

Agenda item 3: Review of comments from States on the
draft ICAO position for the
ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2000;
(PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARIAT)

TEL.: (514) 954-6714

Ref.: E 3/5-98/98

31 December 1998

Subject: ICAO position on areas of critical concern to international civil aviation to be discussed at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference (2000) (WRC-2000)

Action required: a) Comments to reach Montreal by 31 March 1999; b) to implement Assembly Resolution A32-13

Sir/Madam,

1. I have the honour to inform you that the Air Navigation Commission at the ninth meeting of its 149th Session, held on 1 December 1998, considered proposals on the ICAO position relating to the forthcoming International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference (2000) (WRC-2000). The Air Navigation Commission undertook a preliminary review of the proposed ICAO position, which had been developed by the Secretariat with the assistance of the Aeronautical Mobile Communications Panel (AMCP). This proposed ICAO position is contained in Attachment A.

2. The Air Navigation Commission agreed that the draft ICAO position for WRC-2000 be submitted to all ICAO Contracting States and relevant international organizations for comment and use in preparation for the Conference. The Commission will undertake a final review in 1999 of the ICAO position, in light of the comments received, and will make its recommendations on the subject to Council in Spring 1999. Following approval by Council, the ICAO position for the WRC-2000 will be dispatched to all Contracting States and relevant international organizations and submitted to the ITU WRC-2000.

3. The continuing development of proposals by mobile satellite service (MSS) operators to introduce the sharing of frequency bands used by civil aviation with non-aeronautical services is a source of concern to aviation. In particular, the continuing availability of spectrum for the global navigation satellite system (GNSS), GNSS augmentation and satellite communications is a matter that requires active support from States at the WRC-2000.

4. The 32nd Session of the ICAO Assembly recognized the need for increased support to the ICAO position at ITU WRCs and adopted Resolution A32-13 ? Support of the ICAO policy on radio

frequency spectrum matters. The text of this resolution is reproduced in Attachment B to this letter, and Contracting States and international organizations are invited to implement it.

5. It is of utmost importance to aviation that the material contained in Attachment A be considered for incorporation into the proposals of your State to the ITU. This support is indispensable to ensure that the aviation interests are safeguarded when the ITU Radio Regulations are amended. In addition, your active support in the upcoming meetings of the ITU Radiocommunication Sector, which is undertaking a variety of technical studies relevant to the work of the WRC-2000, will contribute significantly towards the realization of aviation interests.

6. With a view to increasing the awareness of and support for the aviation requirements at the ITU WRC-2000, the Air Navigation Commission requested me to involve the regional offices of ICAO and to present the proposed ICAO position to the regional air navigation meetings, meetings of the directors general of civil aviation, and the regional planning groups. The Air Navigation Commission also agreed that the support from international organizations involved in aviation could provide the necessary source of support to the ICAO position, both at a national level during the national preparatory activities for developing proposals for the Conference as well as at an international level, and in particular at the Conference and the ITU preparatory activities in Study Groups 4 and 8.

7. ICAO will undertake, wherever possible, to present the ICAO position to regional telecommunication organizations, such as the Conferencia Interamericana de Telecomunicaciones (CITEL), the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT), the Conférence Européenne des Administrations des Postes et des Télécommunications (CEPT) and the Union Panafricaine des Télécommunications (UPAT). The active participation of aeronautical experts from ICAO Contracting States in support of this activity is required.

8. May I request that any comments you may wish to make on the attached draft ICAO position for the WRC-2000 be dispatched to reach me not later than 31 March 1999. The Air Navigation Commission has asked me to specifically indicate that comments received after the due date may not be considered by the Commission and the Council. In this connection, should you anticipate a delay in the receipt of your reply, please let me know in advance of the due date.

9. The subsequent work of the Air Navigation Commission and the Council would be greatly facilitated by specific comments on the proposed ICAO position. In case you have no comments on the proposed ICAO position, your indication of support would be appreciated.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

R.C. Costa Pereira
Secretary General

Enclosures:

- Attachment A ? Proposed ICAO position for the
ITU WRC-2000
- Attachment B ? Resolution A32-13