Point of Entry health authorities when required by a State's representative;

- Ask passengers to complete **passenger locator card forms** to identify where in the aircraft the passenger is seated along with information regarding their immediate travel plans and contact details*



- Recommend to passengers to **self-report** if feeling ill as described above;

*The information is for authorised public health purposes according to law.

A passenger locator form can be downloaded at:
www.who.int/ihr/ports_airports/locator_card/en/

