Sir/Madam,

1. I have the honour to invite your Government/Organization to participate in the Performance-based navigation (PBN) Symposium which is being convened by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) from 16 to 19 October 2012 in Montréal. Alongside the symposium will be an industry exhibition focusing on the deployment of performance-based navigation.

2. ICAO is organizing this event in an effort to facilitate greater awareness, implementation, and utilization of advanced navigation system capabilities in accordance with Assembly Resolution A37-11: Performance-based navigation global goals. The symposium will provide States and aviation partners with a crucial knowledge-sharing opportunity and will include presentations from international and regional organizations, standards-making bodies, leading industry stakeholders and ICAO. The symposium, for which interpretation will be provided, will be augmented by two workshops offered in English, one focusing on air traffic management and the second on flight operations. Further information on the symposium is presented in Attachment A.

3. I wish to inform you that the registration fee will be waived for up to two participants nominated by each State. All other attendees, except for invited speakers, will be required to pay a registration fee.

4. I should be grateful if you would advise me, as soon as possible, whether your Government/Organization wishes to participate in the ICAO Performance-based Navigation Symposium and to provide me with the name of each official who will be attending, their position and whether they are nominated by your State for free participation or will be a paying participant. Please ensure that the nomination letter accompanying the registration form is on the letterhead of your Authority or Organization. Your notification should preferably be sent to PBNSymposium@icao.int. As this symposium will address subjects of interest to both technical and operational experts, I should also be grateful if you would disseminate this information to any organizations or persons in your State that may be interested in participating.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Raymond Benjamin
Secretary General

Enclosure:
Background Information
PERFORMANCE-BASED NAVIGATION (PBN) SYMPOSIUM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. From 16 to 19 October 2012, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) will convene the Performance-based navigation (PBN) Symposium in Montréal. Alongside this three and a half day symposium will be an industry exhibition focusing on the deployment of performance-based navigation.

2. Information will be shared on new ICAO PBN documentation and on the relationship of PBN with the aviation system block upgrades (ASBU), a concept introduced at the recent Global Air Navigation Industry Symposium (GANIS) held from 20 to 23 September 2011. The symposium will also outline the current status of PBN implementation, identify issues relating to implementation and develop future actions to further enhance the implementation process. Interpretation will be provided during the symposium.

3. The symposium will be augmented by two hands on, real time technical workshops, one focusing on air traffic management (ATM) and another on flight operations (OPS), which will be conducted in English. Topics to be covered in the workshops will include: airspace and air traffic control procedures; procedure design and aeronautical information management; air traffic control system support requirements; and flight operation approval and certification.

4. Further information related to the symposium, including a final programme, general information, registration fees and procedures, and hotel and rates will soon be available on the symposium website at http://www.icao.int/Meetings/PBN-Symposium. Early travel arrangements and hotel reservations for the symposium are recommended.

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