



# DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE ON A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR AVIATION SAFETY

Montréal, 20 to 22 March 2006

## DECLARATION

*Whereas* the Convention on International Civil Aviation and its Annexes provide the essential framework required to meet the safety needs of a global aviation system;

*Whereas* the Directors General of Civil Aviation have a collective responsibility for international civil aviation safety;

*Recognizing* that the safety framework must be fully utilized by all stakeholders and continuously evolve to ensure its sustained effectiveness and efficiency in the changing regulatory, economic and technical environment of the 21st century;

*Recalling* that transparency and sharing of safety information are fundamental tenets of a safe air transportation system;

*Recalling* that recognition as valid of certificates and licences of other States is governed by Article 33 of the Convention and applicable Standards;

*Recalling* the role of ICAO in the settlement of disputes;

*Recognizing* that mutual trust between States as well as public confidence in the safety of air transportation is contingent upon access to adequate safety information;

*Recognizing* that safety is a shared responsibility, and advancements in global safety can only be possible through the leadership of ICAO, and a cooperative, collaborative and coordinated effort among all stakeholders; and

*Recognizing* that further improvements in aviation safety within and among States require a cooperative and proactive approach in which safety risks are identified and managed;

*The Directors General of Civil Aviation:*

1. *Commit* to reinforce the global aviation safety framework by:
  - a) sharing as soon as possible appropriate safety-related information among States, all other aviation stakeholders and the public, including the disclosure of information on the results of their safety oversight audit as soon as possible and, in any case, not later than 23 March 2008;
  - b) exercising safety oversight of their operators in full compliance with applicable SARPs, assuring themselves that foreign operators flying in their territory receive adequate oversight from their own State and taking appropriate action when necessary to preserve safety;

- c) expeditiously implementing safety management systems across the aviation industry to complement the existing regulatory framework;
- d) developing sustainable safety solutions, including the formation or strengthening of regional and sub-regional safety oversight organizations and initiatives; and
- e) promoting a just culture;

*The Conference:*

2. *Calls upon* States to base the recognition as valid of certificates and licences of other States exclusively on safety considerations and not for the purpose of gaining economic advantage;

3. *Calls upon* States, ICAO, industry, and donor organizations to direct resources towards the establishment of sustainable safety oversight solutions;

4 *Calls upon* States, ICAO and industry to support the coordinated implementation of safety management systems;

5. *Calls upon* ICAO to:

- a) develop and actively support information exchange mechanisms that allow for an unrestricted flow of safety information between all aviation stakeholders;
- b) develop by June 2006 a strategy to communicate safety information effectively to the public;
- c) develop a mechanism under Article 21 of the Convention to make available aircraft registration and operator information;
- d) develop guidelines and procedures to verify the conditions for recognition as valid of certificates and licences, in keeping with Article 33 of the Convention; and
- e) study the development of a new Annex on safety oversight, safety assessment and safety management;

6. *Calls upon* States to demonstrate the political will to address aviation safety shortcomings, this includes the establishment, where necessary, of an autonomous Civil Aviation Authority which is empowered and adequately funded to provide effective safety oversight; and

7. *Calls upon* States and industry to closely coordinate with ICAO their safety initiatives to ensure optimum benefits to global aviation safety and to reduce duplication in effort.