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HOSTING OF THE FIFTH CIVIL AVIATION LEGAL ADVISERS' FORUM (CALAF/5) BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

(Presented by The Federal Republic of Nigeria)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This information paper informs the Legal Committee of the Federal Republic of Nigeria's (Nigeria) intention to host the Fifth Civil Aviation Legal Advisers' Forum (CALAF/5) in Abuja, Nigeria, tentatively to be held from 14 to 16 of September 2027. Following the successful conclusion of CALAF/4 in May 2026, Nigeria is working closely with the ICAO Secretariat to support the planning and organization of CALAF/5. The Civil Aviation Legal Advisers' Forum (CALAF) provides a valuable platform for civil aviation legal advisers, regulators and other stakeholders to exchange views and experiences on issues of common interest to the international aviation community in the legal field, developments in international air law and challenges arising from the implementation of international air law instruments and the Annexes to the Chicago Convention.

1.2 Building on the outcomes of CALAF/4, Nigeria has accepted responsibility for hosting CALAF/5 in Abuja from 14 to 16 of September 2027. Nigeria considers CALAF/5 an important opportunity to further promote dialogue and cooperation among civil aviation legal professionals and to contribute to the continued development and effective implementation of the international legal framework governing civil aviation.

1.3 The hosting of CALAF/5 is consistent with Nigeria's longstanding commitment to international civil aviation and its continued efforts to strengthen its aviation legal, regulatory and institutional framework. It also provides an opportunity to showcase Nigeria's aviation sector and its ongoing investments in the development of sustainable, modern aviation infrastructure and capabilities.

2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR CALAF/5

2.1 The Fifth edition of CALAF will facilitate a continuing focus of attention on issues of interest to the international aviation community in the legal field and foster closer interaction and collaboration among air law professionals, particularly those serving in organizations that regulate civil aviation. Through the presentation of issues on a variety of topical legal subjects, CALAF/5 is expected to address contemporary legal and regulatory issues affecting international civil aviation, with due consideration given to the particular circumstances and priorities of African and developing States. The Forum will also feature an exhibition component, offering exhibitors and sponsors the opportunity to showcase their services and engage directly with the international aviation law and regulatory community. Participation in the event will be open to CAA and government legal advisers, industry professionals, academics and representatives of international organizations interested in legal issues shaping the future of civil aviation.

2.2 The Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Federal Ministry of Aviation and Aerospace Development and the Nigeria Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), is committed to ensuring the successful organization and hosting of CALAF/5. Appropriate institutional arrangements, including a National Organizing Committee, will be established to coordinate the technical, logistical, security and protocol requirements for CALAF/5, in close consultation with the ICAO Secretariat.

2.3 Abuja, Nigeria's capital and an established venue for international conferences and diplomatic engagements, offers suitable conference facilities, international connectivity and a well-developed hospitality and support infrastructure. The city provides an appropriate environment for hosting CALAF/5 and welcoming participants from ICAO Member States, international organizations and other relevant stakeholders. The city has hosted global events including the ICAO Air Services Negotiation (ICAN) event.

2.4 Nigeria will work closely with the ICAO Secretariat and Member States to ensure that CALAF/5 is effectively organized and provides a meaningful platform for professional dialogue, knowledge sharing and cooperation on civil aviation legal matters.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 Nigeria remains committed to hosting CALAF/5 in Abuja, tentatively to be held from 14 to 16 of September 2027 and to working closely with the ICAO Secretariat and Member States to ensure its successful organization. The Forum will provide a valuable opportunity to strengthen international cooperation, promote the exchange of legal and regulatory knowledge, and advance the effective implementation of the international civil aviation legal framework, particularly in support of African and developing States.

3.2 In this regard, the Legal Committee is invited to note the information contained in this paper concerning Nigeria's hosting of CALAF/5; encourage Member States, particularly civil aviation legal advisers, regulators and relevant policymakers, to participate actively in the Forum; and support continued cooperation between the ICAO Secretariat and Nigeria in the preparation and successful delivery of CALAF/5.