



International Civil Aviation Organization

**WORKING PAPER**

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(Information paper)

**ASSEMBLY — 38TH SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item 17: Environmental Protection**

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — ACTION PLAN FOR REDUCING CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION**

(Presented by the Dominican Republic)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This information paper considers the work by the Dominican Republic to develop an action plan for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international civil aviation as well as short- and medium-term measures to address emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and other harmful gases resulting from air operations, in order to meet the standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The paper sets out the tasks to be undertaken by the State, including by State entities of vital importance in achieving the recommended targets.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This information paper relates to Strategic Objective C – <i>Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport.</i>
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Not applicable.
<i>References:</i>	Resolution A37-19 of the Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) – <i>Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies and practices related to environmental protection – Climate change.</i>

<sup>1</sup> Spanish version provided by the Dominican Republic.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In Resolution A37-19 of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), *Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies and practices related to environmental protection – Climate change*, States are encouraged to “submit their action plans outlining their respective policies and actions, and annual reporting on international aviation CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to ICAO”. States are invited to voluntarily prepare their action plans and submit them to ICAO, if possible, by the end of June 2012, so that the Organization may compile data on attainment of the global aspirational goals by the established deadline.

1.2 This invitation to States to voluntarily submit their action plans, including information on all measures considered, an indication of respective capabilities and national circumstances, as well as information on specific assistance needs, has prompted the various units of the Dominican Civil Aviation Institute (IDAC) and other State bodies of the Dominican Republic such as the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, the National Council on Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism, and the Dominican Oil Refinery, Inc. to work together to prepare and submit the action plan.

## 2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Since the passage of the aforementioned Assembly Resolution, IDAC as the Civil Aviation Authority of the Dominican Republic has taken a commitment to fulfil the environmental protection initiatives of ICAO.

2.2 This has required the training of its technical staff who, under ICAO guidance, have been working hard to meet the requirements of the Organization.

## 3. ACTIONS BY IDAC

3.1 IDAC has been pro-active in meeting ICAO environmental protection standards and identifying actions to be taken by the Dominican State to minimize the environmental impact of civil aviation, without compromising its development, thus protecting the climate system for present and future generations in keeping with the common but differentiated responsibilities and the specific capabilities of each State as set forth in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

3.2 In keeping with the different areas of expertise of the aforementioned State entities, the intention is to submit the action plan to ICAO in the form of a report on the pollution levels of international operations conducted by Dominican airlines in the year 2012, and indicate the operational and technological measures being planned to protect the environment.

3.3 The senior management of IDAC has initiated meetings to discuss specific issues relating to the current situation of the Dominican State, with a view to controlling emissions, as well as the development of a plan to integrate the actions of the various State institutions having a direct interest in the environment.

3.4 To this end, IDAC has prepared and submitted an action plan that will enable the Dominican State to meet ICAO standards. The plan aims to accomplish the following tasks:

***CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction policies and measures considered by the Dominican Republic:***

**Phase 1**

- Promote the use of continuous descent operations (CDO) by aircraft approaching national airports;
- Implement PBN (performance-based navigation);
- Reduce the waiting time for initial taxi and initial approach procedures for landing;
- Execute the measures agreed together with domestic air operators to gather statistical data as input for future action plans;
- Develop and implement agreements with airport operators of the Dominican Republic to phase in 60Hz to 400Hz power converters, so that aircraft may use the airport electricity supply instead of the Auxiliary Power Unit (APU).

**Phase 2**

- Prepare and implement bilateral cooperation agreements with jet engine manufacturers for the purpose of updating IDAC on new trends in the industry;
- Continually interact with ICAO by means of environmental assessment and training.

**Phase 3**

- Develop and implement an inter-institutional agreement with the Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic that will serve to incorporate CO<sub>2</sub> emission control into the national regulatory framework;
- Develop and implement a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Trade and Industry for collecting reports on air operator fuel consumption, with a breakdown by type of aviation fuel;
- Develop and implement an agreement with the National Council on Climate Change to adjust State policies to ICAO targets and trends;
- Develop and implement an agreement with the Ministry for Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic to meet State targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;
- Develop a training programme for Dominican aviation personnel, with the cooperation of the Higher Academy of Aeronautical Sciences (ASCA), so that the State will have the human resources needed to meet the proposed environmental protection targets.

#### 4. **CONCLUSIONS**

4.1 On the international scene, the Dominican Republic aspires to continue demonstrating a high degree of compliance with ICAO standards, and has made it a priority to set the example for other countries in the region. With regard to the environment, clearly defined measures are being taken that will contribute directly to the improved management of civil aviation in the Dominican Republic.

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