



DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION - EUR/NAT REGIONS

2019 MEETING (EURNAT-DGCA/2019)

(Paris, France, 19 to 20 March 2019)

Agenda Item 5: ICAO Business Plan and EUR/NAT Operating Plans for 2020-2022, including priorities for the ICAO EUR/NAT Regions

iii. Environmental Protection

ICAO ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

(Presented by ICAO Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides information on the status of implementation of the ICAO EUR/NAT Operating Plan for 2017-2019 and activities related to Assembly Resolutions A39-1, A39-2 and A39-3 on Environmental Protection in the EUR and NAT Regions specifically on States Action Plan Initiatives, CORSIA as well as environmental capacity building activities to further support States. The paper also provides the EUR/NAT Operating Plan 2020-2022 in the Environment area for the endorsement by the Meeting.

1. Introduction

1.1 The ICAO EURNAT-DGCA/2017 Meeting (5 May 2017) endorsed the EUR/NAT Operating Plan for 2017-2019 in the area of Environment. The Meeting concluded that the EUR/NAT States should commit to including environmental issues in their planning and implementation activities related to the improvement of the civil aviation system. The EUR/NAT States were also invited to:

- a) develop or update their quantified States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities in accordance with the provisions in the Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities (ICAO Doc 9988), and submit them to ICAO every three years as per ICAO Assembly resolution A39-2;
- b) use the ICAO environment tools to estimate the emissions reductions from the implementation of the mitigation measures as part of the development of States' action plans and to make use of further assistance provided by ICAO in the preparation and submission of States' action plans, if required;
- c) participate in the ICAO Buddy Programme (a State that had developed its action plan providing support to another State yet to develop its plan);
- d) share their best practices, and, taking into account the commercially sensitive information, consider making available to the public their submitted action plans; and

- e) voluntarily participate in the pilot phase and the first phase of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA) as per ICAO Assembly resolution A39-3.

2. Discussions – Capacity Building Activities

Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA)

2.1 The 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly adopted a global market-based measure (MBM) scheme for international aviation, which is referred to as CORSA, as part of a broader package of mitigation measures and aims to address an increase in total CO₂ emissions from international aviation above the 2020 levels. The scheme has a phased implementation approach, with a pilot phase from 2021 through 2023; a first phase from 2024 through 2026; and a second phase from 2027 through 2035.

2.2 In June 2018, the ICAO Council adopted the first Edition of Annex 16 – Environmental Protection, Volume IV - CORSA that contains Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for the implementation of CORSA. The State letter regarding the adoption of the SARPs was issued on 20 July 2018. The CORSA-related SARPs are applicable since 1 January 2019.

2.3 In addition, the first Edition of the *ICAO Environmental Technical Manual (ETM), Volume IV – Procedures for Demonstrating Compliance with the CORSA* (Doc 9501), was published in July 2018. The ETM promotes uniformity of implementation of the technical procedures of Annex 16, Volume IV by, among others, providing guidance to States, aeroplane operators and other relevant parties regarding the intended meaning of the Standards in the First Edition of Annex 16, Volume IV.

2.4 Both Annex 16, Volume IV and Doc 9501, Volume IV were made available in all ICAO languages to all States through the public ICAO CORSA website.

2.5 In conjunction, ICAO developed the CORSA CO₂ Estimation and Reporting Tool (CERT). The ICAO CORSA CERT is available aeroplane operators to support the monitoring and reporting of their CO₂ emissions on the public ICAO CORSA website. The objective of the tool is to simplify the estimation and reporting of CO₂ emissions from international flights for aeroplane operators with low levels of activity, and helps these operators fulfil their monitoring and reporting requirements under CORSA.

2.6 The functional requirements of the CORSA Central Registry (CCR) were also agreed by the ICAO Council and the Secretariat initiated the procurement process for the selection of a vendor who will develop the CCR.

2.7 To better support its Member States, ICAO has developed a new capacity building programme called ACT-CORSA (Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for the CORSA) that was endorsed by the Council in June 2018.

2.8 The Council emphasized the importance of a coordinated approach under ICAO to harmonize and bring together all relevant actions and promote coherence to capacity building efforts. The Council also requested that any bilateral or multilateral partnerships among States should be coordinated with ICAO, so that the global progress of such coordinated efforts could be monitored.

2.9 ICAO CORSA buddy partnerships have been established across the Regions. CORSA Buddy Partnerships are a cornerstone of ICAO's plan to support States to prepare for CORSA implementation. Under the partnerships, technical experts provided by donor States work together with the CORSA Focal Points of recipient States to provide on-site training, and to closely follow-up on the preparation and implementation of the recipient States' CORSA Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system, in particular, the development and approval of Emissions Monitoring Plans, as well as the establishment of national and/or regional regulatory frameworks.

2.10 To ensure the consistency of assistance provided and relevant materials used through the CORSIA Buddy Partnerships, the involved technical experts, coordinated by ICAO, were trained in August 2018. By end 2018, CORSIA Buddy Partnerships across various ICAO Regions were established, involving 15 donor States (including 4 from this Region) and 96 recipient States (including 4 from the Region). The most up-to-date information regarding on-site training activities by donor State experts with recipient States is provided on the ICAO CORSIA website, enabling full transparency of the assistance progress under the ICAO umbrella (<https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Buddy-Partnerships.aspx>).

2.11 The second phase of ACT CORSIA will start in May 2019 and EUR/NAT States are invited to nominate technical experts to be trained by ICAO to further assist States that need support to implement the CORSIA requirements.

2.12 In addition, ICAO will organize Regional workshops on CORSIA for the CORSIA Focal Points. The objective of these two-day regional workshops is to provide further information on the upcoming CORSIA implementation requirements. Particular focus of the regional workshops will be on any pending issues regarding the monitoring of CO₂ emissions in 2019, including the approval of Emissions Monitoring Plans by States by 30 April 2019, as well as on reporting and verification of CO₂ emissions from international aviation to support States in complying with the related provisions of the CORSIA SARPs by early 2020. The information to be presented at the regional workshops will be based on the CORSIA-related SARPs. The EUR/NAT States are invited to participate at the workshop which will be hosted by Finland in Helsinki, from 26 to 27 March 2019.

2.13 The 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly requested the ICAO Secretariat to make public on the ICAO website updated information on the States that volunteer to participate in CORSIA's pilot phase (2021-2023) and first phase (2024-2026) (Resolution A39-3, paragraph 9 d)). As of 15 January 2019, 45 States have announced their intention to voluntarily participate in CORSIA from its outset, including 44 through the Bratislava Declaration and 47 EUR/NAT States have nominated a CORSIA Focal Points.

States Action Plans on CO₂ emissions reduction

2.14 The State Action Plan initiative has become a key element of the Organization's comprehensive capacity-building and assistance strategy to support Member States implementation of CO₂ emissions mitigation measures selected from the ICAO Basket of Measures.

2.15 By January 2019, 111 Member States voluntarily submitted action plans to ICAO. These successful results demonstrate the high level of interest and engagement of ICAO Member States in this initiative, as well as the impact of ICAO's assistance and capacity-building activities. At the last Assembly in October 2016, States were invited to update their plans in 2018 and every three years thereafter. The submission of an action plan and its subsequent updates are necessary to ensure that the information included in the action plan is as accurate as possible and to maintain its validity over time. Since the beginning of this initiative launched by the ICAO Assembly in 2012, 43 States from the 56 in the EUR/NAT Regions have developed, and submitted to ICAO, an Action Plan on CO₂ emissions reduction. Out of the 33 States that have submitted an updated plan for this triennium, 17 States are from the EUR/NAT Regions. In addition, out of the 56 States, 47 have nominated a focal point for the States Action Plan related activities.

Capacity building activities in the EUR/NAT Regions

2.16 In the meantime, ICAO continues to work directly with States in order to support their work on aviation and environment as well as the development and update of States' Action Plans.

2.17 Since 2017, the EUR/NAT Office has reinforced its capacity building activities on environment and has been providing more assistance to EUR/NAT States to develop their Action Plan on CO₂ emissions reduction and provide information on aviation and environment. As an example, the EUR/NAT Office, with the collaboration of States, as part of its Technical Assistance Programme, organized

capacity building seminars at the end of May 2017 for the States' Focal Points and their Stakeholders in the Black Sea Region and in February 2018 in collaboration with Portugal for the lusophones States to support the development and update of their States' Action Plans.

2.18 To further support its Member States, the ICAO EUR/NAT Office held the first meeting of the Environment Task Force, in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 4 to 5 December 2018. This capacity building activity of the ICAO EUR/NAT Office is aligned with the ICAO Assembly Resolution AR 39-3 from October 2016 that requires ICAO to play a pivotal role in providing assistance to States through the dissemination of the latest information on best practices and provision of guidance and other technical assistance in order to enhance capacity building and the transfer of technology.

2.19 For 2019, the EUR/NAT Office will continue to provide support to its Member States through:

- a) continuation of the Environment Task Force with a meeting in 2019 as well as with the Technical Assistance Programme;
- b) direct support to States for identification of Focal Points for environment-related activities and for the implementation of mitigation measures;
- c) promote ICAO environmental activities through the website, newsletter and regular direct contacts with States' Environment Focal Points;
- d) support the ACT CORSIA Programme allowing more States from the Regions to benefit from its programme; and
- e) maintain a close coordination with the other international and regional organizations that are active in the area of Environment in the EUR/NAT Regions to ensure synergies and optimum use of resources.

EURNAT 2020-2022 Operating Plan in the area of Environment

2.20 For the upcoming triennium, the EUR/NAT Office will continue to provide support to its Member States through:

- a) Assist development and implementation of States' action plans on CO2 emissions reduction activities in the region, as well as the implementation of CORSIA;
- b) Assist States in the region to implement Annex 16 and guidance , as well as on the assessment of environmental benefits which are associated to the implementation of operational improvements;
- c) Cooperate with regional organizations and represent ICAO in meetings relating to environmental protection.

Conclusions

2.21 Based on the foregoing, the EURNAT-DGCA is invited to endorse the following proposed conclusions:

Draft EURNAT-DGCA Decision 2019/1 – Environmental Activities 2020-2022

That, in order to support the coordinated implementation of ICAO Assembly Resolutions on Environment at the EUR/NAT level, the EURNAT-DGCA:

- a) support the key EUR/NAT activities in the area of Environment in 2020-2022;
- b) invite States and airspace users to:
 - i) commit to include environmental issues in the planning and implementation activities related to the improvement of the civil aviation system;

- ii) develop or update their quantified *States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities* in accordance with the provisions in the *Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities* (ICAO Doc 9988) and submit them to ICAO;
- iii) use the ICAO environment tools to estimate the emissions reductions from the implementation of the mitigation measures as part of the development of States' action plans;
- iv) recognize the Technical Assistance Programme and capacity building activities developed by the EUR/NAT Office and make use of further assistance provided by ICAO in the preparation and submission of States' action plans, and implementation of the related mitigation measures, if required;
- v) participate in the ICAO Buddy Programme;
- vi) share their best practices and, taking into account the commercially sensitive information, consider making available to the public their submitted action plans;
- vii) participate in the pilot phase and the first phase of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA); and
- viii) participate in the ACT CORSIA Capacity Building activities by nominating experts or supporting ACT CORSIA initiative.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information provided; and
- b) endorse the Decision in paragraph 2.21.

— **END** —