



WORKING PAPER

ASSEMBLY — 37TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 14: Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP)

**AVSEC OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE AND
STATES' DISCRETIONARY POWER IN RESPECT OF DOCUMENTS
DETAILING SUCH PROCEDURES**

(Presented by Colombia)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This working paper invites the Assembly to consider the development of AVSEC operational procedures and States' discretionary power with regard to the documents containing such procedures.

Action:

- a) The Assembly is invited to take note of the contents of this working paper;
- b) States are invited to consider the importance of having clear audit rules and parameters. Such clarity prevents uncertainty at the post-audit debriefing and assures the Member State that the subsequent ICAO report will accurately reflect the conclusions reached at the debriefing; and
- c) ICAO is invited to consider continued USAP audit training for Member States. This training should contemplate the criteria for what constitutes an audit finding. These criteria should be consistent, and the State's discretion should be taken into account.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective B (<i>Enhance global aviation security</i>) through the continuation of the USAP
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Dependent on methodology
<i>References:</i>	Annex 17 – <i>Security</i> Doc 8973, <i>Security Manual for Safeguarding Civil Aviation Against Acts of Unlawful Interference</i> (Restricted)

*The original version of this Working Paper was submitted in Spanish by Colombia.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 ICAO Member States support USAP audits and the ongoing improvement of the guidance provided to correct deficiencies identified by such audits.

1.2 However, there are concerns about USAP methodology with regard to including certain operational procedures in the national civil aviation security programme (NCASP). Findings and recommendations contained in the report presented to the Member State note that the procedures relating to the control activities conducted by airport operators are to be described in the NCASP.

1.3 A Member State's national civil aviation security programme guides and describes the State's methods of compliance with the Standards and Recommended Practices of Annex 17 and relevant portions of other Annexes. Its objective is to protect the safety, regularity and efficiency of civil aviation, and its implementation must be ensured.

1.4 Guidance on detailed operational procedures can be provided, in accordance with the State's discretion, in documents (such as manuals, directives and circulars) which are attached to the national programme. The objective of such guidance is to prescribe the methods for activities aimed at safeguarding against acts of unlawful interference. These activities include control operations carried out by airport operators and/or airlines, for example.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 It is clear that the successful prevention of acts of unlawful interference requires guidance documents providing operational details on security control activities in civil aviation. These procedures must be available to airport and aircraft operators and to all other entities conducting security control operations at airports.

2.2 Any documentation system associated with the NCASP and implemented by a State must be validated and taken into account in USAP audits. The documents in question can contain, for example, guidance on the procedures related to security control and to measures for protection against acts of unlawful interference.

2.3 With assistance from State experts, the corresponding audit procedures must be explicitly established in order to ensure that the related criteria are consistent.