



ASSEMBLY — 38TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 13: Aviation Security – Policy

**PRINCIPLES GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN AVIATION SECURITY –
NEXT STEPS**

(Presented by Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Three principles governing international cooperation in aviation security were endorsed and adopted by the ICAO High-Level Conference on Aviation Security (HLCAS) in September 2012. This working paper sets out the intended next steps, including the development of an action plan to implement these principles.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) reaffirm the three principles governing international cooperation in aviation security as endorsed and adopted by the ICAO HLCAS;
- b) agree to the inclusion of these three principles in the revised Consolidated statement on the continuing ICAO policies related to the safeguarding of international civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference, as proposed by the Council in A38-WP/14; and
- c) endorse the development of an action plan, with input from the relevant stakeholders (including expert bodies, Member States, international organizations, and industry), to implement these three principles of international cooperation in aviation security.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective B — <i>Security</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	No additional resources required.
<i>References:</i>	A38-WP/12 – Outcomes of the High-Level Conference on Aviation Security (HLCAS) A38-WP/14 – Consolidated Statement on the Continuing ICAO Policies Related to the Safeguarding of International Civil Aviation Against Acts of Unlawful Interference AVSECP/24 Restricted (Yellow Cover) Report (English only)

1. **BACKGROUND: PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL AVIATION SECURITY COOPERATION**

1.1 The ICAO and its Member States have consistently recognised that international cooperation amongst States, and between States and other stakeholders, including industry, is necessary and critical to enhancing aviation security, particularly in view of the complex and cross-border nature of security threats to international civil aviation. In this vein, the High-Level Conference on Aviation Security (HLCAS) held in September 2012 in Montréal endorsed the proposal put forward by 21 Member States¹ to adopt a set of principles as a basis for international cooperation in aviation security. These principles are:

- a) respect for the spirit of cooperation defined in bilateral and/or multilateral Air Services Agreements (ASAs);
- b) recognition of equivalent security measures; and
- c) focus on security outcomes.

1.2 It was further recognised that these principles would constitute a good basis for international cooperation in aviation security to proceed in a practical, sustainable, and effective manner, while also respecting State sovereignty and adherence to the ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) as an international baseline. In particular, the HLCAS concluded that sustainability of aviation security measures and arrangements can be ensured through reciprocal acceptance of equivalent security measures with due regard to the principle of host-State responsibility, and also recommended that the ICAO and its Member States consider an outcomes-based approach to guide the development of sustainable aviation security measures in Annex 17 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (the Chicago Convention).

2. **NEXT STEPS**

2.1 The Council, based on the recommendations of the ICAO Aviation Security Panel (AVSEC Panel), has concluded that steps should be taken to implement these three principles governing international aviation security cooperation. Possible next steps have been preliminarily considered by the AVSEC Panel, including:

- a) conducting further development of SARPs in Annex 17 based on the three principles;
- b) carrying out the review and development of existing and new guidance material in the ICAO *Aviation Security Manual* (Doc 8973) in a manner that incorporates and aligns aviation security-related guidance materials with these principles;
- c) considering if the development of guidance material on the respect for the spirit of cooperation defined in bilateral and/or multilateral Air Services Agreements and recognition of equivalent security measures would be useful and appropriate; and

¹ Argentina; Australia; Brazil; Canada; China; France; Germany; Italy; Japan; Mexico; New Zealand; Nigeria; Qatar; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Singapore; South Africa; Spain; Switzerland; and the United Kingdom.

- d) considering how the ICAO's overall policy development and oversight of aviation security could enhance the use of an outcomes-based approach, in line with its approach in other areas of civil aviation, such as safety.

2.2 The ICAO Secretariat has been tasked to develop, with input from the AVSEC Panel, an action plan to put into practice the three principles governing international aviation security cooperation as adopted and endorsed by the ICAO HLCAS. This action plan is to be presented at the next meeting of the AVSEC Panel, in 2014, for the Panel's consideration to thereafter present the action plan to the Council for endorsement. It is essential that the ICAO and international aviation community lend their continued strong support and endorsement for these ongoing efforts to promote and implement the principles governing international cooperation in aviation security.

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