

**ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES
RESOLUTION NO. 7
Series of 2014**

A RESOLUTION ON HEALTH PANDEMICS

The AAPA ASSEMBLY OF PRESIDENTS, in its 58th meeting duly assembled,

RECOGNISING THAT:

- I. Health-related crises can have detrimental economic and social impacts on all sectors of a country's economy, particularly travel-related industries including airlines, airports, hotels, restaurants, retailers, travel agencies and tourist sites;
- II. Reactive public policy actions in response to health pandemic threats can have a very high economic and social cost disproportionate to any public health benefit;
- III. The current outbreak of the Ebola virus has again demonstrated the need to manage both the direct and indirect consequences of a health pandemic;
- IV. Aviation plays a positive role in supporting humanitarian assistance and medical emergency response efforts worldwide;

NOTING THAT:

- V. The World Health Organisation (WHO) is the globally recognised United Nations body that works closely with national health authorities to design and implement strategies for early detection and containment of new diseases, and the coordination of any global health initiatives;
- VI. In response to the recent Ebola virus outbreak, the WHO has recommended that there should be no general ban on international travel or trade; and that a general travel ban is likely to cause economic hardship, and could even increase the uncontrolled migration of people from affected countries;
- VII. Contrary to WHO recommendations to focus on containing the disease at source, several countries have nevertheless imposed such measures to attempt to limit the spread of Ebola to their shores, such as flight bans, and the introduction of

more onerous visa requirements or restrictions of visa applications by nationals from Ebola-affected countries;

BELIEVING THAT:

- VIII. Government authorities and the travel industry should cooperate closely and play a responsible role in responding effectively to any health-related crises;
- IX. The public has every right to be properly informed of potential health risks;

RESOLVES:

- X. TO CALL on governments and health authorities to collaborate and coordinate with WHO and other governments in managing the potential impact of health pandemics by focusing collective efforts and resources on fighting the spread of the disease at its source, and by properly informing and educating the general public;
- XI. TO CALL on governments and health authorities to coordinate contingency planning measures whilst avoiding measures that would have disproportionate collateral impacts compared to the actual risk level;
- XII. TO CALL on governments and health authorities to be aware of the implications when issuing travel advisories and to avoid adopting measures which have the potential to cause needless disruption to normal economic and social activities.

APPROVED this 19th day of November 2014.

Certified correct:

Attested by:

ANDREW HERDMAN
Director General

OSAMU SHINOBE
AAPA Chairman – 2014