



WORKING PAPER

ASSEMBLY — 39TH SESSION

ECONOMIC COMMISSION

Agenda Item 41: Aviation Data – Monitoring and Analysis

REPORT ON COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN THE AREA OF DATA AND ANALYSES

(Presented by the Council of ICAO)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This working paper reports on the aviation data and analysis activities undertaken jointly with the United Nations (UN), its agencies and other international and regional organizations and academia to address programmatic issues of mutual interest under the Strategic Objective, *Economic Development of Air Transport*. This paper also presents ICAO's plan for future work related to the aviation data and analyses work programme, which will focus on improving data, analyses and forecasting through the establishment of a *joint venture* model, at the specific project level, in collaboration with partners.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) review the work accomplished by ICAO as presented in paragraph 2;
- b) endorse the Organization's plan of work as presented in paragraph 3; and
- c) consider the information contained in this paper for the update of Assembly Resolution A38-14, Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies in the air transport field.

<i>Strategic Objective:</i>	This working papers relates to Strategic Objective D — <i>Economic Development of Air Transport</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	The activities referred to in this paper will be undertaken subject to the resources available in the 2017–2019 Regular Programme Budget and/or from extra budgetary contributions.
<i>References:</i>	Doc 10027, <i>Report of the Economic Commission of the 38th Session of the Assembly</i> Doc 10022, <i>Assembly Resolutions in Force</i> (as of 4 October 2013) Doc 9956, <i>Global and Regional 20-Year Forecasts for: Pilots, Maintenance Personnel, Air Traffic Controllers, 2011</i> Doc 7100, <i>Tariffs for Airports and Air Navigation Services</i> A39-WP/8, Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies in the air transport field A39-WP/9, Modernization of the ICAO Statistics Programme A39-WP/xx, Proposed draft budget of the Organization for 2017, 2018 and 2019

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Under the Strategic Objective, *Economic Development of Air Transport*, ICAO is strengthening partnerships with the United Nations (UN), its agencies and other international and regional organizations and academia to advance programmatic issues of mutual interest related to key priorities and emerging issues as identified in the ICAO Business Plan for 2017-2018-2019. These partnerships enhance the capabilities of ICAO and Member States to use, analyse and exchange aviation data for decision-making and operational improvement as well as to measure and predict, to the extent possible, the various aspects of civil aviation development.

2. ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

2.1 The UN Data Revolution Project focuses on the transformative actions required to improve the production and use of data, build capacity and literacy in data analytics, modernize statistic collection systems, and develop new targets and indicators for evidence-based decision making. In accordance with Article XIII of the Agreement between ICAO and the UN signed in 1948, ICAO has followed the subsequent UN technical standards and methodologies to share its data and analyses.

- a) **UN System Data Catalogue.** ICAO joined the open access platform to exchange statistical data and analyses within the UN system. Currently, 73 organizations are providing 1 622 datasets under 47 themes, including trade, currency rates, gross domestic product (GDP), income, population, transport, tourism, and development indicators, which are essential in measuring the socio-economic benefits of aviation.
- b) **UN Statistical Commission (UNSC).** ICAO is working with the Global Working Group on Big Data, the National Accounts Advisory Group and the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) Group under the UNSC (A39-WP/9 refers).
- c) **Global Indicator for UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).** In order to measure the progress of the SDGs, the 47th Session of UNSC held in March 2016 endorsed the initial global indicator framework submitted for approval by the UN General Assembly. ICAO supports the agreed global indicator of SDG Target 9.1¹ – *passenger and freight volumes by mode of transport* – by serving as the custodial agency responsible for collecting air traffic data and sharing the information with the UN.

2.2 ICAO has also established a *joint venture*, at the specific project level, in partnership with the following UN agencies, international organizations and academia, rather than conducting the project on its own.

- a) A joint project with the Universal Postal Union (UPU), the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Transport Forum (ITF) at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was initiated to evaluate linkages of e-commerce, liner shipping and air cargo and identify regulatory

¹ SDG Target 9.1 refers to “Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.”

and other constraints that contribute to a low share of air cargo in the rapidly growing e-commerce market.

- b) In accordance with the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) concluded in 2014 with ITF at OECD, economic and social data required to predict air traffic demand is provided by ITF while ICAO provides ITF with historical traffic data and economic models. Both organizations are also developing a database quantifying the constraints to future air traffic growth.
- c) ICAO and the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) are exchanging data on tourist, air passenger and traffic flow on a monthly basis.
- d) ICAO, with the Airport Council International (ACI), jointly collects airport traffic data starting from January 2016 by replacing the ICAO Air Transport Reporting Form I, and is developing an online analytical tool of airport charges contained in *Tariffs for Airports and Air Navigation Services* (Doc 7100).
- e) Three separate Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) covering the collection and analyses of statistical data as well as economic analyses were concluded in 2016 with: a) the Arab Air Carriers Organization (AACO); b) the African Airlines Association (AFRAA); and c) the Latin American and Caribbean Air Transport Association (ALTA).
- f) The Air Transport Diagnostics Project was launched in 2015 with the Interdisciplinary Centre for Mathematical and Computational Modelling (ICM) of the University of Warsaw. The project is designed to measure the gap between the actual and optimal air route structure, and quantify the impact of competition on air connectivity, by analysing Big Data of origin and destination passenger demand.

2.3 In addition, ICAO is cooperating with States to meet their requirements for customized data and analyses for informed policy making. Several States, representing approximately 30 per cent of global international traffic, also integrated their statistical systems with the ICAO Integrated Statistical Database (ISDB) by representing the percentage of traffic and mapping the ICAO methodologies and standard taxonomies.

3. FUTURE WORK

3.1 The focus and priority of the aviation data and analyses work programme is to improve data, analyses and forecasting through strengthening partnerships with the UN, its agencies and other international and regional organizations and academia, avoiding duplication of efforts and envisaging further operational efficiency. Details of the tasks under this work programme are described in A39-WP/xx, Proposed Draft Budget of the Organization for 2017, 2018 and 2019.

3.2 In conducting this work, the Organization will finalize on-going joint projects as presented in Paragraph 2.1 within the agreed timeframes. In addition, the *joint venture* will be used as much as possible to address programmatic issues of mutual interest, for example, work force surveys to update forecasts of licensed personnel requirements (*Global and Regional 20-year Forecasts*, Doc 9956) and gender representation among aviation professionals with the International Labour Organization (ILO).