



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/25)

7 - 11 November 2022

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including the priorities set in the regional air navigation plan

3.6 Other Air Navigation Initiatives

OVFC (Overflight) Permission Processing Fees & Charges

(Presented by IATA)

SUMMARY	
This paper highlights the concerns on the fees and charges levied on overflight by most States in the region and calls on the meeting to consider the recommendations made as a way forward to avoid duplication of charges on the operators.	
Action by the meeting is as per paragraph 3 of this paper	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	D – Economic Development B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Over Flight (OVFC) fees and charges are being implemented by States contrary to Article 15 of the Chicago Convention, and the ICAO recommended policies and principles on user charges principle. The lack of or weak Regulatory Frameworks on Economic Regulation in the Region has compounded the proliferation of OVFC charges/fees. APIRG 24 Conclusion 24/25 called on States to adhere to ICAO User Charges principles and policies, and to remove such charges, to avoid duplication of charges for operators.

1.2 States continue to charge administrative fees for the processing of Overflight (OVFC) Permissions.

1.3 Some States have even made it mandatory for the use of third party agents to process OVFC permissions on behalf of airlines, which is a still a method of charging fees for OVFC.

1.4 OVFC processing fees and charges have been implemented without any regulation, consultation, justification or due process.

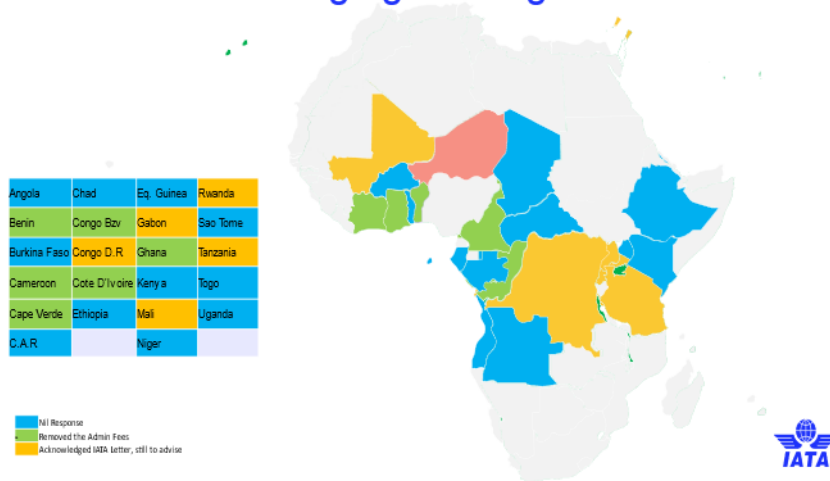
1.5 There are cases whereby airlines have been forced to avoid certain Flight Information Regions (FIRs) due to OVFC charges resulting into increased fuel burn, flight time, and CO2 emissions with negative impact to the environment.

1. DISCUSSION

1.1 The importance of continued financial and regulatory support for African airlines to enable sustained long-term recovery needs to be underpinned by lowering levels of taxes, charges, and fees.

- 1.2 ICAO policies and principles on user charges have been established to ensure transparency and a proper role for customers in the decision-making process on infrastructure investment and charges.
- 1.3 There is a need for vibrant collaboration and partnerships on user charges that support mutually beneficial outcomes for operators and States while enhancing the passenger's experience and ensuring the sustainability of aviation in the Africa region.
- 1.4 Status of OVFC charges in the region:

AFI States Charging Overflight Admin Fees



3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to take note of the content of this working paper; :
 - a. Urge States that have not complied with Article 15 of the Chicago convention regarding the imposition of OVFC permission fees and charges as per Conclusion 24/25 to do so by February 28, 2023; and
 - b. Urge States that have instituted mandatory third party agents to obtain OVFC permission on behalf of airlines, thereby effectively charging administration fees, to remove such mandates by February 28, 2023.