



**STATES RESPONSE TO ICAO STATE LETTER Ref.: EC 6/3 – 20/55**

**15 April 2020**

**Subject:** Speedy authorization of “repatriation flights” during the COVID-19 pandemic period

**Action required:** a) Note the information; b) Expedite the approval process of “repatriation flights” as requested in paragraph 4.

STATE LETTER REQUIREMENT	ANNEX/STANDARDS REFERENCE	CASSOA GUIDANCE	STATE’S STATUS
a) Note the information	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ensure that necessary authorizations for the entry, departure and transit of aircraft carrying out such “repatriation flights” are granted expeditiously.</li> <li>✓ As regards “repatriation flights” carried out on a commercial basis, States are reminded of their obligation under Article 5 of the <i>Convention on International Civil Aviation</i> (Chicago Convention) of 1944 on privilege of foreign aircraft engaged in non-</li> </ul>	<b>No Action Required</b>

		<p>scheduled commercial flights to carry passengers to/from their territories, subject to conditions imposed by States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ States are encouraged to review their authorization procedures with a view to granting speedy approval to such “repatriation flights,” in line with the relevant provisions relating to international non-scheduled flights found in Section F of Chapter 2 to Annex 9 – Facilitation to the Chicago Convention.</li><li>✓ States are invited to facilitate the operations of all designated “repatriation flights” during the COVID-19 pandemic by reviewing their authorization procedures and exercising flexibility in their approaches for granting all necessary authorizations for the entry, departure and transit of aircraft carrying out such operations whether by State aircraft,</li></ul>	
--	--	--	--

		humanitarian flights or chartered commercial flights.	
b) Expedite the approval process of “repatriation flights” as requested in paragraph 4.	<b>Annex 9-Std. 8.8</b> Contracting States shall facilitate the entry into, departure from and transit through their territories of aircraft engaged in relief flights performed by or on behalf of international organizations recognized by the UN or by or on behalf of States themselves and shall take all possible measures to ensure their safe operation. Such relief flights are those undertaken in response to natural and man-made disasters which seriously endanger human health or the environment, as well as similar emergency situations where UN assistance is required. Such flights shall be commenced as quickly as possible after obtaining agreement with the recipient State.	<p>✓ States urged to facilitate the operations of all designated “repatriation flights” during the COVID-19 pandemic by reviewing their authorization procedures and exercising flexibility in their approaches for granting all necessary authorizations for the entry, departure and transit of aircraft carrying out such operations whether by State aircraft, humanitarian flights or chartered commercial flights.</p> <p>✓ Review the existing authorization procedures and bring about more flexibility to allow operations of such flights.</p>	
<b>THE END</b>			