



International Civil Aviation Organization

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

For information only

EB 2018/10
AN 6/39

2 March 2018

ENSURING ACCIDENT VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE TREATED THE SAME THE WORLD OVER

1. ICAO first issued guidance on family assistance in 2001 in acknowledgement that the policy of the Organization should be to ensure that the mental, physical and spiritual well-being of victims involved in civil aviation accidents and their families are considered and accommodated by ICAO and its Member States.
2. In 2013, the *ICAO Policy on Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families* (Doc 9998) was published, followed by the issuance of the *Manual on Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families* (Doc 9973). The ICAO Policy provides a strategic approach to family assistance matters, addressing States' legislation, regulations and/or policies and the structure of family assistance plans, while Doc 9973 contains guidance to assist States in implementing those policies.
3. Understanding that States need to provide a homogeneous solution for treatment of victims of accidents, the Assembly directed ICAO in 2013 to give consideration to the development of Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) regarding the establishment by States of legislation, regulations and/or policies on family assistance. Accordingly, a Recommended Practice to ensure that timely and proper assistance is provided to accident victims and their families was adopted in Annex 9 — *Facilitation* on 25 February 2016.
4. Subsequently, the last Assembly in 2016 directed ICAO, when considering the extent of the level of implementation of family assistance plans by States, to give further consideration to the development of SARPs to support victims of civil aviation accidents and their family members.
5. A special session addressing assistance to accident victims and their families will be held on 16 October 2018 alongside the Thirteenth Air Navigation Conference (AN-Conf/13). All States and international organizations attending AN-Conf/13 are cordially invited to the session "Ensuring Accident Victims and their Families are Treated the Same the World Over" during which relevant legislation, regulations and/or policies of States, together with lessons and experiences, will be shared.
6. Online registration instructions for the session "Ensuring Accident Victims and their Families are Treated the Same the World Over" are available on the ICAO website at <http://www.icao.int/Meetings/anconf13>.

Issued under the authority of the Secretary General