



WORKING PAPER

LEGAL COMMITTEE – 40TH SESSION

(Montréal, 26 to 30 October 2026)

Agenda Item 3: Review of the General Work Programme of the Legal Committee

REVIEW OF THE GENERAL WORK PROGRAMME OF THE LEGAL COMMITTEE

(Presented by the Secretariat)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 According to the Constitution of the Legal Committee (Resolution A7-5) and Rule 8 of the *Rules of Procedure of the Legal Committee* (Doc 7669-139/7), the Legal Committee establishes and maintains, subject to the approval of the Council, a general programme of work which includes subjects proposed by the Committee itself; in addition it shall also include any subjects proposed by the Assembly or the Council.

2. THE WORK PROGRAMME FOLLOWING THE 39TH SESSION OF THE LEGAL COMMITTEE

2.1 Following the conclusion of the 39th Session of the Legal Committee (Montréal, 25 to 28 June 2024), the Council approved on 4 November 2024 (C-DEC 233/6) the General Work Programme of the Legal Committee as follows, noting that not all activities proposed under the General Work Programme could be supported under the approved Regular Budget of the Organization and would be subject to prioritization or voluntary contributions:

- 1) Processes and procedures for States to fulfil their obligations under Article 12 of the Chicago Convention;
- 2) Review of the Role of the International Explosives Technical Commission under the *Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection*;
- 3) International legal aspects of unmanned (pilotless) aircraft operations and integration into civil aviation;
- 4) Promotion of the ratification of international air law instruments;
- 5) Acts or offences of concern to the international aviation community, including cyber threats, that may not be adequately covered by existing air law instruments;
- 6) Study of international legal issues relating to global satellite systems and services supporting international air navigation services;
- 7) International carriage by air and data protection laws; and
- 8) Review of the ICAO Rules for the Settlement of Differences.

3. SUBSEQUENT ACTION BY THE ASSEMBLY

3.1 During its 42nd Session (Montréal, 23 September – 3 October 2025), the Assembly, further to a review of the Work Programme of the Organization in the legal field, removed item 8) titled “Review of the ICAO Rules for the Settlement of Differences” from the General Work Programme of the Legal Committee, considering that work on this item had been substantially completed. Moreover, the Assembly added a new item 8) titled “Legal review of the analysis completed by the Air Transport Regulation Panel of the Application of Article 15 of the Chicago Convention” to the Committee’s Work Programme, with the target date for completion of this review in 2026.

4. ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

4.1 The Legal Committee is invited to consider this working paper and take any action it deems necessary.

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