



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

A35-WP/105
TE/13
24/8/04
English and
Russian only¹

ASSEMBLY — 35TH SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 24: ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP)
24.1: Protection of sources and free flow of safety information

**REPORT ON THE PROTECTION OF FLIGHT SAFETY
INFORMATION SOURCES AND FREE DISSEMINATION OF SUCH
INFORMATION**

(Presented by the Interstate Aviation Committee)

SUMMARY

This working paper contains proposals on the protection of the sources of flight safety information and its free dissemination. Action by the Assembly is stated in paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Using flight recorder information, results of air accident and incident investigation, results of flight safety research, voluntary reports of the flight and dispatcher personnel is necessary for the purposes of preventing air accidents. Dissemination of such information among the flight crews of aircraft is an important component of the flight and dispatcher personnel training programmes and flight safety improvement.

1.2. At the same time, non-purpose use of such information, its premature dissemination, publication of the flight recorders' interpretations may damage both the process of the current air accident or incident investigation and exert negative influence on the availability of such information for further investigations. Possible use of such information in criminal investigation may cause distrust on the part of the flight crew members to the investigation bodies and lead to the attempts of the flight crews to conceal important negative factors, hinder investigation bodies' access to these information sources and reluctance to cooperate in the investigation process.

¹ English and Russian versions provided by the Interstate Aviation Committee

2. DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE

2.1. In the CIS States air accident investigation is separated from criminal investigation. The Interstate Aviation Committee in compliance with the standards and recommendations of ICAO Annex 13 is in every possible way advocating the necessity of “official” investigation being independent from the court investigation and is carrying out the appropriate policy in the sphere of information sources protection against being used for the purposes different from the purposes of revealing the causes of air accidents and preventing air accidents and incidents in the future.

3. ACTION BY THE ASSEMBLY

3.1 The Assembly is invited to adopt the norms, ensuring protection of information sources and materials of air accident and incident investigations from non-purpose use and at the same time giving access to such information to be used in the air accident and incident prevention programmes.

— END —