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## **ASCENSION ISLAND**

## PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE CAP A22

## VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of section 9(1) of the Public Health Ordinance Cap A22, I, Mark Capes, the Governor of Ascension Island, hereby declare that Part III of the Public Health Ordinance Cap A22 shall apply to all infectious diseases known as viral haemorrhagic fevers with effect from 29 October 2014.

Dated this 29th day of October 2014.

Mark Capes Governor of Ascension Island

Explanatory Note (This note does not form part of the Order)

The current Ebola Virus epidemic in Western Africa has the potential to spread into the wider international community. This order ensures that the Ebola virus as a viral haemorrhagic fever falls within the scope of the Public Health Ordinance governing infectious disease. Viral haemorrhagic fever is a general term for a severe illness, sometimes associated with bleeding, that may be caused by a number of viruses that are considered to be highly infectious. In addition to the Ebola Virus the term is usually applied to disease caused by *Arenaviridae* (Lassa fever, Junin and Machupo), *Bunyaviridae* (Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever, Rift Valley Fever, Hantaan haemorrhagic fevers), *Filoviridae* (Ebola and Marburg) and *Flaviviridae* (yellow fever, dengue, Omsk haemorrhagic fever, Kyasanur forest disease).