



THIRD CONFERENCE ON AVIATION AND ALTERNATIVE FUELS (CAAF/3)

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 20 to 24 November 2023

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS FOR OPENING AND AGENDA ITEM 1

Part II

(Presented by the Secretariat)

Opening address

1. Mr. J.C. Salazar, Secretary General of ICAO provided opening remarks to the Conference, thanking the host State for their hospitality during the opening ceremony. The Secretary General also recapped various high-level statements made by Member States and International Organizations, highlighted several common themes, and expressed hopes for a successful Conference. A video showcasing inspirational messages and expectations for the Conference was shown subsequently.

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference

2. On the nomination of Equatorial Guinea, seconded by France, United States, and Brazil, The Honourable Mr. Viliame Gavoka, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation for Fiji, was elected Chairperson of the Conference.

3. On the nomination of Singapore, seconded by Mexico, and Italy, Ms. Paule Assoumou Koki, Director General of the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority, was elected first Vice-Chairperson.

4. On the nomination of Nigeria, seconded by United Kingdom, and Japan, Mr. Mauricio Ramirez, Representative of Colombia to ICAO, was elected second Vice-Chairperson of the Conference.

Secretariat

5. The Conference noted that Mr. J.C. Salazar, Secretary General of ICAO, would be Secretary of the Meeting, advised by Mr. M.K. Rahma, Director, Air Transport Bureau (ATB), and Ms. J. Hupe, Deputy Director, Environment, ATB. A number of senior staff would also participate and the full resources of the Secretariat were at the disposal of the Conference.

Administrative arrangements

6. The Conference agreed on the working hours and the timetable as described in CAAF/3-WP/1, on the understanding that the timetable would be kept under review and amended, as necessary, in light of the agenda. Delegates were informed that the Conference would be conducted under the ICAO's *Standing Rules of Procedure for Meetings in the Air Transport Field* (Doc 8683).

7. The Chairperson also explained that each Working Paper would be presented only once. If it was applicable to more than one Agenda item, the Chairperson would request for its presentation based on the Order of Business in which the Agenda items were ordered. While these Working Papers would not be presented again in subsequent Agenda items, the Chairperson would acknowledge their inputs, and interventions by the authors during the discussions may also refer to these Working Papers.

Agenda Item 1: Setting the scene – Latest developments in cleaner energy technology for international aviation and its contribution to the Long-Term Global Aspirational Goal

8. The Conference noted a setting-the-scene presentation made by the Secretariat, which provided information on the latest developments related to the aviation cleaner energy transition, including updated information on the SAF short-term projection with 90 new announcements since February 2023.

9. The Conference considered one Working Paper by the Secretariat, and one Working Paper from the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC). A summary of these papers is detailed below.

10. CAAF/3-WP/2 presented by the Secretariat provided an overview of the ICAO preparatory process and activities towards CAAF/3, including various pre-CAAF/3 consultation events and other outreach activities, as well as the descriptions of four Building Blocks: 1. Policy and Planning; 2. Regulatory Framework; 3. Implementation support; and 4. Financing, for an ICAO global framework to facilitate the consideration of CAAF/3 outcomes.

11. CAAF/3-WP/13 presented by the AFCAC on behalf of its 54¹ Member States provided information on its initiative to accelerate the development, production and deployment of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), lower carbon aviation fuel (LCAF) and other cleaner energy sources for aviation in support of the long-term global aspirational goal (LTAG). Views on the global framework to provide a fair and equal opportunity to participate across the value chain, a metric based on volumes of fuels produced, robust technical capacity enhancement and institutional-strengthening program, and a simple, clear and easy to access financing framework to support all regions especially developing States, were also expressed.

12. The Chairperson also acknowledged the contributions of the following Information Papers to the Conference: CAAF/3-IPs 1, 2, 3 and 4 by the Secretariat.

13. During the following interventions, States and organizations expressed their appreciation for the work of ICAO in its preparatory process and activities towards CAAF/3, where the views gathered from regional seminars, stocktaking, and pre-CAAF/3 consultations have facilitated a strong basis for the upcoming discussions at CAAF/3.

¹ Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

14. States and organizations expressed the importance of CAAF/3 to respond to the requests from CAAF/2 and the last Assembly, by reviewing the 2050 ICAO Vision, including LCAF and other cleaner energy sources for aviation, in order to define a global framework in line with the *No Country Left Behind (NCLB)* initiative and taking into account national circumstances and capabilities.

15. There was general consensus that ICAO had the opportunity at CAAF/3 to send a strong collective signal to support and catalyse industry's acceleration in the development and deployment of SAF, LCAF and other cleaner energy sources, in support to the contribution of such fuels towards the achievement of the LTAG in all States, including developing countries.

16. Many were also of the view that elements of the global framework should address the challenges of implementation regarding costs and access to financing on the development of such fuels, supported through assistance and capacity building measures. A global framework incorporating solidarity, inclusivity, and consistent with the approach in LTAG with no specific obligation to individual States were highlighted. There was also consensus that opportunities in the development and deployment of such fuels should be accorded for all States, not just in the provision of feedstock, but also in its production.

17. The Chairperson explained that a summary of papers submitted and main views expressed on this Agenda item would be drafted into a Summary of Discussions (SD/1), which would be reviewed later during the Conference. A similar approach would also be taken for Summaries of Discussions for later Agenda items. Due to the close inter-linkages between Agenda items, conclusions and outcomes of the Conference would subsequently be considered together as a package under Agenda item 5.

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