



**WORKING PAPER**

**THIRD HIGH-LEVEL SAFETY CONFERENCE (HLSC 2021)**

**Montréal, Canada, 17 to 21 May 2021**

**TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR HLSC 2021**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**Agenda Item 1: Strategy and policy**

- 1.1: Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP), and implementation of regional and national aviation safety plans
- 1.2: Innovation in aviation
- 1.3: Evolution of the Technical Commission

Under this agenda item, the Conference will discuss evolving safety strategy and policy. The *Global Aviation Safety Plan* (GASP, Doc 10004) sets forth the global strategic direction for aviation safety and provides the framework in which regional, sub-regional and national implementation plans are developed and implemented, thus ensuring harmonization and coordination of efforts aimed at improving international civil aviation safety.

New technologies and concepts of operation are rapidly becoming available across the aviation industry. It is therefore vital that the aviation community take timely action to monitor and evaluate these developments so that their potential benefits can be realized in a manner that leaves no country behind from the start.

The Conference will also discuss the evolution of the Technical Commission of the Assembly, specifically whether it should only focus on strategy and policy leaving technical issues to be discussed at divisional-type meetings.

The Conference will be invited to put forward recommendations on:

- a) a global strategic direction for aviation safety;
- b) strategic planning in managing aviation safety and responding to new challenges at the national level;
- c) enhancement of collaboration and sharing of experience in relation to innovation; and
- d) the evolution of the Technical Commission of the Assembly.

**Agenda Item 2: Standardization**

- 2.1: Regulatory capacity
- 2.2: Risk management

Under this agenda item, the Conference will discuss how to enhance regulatory capacity, training approaches, current processes and procedures to ensure safe development of civil aviation in view of

introduction of innovations, new technologies and concepts of operation, new business models and traffic growth.

Given the rapidly evolving aviation system, which becomes ever more complex and interconnected, the Conference will discuss new challenges associated with the evolution in aviation as well as those related to the transport of dangerous goods, risks generated by passengers, new types of aircraft and other new entrants. The Conference will also consider the safety aspects for pilots, air traffic controllers, operators and aerodrome operators as a precursor to developing procedures in response to the detection of an unauthorized unmanned aircraft, particularly in the vicinity of an aerodrome.

The Conference will be invited to put forward recommendations on:

- a) how to enhance training and improve current processes and procedures (including licensing, certification, authorizations and approvals) to embrace rapid changes in aviation; and
- b) how challenges and risks associated with the evolution in aviation can be effectively managed to minimize adverse consequences.

### **Agenda Item 3: Implementation and support**

ICAO and Member States need to find ways to adapt to the rapid pace of evolution in aviation and the ever-increasing needs of the global aviation community. Expanding existing partnerships and a proactive engagement with industry will be essential. Regional collaboration has proven to be beneficial for improving global aviation safety through regional safety oversight organizations (RSOOs), cooperative development of operational safety and continuing airworthiness programmes (COSCAPs) and regional accident and incident investigation organizations (RAIOs). With the launch of the Global Aviation Safety Oversight System (GASOS), ICAO is working to further enhance and strengthen these regional mechanisms by assessing their capability to perform specific functions and activities requested by their Member States. The Conference will provide a forum for discussion on how to enhance regional implementation support mechanisms to assist States in accomplishing certain safety oversight, accident and incident investigation and safety management functions and activities.

The Conference will be invited to put forward recommendations on:

- a) improving global aviation safety through RSOOs, COSCAPs and RAIOs; and
- b) regional implementation support partnership and mechanisms, including regional aviation safety groups (RASGs) and planning and implementation regional groups (PIRGs).

### **Agenda Item 4: Monitoring and oversight**

4.1: Oversight and new approaches

4.2: Evolution of the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA)

Under this agenda item, the Conference will discuss a new concept of “cooperative” oversight and the evolution of the USOAP CMA. “Cooperative” oversight aims to address the growth of cross-border operations, new business models, operational and training approaches, and technological developments while ensuring that all Member States effectively fulfill their safety oversight functions and responsibilities.

The USOAP was launched more than two decades ago and transitioned to a full-scale implementation of the CMA in January 2013. The USOAP CMA continues to mature, improve and expand. The Conference

will be presented with an update on the evolution of the programme being realized through three streams of work, namely: the implementation of the recommendations of the Group of Experts for a USOAP CMA Structured Review (GEUSR) as agreed by the Council; the recommendations of the Ad Hoc USOAP CMA Advisory Group (USOAP-AG); and organizational improvements brought about by the long-term evolution of the programme. To enable the USOAP CMA to be effective and current in light of future challenges and transformations to civil aviation, the Conference will be invited to endorse policy and developments related to USOAP CMA based on the outcomes of the USOAP-AG; and to note the status of the implementation of recommendations of the Group of Experts for a USOAP CMA Structured Review (GEUSR) as well as the organizational improvements.

The Conference will be invited to put forward recommendations on:

- a) how to ensure effective “cooperative” oversight while ensuring that all Member States will be able to effectively fulfil their safety oversight functions and responsibilities; and
- b) proposed policy and developments related to the evolution of the USOAP CMA resulting from relevant streams of work, with associated timelines for implementation.

**Agenda Item 5: Air navigation capacity and efficiency**

- 5.1: Latest developments related to the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP)
- 5.2: Integrated CNS and spectrum strategy initiative (ICNSS)
- 5.3: Ground handling

Under this agenda item, the Conference will discuss the latest developments related to the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), implementation of the integrated communications, navigation, and surveillance (CNS) and spectrum strategy initiative (ICNSS), and ground handling. The GANP provides the strategy that guides States and other stakeholders to evolve the air navigation system keeping interoperability of systems and harmonization of procedures as well as contributing to safety of operations. The Conference will be updated on the development of a trust framework for a digitally connect environment and its impact in the cyber resilience and safety of operations. The ICNSS aims to strengthen and improve the resilience of technical systems by allowing avionics and ground systems to perform multiple roles, operating in a spectrum resilient and efficient manner, thus also avoiding sources of harmful interference. Ground handling is of increasing importance to safety, regularity, efficiency and performance of airport operations, and there is a need for a standardized oversight approach for ground handling activities.

The Conference will be invited to put forward recommendations on:

- a) how the GANP can continuously support evolution of safe, secure and manageable air navigation systems;
- b) the implementation of the ICNSS; and
- c) the standardized oversight approach for ground handling activities.

**Agenda Item 6: Other issues to be considered by HLSC 2021**

- 6.1: Safety and operational measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic
- 6.2: Other issues

The global air transport has been detrimentally affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Conference will consider safety and operational challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the establishment of contingency arrangements by States, lessons learnt and how to plan for mitigating the effects of a similar occurrence in the future.

This item is also intended for subjects, other than those that have a specific agenda item, which require the consideration of the Conference and that have not already been specifically dealt with by recommendations of past divisional-type meetings or action taken by the ICAO Council.

- The Conference will be invited to put forward recommendations on planning and putting safety and operational mitigating measures in case of wide-scale disruptions.

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