



DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION-MIDDLE EAST REGION

Second Meeting (DGCA-MID/2)
(Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 20-22 May 2013)

Agenda Item 8: Environmental protection

CIVIL AVIATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT – STATE ACTION PLANS

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides an update on ICAO activities related to initiatives to assist States in the preparation of action plans on CO₂ emissions reduction activities.

*Strategic Objectives: C – **Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport** – Foster harmonized and economically viable development of international civil aviation that does not unduly harm the environment.*

Action by the meeting is in paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Air transport is a vital element of the global economy, responsible for the safe and efficient transportation of over 2.7 billion passengers. While the current contribution of aviation to total global anthropogenic CO₂ emissions is approximately 2 per cent (of which 62 per cent are from international aviation), forecasted traffic growth raises questions on the future contribution of international aviation to climate change and on the most effective way to address CO₂ emissions from the sector.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 ICAO developed, in collaboration with an ad-hoc group of experts from the ICAO Committee on Aviation Environment Protection (CAEP), composed of States and stakeholders, ICAO Doc 9988 *Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on Emissions Reduction*, which serves to guide States, step-by step, through the process of preparing and submitting an action plan. A dedicated interactive web interface was also developed to facilitate the submission of States' action plans to ICAO. The CAEP Steering Group meeting held in September 2011 endorsed the guidance material and recommended the use of this website by States to submit action plans to ICAO.

2.2 In addition, in order to provide practical assistance to States in the preparation of action plans on CO₂ emissions reduction activities, ICAO held seven hands-on training workshops in 2011 and 2012 in Mexico City, Mexico, Bangkok, Thailand, Dubai, UAE, Nairobi, Kenya, Paris, France, Montréal, Canada and Dakar, Senegal. Over the course of these seven workshops, ICAO trained national focal points from over 91 States.

2.3 The action plans are a key area of the Organization's work priorities, in preparation for the 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly. The action plans provide a unique opportunity for States to both showcase their initiatives to improve fuel efficiency and reduce emissions, and to articulate their assistance needs. The information included in the plans will allow for the assessment of potential future progress toward the achievement of global aspirational goals set forward by ICAO Assembly Resolution A37-19. The active involvement of Member States is therefore critical to the success of this initiative and to the ability of ICAO to effectively develop policies and practices toward the environmental sustainability of air transport.

2.4 States may choose amongst a basket of measures to be included in their action plans, including aircraft-related technologies, operational improvements, market-based measures and sustainable alternative fuels. The ICAO Fuel Savings Estimation Tool (IFSET), which is available for free on the ICAO public website (<http://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/Tools.aspx>), was developed by ICAO with the support of States and international organizations to estimate the fuel savings and corresponding environmental benefits from the implementation of operational improvements, as part of the development and the implementation of States' action plans.

2.5 The IFSET is intended to assist States in estimating fuel savings in a manner that is consistent with the models approved by CAEP and in line with the ICAO Global Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency Plan. The tool is not intended to replace the use of detailed measurement or modelling of fuel savings where those capabilities exist. Rather, it is provided to assist States without such facilities to estimate the benefits from operational improvements.

2.6 As of the end of March 2013, ICAO received 59 State action plans, representing approximately 77.43 per cent of international revenue-tonne-kilometres (RTK). ICAO continues to support States in the development of action plans by contacting national focal points and providing technical assistance, upon request.

2.7 In this regard, within ICAO, the Air Transport Bureau (ATB) is working closely with the Technical Cooperation Bureau (TCB) to provide the necessary support to States. Interested States are invited to send an official letter directly to the Director, TCB to obtain further assistance.

ICAO Assistance for Action – Aviation and Climate Change Seminar

2.8 ICAO held the Assistance for Action – Aviation and Climate Change Seminar in October 2012, in Montréal, Canada. The seminar focused on the assistance needs identified by States to develop and implement their action plans. This seminar presented a range of measures identified by States, from the creation of a new environmental unit within the national government to address matters related to aviation and environmental protection, to alternative fuels measures. It also showcased the synergies and constructive engagement between ICAO, its Member States, stakeholders and other international organizations, toward the development and the implementation of action plans.

2.9 During the Financing Session, eight speakers from 6 international organizations (World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, Global Environment Facility, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank and Inter-American Development Bank) presented different options on how to best support States in the development, submission and implementation of action plans. Real opportunities to build partnerships to support States' actions were identified and are currently being explored.

ICAO Symposium on International Aviation and Climate Change, "Destination Green"

2.10 Every three years, ICAO organizes a major environmental event to share information on the latest developments in the area of aviation and environment with its Members States and other key stakeholders. The purpose of these events is to inform and facilitate environment-related discussions and high-level decision-making at ICAO's triennial Assemblies. ICAO held the fourth ICAO Symposium on International Aviation and Environment, "Destination Green", last week (14 to 16 May 2013) in Montreal, Canada.

2.11 A pre-Symposium Seminar on States' Action Plans was also organized on 13 May 2013. It covered the development of States' action plans, data review and the implementation of measures selected by States in their action plans.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information presented in this paper;
- b) continue to consider environmental issues in the planning and implementation of regional air navigation systems;
- c) promote the use of IFSET to estimate the fuel savings and corresponding environmental benefits from the implementation of operational improvements, as part of the development of States' action plans; and
- d) note the availability of further assistance by ICAO in the preparation and submission of States' action plans.

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