



International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

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(Information paper)

ASSEMBLY — 38TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 18: Cooperation with Regional Organizations and Regional Civil Aviation Bodies

COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(Presented by Indonesia)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its 37th Session, the Assembly adopted an ICAO Policy and Framework for Regional Cooperation (A37-21) committing ICAO to provide assistance, advice, and other form of support to the extent possible and to promote regional cooperation through close partnerships with regional organizations and regional bodies. This Paper provides information regarding such regional cooperation, in particular with regard to the Asia-Pacific region.

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| <i>Strategic Objectives:</i> | This working paper relates to all Strategic Objectives. |
| <i>Financial Implications:</i> | Not applicable. |
| <i>References:</i> | Doc 9958, <i>Assembly Resolutions in Force</i> (as at 8 October 2010) |

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At its 37th Session, the Assembly adopted an ICAO Policy and Framework for Regional Cooperation (A37-21) which commits ICAO to render assistance, advice and any other form of support, to the extent possible. The Policy further states that ICAO will promote regional cooperation through close partnerships with regional organizations and regional civil aviation bodies.

1.2 As regards implementing this Policy, ICAO is called upon do so both at Headquarters and its Regional Offices and apply the principles enunciated in the relevant ICAO Assembly Resolutions, guidance and policy. Overall responsibility for the implementation and continued evolution of this Policy shall be with the Secretary General.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The Policy and Framework for Regional Cooperation contains a Strategic Plan of Action for ICAO Headquarters and Regional Offices, with eight strategic thrusts: common efforts at harmonizing, between States, operational regulations, requirements and procedures based on ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) implementation; understanding each other's roles and responsibilities; establishment of improved mechanisms for consultation and cooperation, including electronic information sharing; coordinated programme planning and implementation between ICAO and the regional civil aviation bodies; periodic review of regional issues; maximising the effective use of resources at ICAO; benefiting from each other's competence and expertise; and joint training and capacity building. A38-WP/9, including its Appendix, provides a useful summary of implementation action taken during the past triennium.

2.2 A comparison between the world regions covered in the Appendix to A38-WP/9 (paragraphs 1 – 8) shows that in the Asia-Pacific region, a regional civil aviation body does not exist. ICAO cooperates with the Arab Civil Aviation Commission (ACAC) in the Middle East region, with the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and the African Union Commission (AUC) in the African region, with the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) and the European Union (EU) in the European region, and with the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC) in the Latin American region. However, in the Asia Pacific region, no equivalent civil aviation body exists which is responsible for regional civil aviation matters.

2.3 At the initiative of Indonesia, a meeting of the Montreal Group (consisting of the Asia Pacific States represented on the Council or represented at ICAO) took place from 20-21 June 2013 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia to discuss this matter. The meeting was attended by 7 States and one Observer delegation and there was general support for exploring further the idea of establishing a regional civil aviation commission in the Asia Pacific region. An analysis and roadmap was needed for that purpose and the idea of a task force was brought up.

2.4 This matter was also reported and discussed at the 50th Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation Asia Pacific, Bangkok 1 – 4 July, 2013 which noted the proposal for such a task force. The Regional Office noted the need for restructuring the DGCA Conference and supported regional cooperation.

2.5 Indonesia believes that in view of the general support expressed in Yogyakarta and the interest expressed from a number of States in Bangkok, further work should be carried out towards an analysis and roadmap. Such material would be useful for States in the Region. It is intended to hold discussions with other States regarding this matter during and after the 38th Assembly.