



## DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION-MIDDLE EAST REGION

**First Meeting (DGCA-MID/1)**  
*(Abu Dhabi, UAE, 22-24 March 2011)*

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### Agenda Item 6: Aviation Security Issues

#### REGIONAL CONFERENCES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON AVIATION SECURITY

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

##### SUMMARY

A series of regional aviation security conferences is planned for 2011 and 2012 in order to develop regional roadmaps to guide States in implementing the Declaration on Aviation Security adopted unanimously by the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly in October 2010. The proposed conferences will build on the success of regional Ministerial-level conferences held in 2010 with the goal of defining the critical issues highlighted by the Assembly Declaration. One objective of the post-Assembly conferences is to build consensus in advance of a possible global high-level conference on aviation security in the latter half of 2012. The first of these conferences, hosted by India, has just concluded. ICAO invites States to host future conferences in their respective regions.

### 1. ROLE OF REGIONAL AVIATION SECURITY CONFERENCES

1.1 As a consequence of the continuing and evolving threat to civil aviation, the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly in October 2010 unanimously adopted the Declaration on Aviation Security, reaffirming Member States' commitment to strengthen global aviation security.

1.2 The Assembly Declaration was shaped by a series of Ministerial-level regional conferences that ICAO was instrumental in organizing during the first half of 2010. The conferences — held sequentially in Mexico City, Tokyo, Abuja, and Abu Dhabi — were successful in building international consensus on the critical aviation security priorities and issues. While taking place in different regions, the conferences expressed common concerns and produced similar declarations focused on the need to strengthen security by enhancing international cooperation in a number of areas. The Assembly Declaration incorporated their main elements, notably their emphasis on improving and strengthening information collection and sharing, technological cooperation, international standards and efforts to assist States in resolving security deficiencies.

1.3 Given the successful outcome of the regional aviation security conferences held in 2010, and recognizing that implementation of the Assembly Declaration on Aviation Security will be the measure of long-term success, ICAO is currently focused on carrying out a second series of regional conferences on aviation security. These post-Assembly conferences are intended to promote effective implementation of the Declaration on Aviation Security by fostering international cooperation at the regional level, particularly with regard to coordinating assistance efforts. They provide an opportunity to review the actions taken, under way or planned by States to strengthen aviation security as envisaged by the Declaration. Each conference is expected to adopt a statement/roadmap on regional aviation security enhancement, and collectively they will help build consensus in advance of a worldwide high-level conference on aviation security which may be held in 2012.

## **2. OUTCOME OF RECENT NEW DELHI CONFERENCE**

2.1 The first in the new series of regional aviation security conferences concluded in New Delhi on 15 February 2011 with the adoption by participating States of a statement on enhancing aviation security. The event, hosted by India with ICAO's support and participation, involved representatives from a number of States in the region as well as observer States and organizations. ICAO's Secretary General and industry representatives also participated in the discussions.

## **3. FUTURE REGIONAL AVIATION SECURITY CONFERENCES**

3.1 ICAO is actively promoting the organization of future regional aviation security conferences with a view to establishing roadmaps for enhancing aviation security in a number of regions. The Organization proposes to work closely with host States to ensure the success of these events. Each host State would be responsible for providing the appropriate venue, making logistical arrangements, inviting participants and funding ICAO participation. To ensure no State in need of aviation security assistance is excluded from taking part in an event, host States and other stakeholders are encouraged to finance participation by such States when their attendance is not possible otherwise. For its part, ICAO is prepared to support each conference by providing assistance as required with development of the Conference programme, drafting the statement and roadmap, and providing the keynote and expert speakers.

3.2 Sponsoring a regional conference promotes international cooperation and demonstrates the host State's strong commitment to aviation security. In each case, ICAO encourages host States to extend invitations widely across the region and to include participation by key partners from outside the region, as appropriate. Delegations would be led at the Director General level to facilitate discussions on implementation matters.