

Unofficial Translation for Reference Only

CAAC Notice on Trial Implementation of Adjusting the Circuit Breaker Measures for Scheduled International Passenger Flights

April 28, 2021

To All Transport Airlines:

To better meet the requirements for regular COVID-19 prevention and control, and to facilitate airlines' capacity deployment and passengers' travel arrangement on the premise that prevention and control measures having equal effectiveness, also as required by the Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism of the State Council, an adjustment is hereby made to the "circuit breaker measures" concerning scheduled international passenger flights as prescribed in paragraph 7.3 of *CAAC Notice on Adjustments to International Passenger Flights* (No. 27 [2020] by CAAC), which is changed to "measures of circuit breaker or limiting passenger load factor (PLF) operation". The details are as follows:

1. If 5 to 9 passengers from any single inbound flight operated by an airline are diagnosed as confirmed cases, the airline may choose at its own discretion one of the following two operation restriction measures:

1.1 Circuit breaker measures: the flight in question shall be suspended for 2-week operation starting from the fourth week of its entry into China, and its incentive flight shall be canceled;

1.2 Measures of limiting PLF operation: the flight in question shall be imposed a 4-week PLF limit of no higher than 40% on its operation starting from the fourth week of its entry into China, and its incentive flight shall be canceled.

2. If 10 or over 10 passengers from any single inbound flight operated by an airline are diagnosed as confirmed cases, the flight in question shall be suspended for 4-week operation starting from the fourth week of its entry into China, and its incentive flight shall be canceled. If 10 or over 10 passengers from two consecutive flights operated by an airline are diagnosed as confirmed cases, circuit breaker measures shall be

implemented immediately, and the flight's operation shall be suspended for a total of 8 weeks accumulatively.

3. If 30 or over 30 passengers from any single inbound flight operated by an airline are diagnosed as confirmed cases, circuit breaker measures shall be implemented immediately, and the flight's operation shall be suspended for 4 weeks.

4. Relevant requirements and instructions are as follows:

4.1 After an airline starting operation with limited PLF, if the same subsequent inbound flight triggers circuit breaker once again, fast circuit breaker measures shall be implemented. That is, if 5 to 9 passengers are diagnosed as confirmed cases, operation of the flight in question shall be suspended for 2 weeks starting from the third week; if 10 or over 10 passengers are diagnosed as confirmed cases, operation of the flight in question shall be immediately suspended for 4 weeks.

4.2 After an airline starting operation with limited PLF, if the same subsequent inbound flight triggers circuit breaker once again, the airline shall no longer have the right to choose measures of limiting PLF operation for three months starting from the entry date of the flight in question.

4.3 Before an airline starting operation with limited PLF, if the same subsequent inbound flight triggers circuit breaker once again, the flight shall be suspended for a period which shall be a sum of the suspension time of the two flights having triggered circuit breaker. Flights having been operated with limited PLF shall not be calculated into the suspension period.

4.4 If 5 to 9 passengers from any single inbound flight operated by an airline are diagnosed as confirmed cases, the airline shall make an irrevocable choice within 24 hours after receiving CAAC's notification as per the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Notice. In case of failure to provide feedback within the time limit, the circuit breaker measures in paragraph 1.1 shall apply.

4.5 CAAC will reinforce monitoring of flights operated with limited PLF. If a flight is found to have operated at a PLF higher than that prescribed in this Notice, it shall be suspended for 2 weeks immediately, and the airline's right to choose measures of limiting PLF operation shall be abrogated.

4.6 After the period of flight suspension or limiting PLF operation, the flight in question shall be operated at a PLF no higher than 75%. If a flight brings in zero confirmed case for 3 consecutive weeks, the 75% PLF limit will be lifted and the airline may apply for incentive flight in accordance with relevant procedures. If however, the

flight in question is identified as a high-risk one according to the *Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidelines for Airlines* it shall continue to be operated at a PLF no higher than 75%.

4.7 The number of passengers diagnosed as confirmed cases refers to the sum of confirmed and asymptomatic COVID-19 cases brought in by any single inbound flight on the day of its landing in China as well as within the subsequent 7 days, as announced by the national health authority.

4.8 The week of the flight's entry into China is considered as the first week.

This Notice shall apply, on a trial basis, to scheduled international passenger flights landing in China after 00:00 on May 1st, 2021, and the *CAAC Notice on the Adjustment of the Circuit Breaker Measures for International Passenger Flights* (No. 60 [2020] by CAAC) shall be annulled at the same time.

Civil Aviation Administration of China