

CONCEPT NOTE
PREPARING NAM/CAR/SAM STATES FOR ATCONF/7:
KEY ACTIONS AND EXPECTATIONS WEBINAR

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Seventh Worldwide Air Transport Conference (ATConf/7), to be held at ICAO Headquarters in Montréal, Canada, from 16 to 20 November 2026 under the theme “**Delivering growth, resilience and sustainability in a dynamic industry through policies, partnerships and investment for an inclusive air transport system,**” will address critical issues shaping the future of international air transport. Its objectives include modernizing economic regulations in response to digital and market shifts; tackling challenges related to labour, supply chains, consumer protection, and market access; mobilizing blended financing to support sustainable infrastructure and innovation; and strengthening institutional and human capacity in developing and under-resourced States, all while fostering sustainable, inclusive, and resilient sectoral growth.
- 1.2. It is therefore essential to engage ICAO NAM/CAR/SAM Member States in advance of ATConf/7 to ensure effective preparation, including the alignment of regional expectations, coordination of preparatory actions, and development of coherent strategies that will enhance the region’s participation and strengthen its collective contribution on the outcomes of the Conference. In this context, it is planned to organize a preparatory webinar to support these coordinated efforts.
- 1.3. The webinar will serve as a platform to:
 - a) brief States on ATConf/7 objectives, structure, and Agenda;
 - b) highlight preparatory requirements and timelines;
 - c) discuss regional priorities, opportunities and challenges; and
 - d) facilitate coordination for effective representation during the conference.
- 1.4. Following the updates given to States during 2025 LACAC and ICAO events, the outcomes of the webinar will inform the NACC/DCA/14 (1-6 June 2026), and other NACC, SAM and LACAC events, where ATConf/7 will feature as one of the key Agenda items. To ensure seamless continuity between the Preparatory Webinar, these meetings, and ultimately ATConf/7, these outcomes will be presented at these meetings in a dedicated agenda item focused on enhancing the region’s preparedness for the Conference.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE WEBINAR

- 2.1. Inform NAM/CAR/SAM States about ATConf/7 themes, expected deliverables, and participation modalities.
- 2.2. Identify regional priorities and develop common proposals for ATConf/7.
- 2.3. Provide guidance on preparatory actions required from States before the conference.
- 2.4. Establish a roadmap for coordination leading up to NAM/DCA, LACAC and SAM DG Meeting and ATConf/7.

3. DATE AND TIME

- 3.1. 27 April 2026 – with a duration of two and a half hours (10:00 CST)

4. TARGET AUDIENCE

4.1. The target audience for this initiative comprises Director Generals of Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs) and other key actors responsible for shaping and implementing air transport policy and strategy across the region. These include:

- CAAs
- State Air Transport Policy Units
- LACAC and CARICOM
- Air Transport related government entities and regional bodies
- Industry stakeholders

5. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 5.1. Enhanced understanding of the ATConf/7 Agenda and preparatory requirements.
- 5.2. Development of a draft list of regional priorities and positions.
- 5.3. Establishment of a coordination mechanism for NAM/CAR/SAM States.

4

DRAFT AGENDA

1) Opening Session (10 minutes)

- Welcome Remarks: ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Directors and LACAC Secretariat; and Overview of purpose/objective, expected outcomes, and linkages to the NACC/DCA, LACAC and ATConf/7.

2) Overview of ATConf/7 (20 minutes)

- ATConf/7 Theme, Structure, and Agenda, Expected Deliverables and Key Policy Areas.
- Preparatory Requirements and Timelines for States.

3) Regional Priorities and Challenges (60 minutes)

- Further guidance to be provided to Resource persons once the Agenda of the ATConf/7 takes shape and advised by the Air Transport Bureau (ATB).
 - States Perspective (Two States 20 Minutes)
 - Industry Perspective (IATA/ ALTA, COCESNA, CANSO and ACI LAC) (30 Minutes)
 - Regional perspective -AFCAC/AUC (10 Minutes)

4) Coordination Towards the NACC and SAM events(10 minutes)

- How Webinar Outcomes Feed into the NACC and SAM meetings.
- Dedicated Agenda item on NACC/DCA on ATConf/7 Preparedness.
- Presentation of webinar results and further consultation.

5) Establishment of a Coordination and Focal Point Mechanism (10 minutes)

- Proposal for an Informal Focal Point Network
- Roles and Responsibilities
 - Follow-up on preparatory actions
 - Consolidation of regional positions
 - Drafting of priorities for ATConf/7
- Process and Timeline

- 6) Open Discussion and Q&A (15 minutes)**
 - Interactive exchange with States, users, industry stakeholders, and partners.
- 7) Summary of Agreements and Next Steps (10 minutes)**
- 8) Closing Remarks (5 minutes)**
 - ATB/ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices and LACAC
