



SAFETY DECISION 2020-13

Issue 1

Date of Issue: April 18, 2020

SUBJECT:

NON-ESSENTIAL DOMESTIC FLIGHTS

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

N/A

APPLICABILITY:

Notwithstanding SAFETY DECISION 2020-01, this Safety Decision applies to all aircraft operators (e.g. helicopter operators, LSA operators, flying schools, etc...) conducting domestic flights within the UAE for commercial and non-commercial purposes.

INTRODUCTION:

Following the global developments concerning the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2, also named 2019-nCoV) outbreak, the GCAA, in collaboration with the concerned entities including NCEMA, has decided to impose restrictions on flights from affected areas by SARS-CoV-2 (refer to SAFETY DECISION 2020-01).

This SAFETY DECISION is issued to impose additional requirements on domestic air traffic to help stem the growth of the deadly coronavirus.

REQUIREMENTS:

- a) With **immediate effect** and **until further notice**, aircraft operators shall stop conducting domestic flights, unless the flight is essential.
- b) A flight is essential when the flight is required for the purpose of:
 - i) conducting/completing a maintenance activity;
 - ii) ferrying an aircraft;
 - iii) maintaining flight crew's recent experience or competency;
 - iv) transporting passengers from A to B;
 - v) providing medical support.
- c) Any other flight, such as recreational or leisure flight, shall be deemed non-essential unless re-classified by the GCAA.
- d) When an essential flight is conducted, persons on board shall:
 - i) Have their body temperature measured prior to the flight (if more than 37.3C, boarding shall not be allowed);
 - ii) respect the principle of physical distancing as much as practical (persons other than crew shall be minimized); and
 - iii) wear an appropriate mask prior to boarding. Flight crew shall not wear masks if masks can compromise flight safety.
- e) Prior to any flight, aircraft shall be cleaned and disinfected to avoid cross-transmission.

CONTACT:

Further instructions or guidance may be obtained through principal flight operations inspectors.