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Security & Facilitation

**75**  
YEAR ANNIVERSARY  
OF ANNEX 9  
FACILITATION

2024 YEAR OF  
**FACILITATION**

**FACILITATION GLOBAL SUMMIT**  
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الهيئة العامة للطيران المدني  
General Authority of Civil Aviation

Past, Present, Future: 75 Years of Enabling Air Transport

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## Implementation of IHR (2005) in International Airports

- **Saudi Arabia is implementing IHR capacities in 15 international airports**
- **Routine capacities at international airports include:**
  - Assessment of ill travelers and facilitating access to healthcare
  - Monitor compliance of aircraft operators with disinsection requirements
  - Ensure safe environment within airports, including water sources, food and beverage facilities, and safe disposal of waste
  - Vector surveillance in airports and conducting control measures
  - Mechanism for notification and assessment of public health threats
- **Capacities for preparedness and response for health emergencies:**
  - Visual and thermal triage of travelers
  - Assessment, isolation, and safe transfer for suspected travelers
  - Airport public health emergency plan

## COVID-19 and Public Health Management in Air Transport

### Challenges:

- Air transport is an essential industry
- Variation in travel health requirements
- Validation of health documents
- Cross- border contact tracing
- Limited experience on managing public health events in small airports

### Lessons learned:

- Expand airport capacities to manage public health events
- Supportive equipment at airport for detection, isolation, and transport of suspected travelers
- Improved multisectoral coordination for preparedness and response
- Assigned spaces for handling flights arriving from high risk areas

## Public Health Measures in Hajj and Umrah

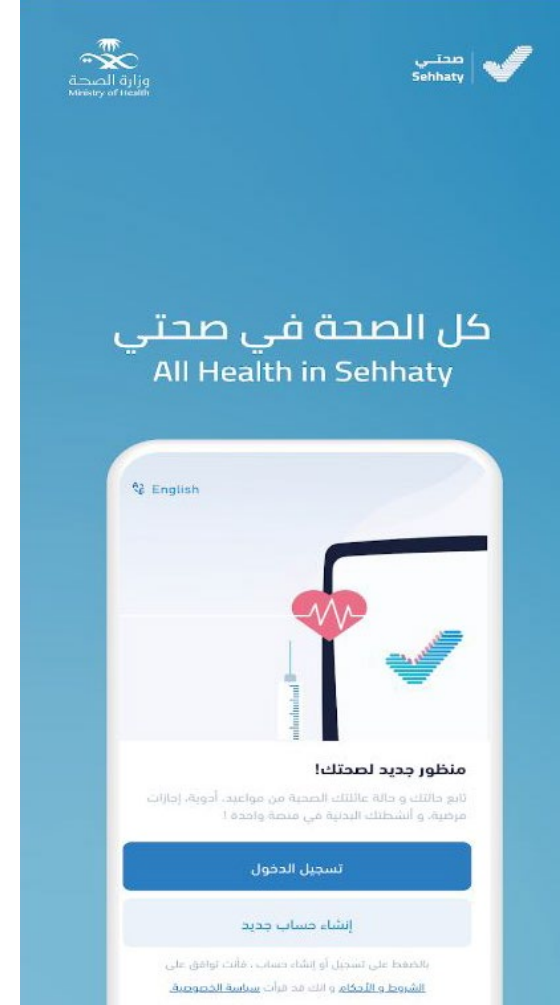
- **Air travel accounts for ~95% of pilgrims arriving to Saudi Arabia**
- **Health requirements for Hajj and Umrah:**
  - Purpose for the protection of travelers, residents, mass gathering and global health security
  - Based on risk assessment of global epidemiologic situation
  - Include required and recommended vaccinations
  - Circulated to stakeholders, including GACA and airlines
- **Preventive measures at airport:**
  - Monitor compliance with health requirements
  - Apply additional measures (booster vaccine, chemoprophylaxis) for target groups
  - Health awareness and education
  - Airport public health emergency plan



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## Modernizing Approach to Public Health Measures

- Expanded collaborations with local and international partners
- Pre-arrival assessment of pilgrims' health status
- Digital data on medical conditions, vaccine records, medication use



- Improved pilgrims experience
- Developed planning and preparedness
- Refined utilization of resources and manpower
- Excellence in access and quality of healthcare services



## Modernizing Approach to Public Health Measures



برنامج خدمة  
ضيوف الرحمن



- Processing pilgrims at departure
- Government commitment to provide vaccine and preventive measures
- Seamless journey from aircraft to accommodation
- Based on bilateral agreements

- Accreditation of medical centers in pilgrims countries
- Development of digital platform
- Pre-departure visit to record: medical conditions - medication use - vaccinations
- Aiming to cover +80% of pilgrims

- Other initiatives:
- International patient summary (WHO)
  - Self-recording of health information (Ministry of Hajj and Umrah)

# Thank You

