



**WORKING PAPER**

**ASSEMBLY — 39TH SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item 22 Environmental Protection – International Aviation and Climate Change – Policy, Standardization and Implementation Support**

**ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CO<sub>2</sub> MITIGATION FROM INTERNATIONAL AVIATION**

(Presented by the Dominican Republic on behalf of the 22 Member States of the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission - LACAC<sup>2</sup>)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Since the adoption of Resolution A38-18 at the last ICAO Assembly in 2013, ICAO has been taking important steps to assist Member States in stepping up actions to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from civil aviation. As a result of ICAO's initiative, and with support from Member States and other entities, various capacity building programmes have been carried out, such as the projects in which ICAO established partnerships with the European Union (EU), as well as with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The capacity building project for mitigating emissions from international aviation, sponsored by ICAO and funded by the EU, benefits 14 States in pursuit of the following main objectives: i. preparation of action plans; ii. creation of an Aviation Environmental System (AES), and; iii. implementation of selected mitigation measures.

Capacity building for States, particularly least-developed States, small-island developing States (SIDS) and land-locked developing States, has been quite significant, enabling those States to achieve the desired results through a well-structured process involving close interaction with both national and international stakeholders, and ultimately meet the global objectives.

**Action:** The Dominican Republic invites the Assembly to take the actions set out in paragraph 3.5 and encourage ICAO and Member States to work with developing States in facilitating access to financial support, technology transfer and capacity building.

<i>Strategic objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective E – Environmental Protection.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Additional financial resources are required.

<sup>1</sup> Spanish version provided by Dominican Republic

<sup>2</sup> Argentina, Aruba, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.

<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ICAO Assembly Resolution A38-18: <i>Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies and practices related to environmental protection – Climate change;</i></li><li>• ICAO-EU Project, <i>Capacity Building for CO<sub>2</sub> Mitigation from International Aviation.</i></li></ul>
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## 1. BACKGROUND

1.1 In ICAO Assembly Resolution A38-18, Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies and practices related to environmental protection – Climate change, States that choose to prepare or update their action plans are invited to submit their action plans to ICAO as soon as possible, ideally by the end of June 2015, and then once every three years, so that ICAO can compile information on the achievement of the global aspirational goals. The action plans should include information on the basket of measures being considered by States with an indication of their respective capabilities and national circumstances, information on the expected environmental benefits of the measures chosen from the basket, as well as information on any specific assistance needs;

1.2 The Resolution states that specific measures should be introduced to assist developing States and facilitate access to financial support, technology transfer and capacity building as soon as possible.

## 2. DISCUSSION: ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

2.1 Capacity building and financial support are important factors for achieving the States' commitments under the ICAO action plan initiative. As part of the efforts to provide greater assistance to States and facilitate access to funding for the preparation and implementation of State Actions Plans, ICAO has established partnerships with the EU, as well as with the UNDP and the GEF.

### 2.2 UNDP-GEF Project

2.2.1 In November 2014, the GEF informed UNDP and ICAO that it had approved the Joint Assistance Project – Transforming the Global Aviation Sector: Emissions Reductions from International Aviation.

2.2.2 The Project objectives include the identification and facilitation of measures to reduce emissions from international aviation. It calls for the development of guidance on resource mobilization and support mechanisms for implementing the measures. A major feature of this 2 million USD undertaking is a pilot project carried out in Jamaica in which a measure for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction was implemented that could be replicated in other States.

### 2.3 ICAO-EU Joint Assistance Project

2.3.1 In December 2013, ICAO signed an agreement on the ICAO-EU Joint Assistance Project, Capacity building for CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation from international aviation – a 6.5 million Euro project that is expected to last 42 months.

2.3.2 Fourteen States from Africa and the Caribbean were selected to participate in this project, and national focal points were appointed to oversee implementation in each State. The project comprises three streams of work in the selected States: preparation of State Actions Plans; establishment of an

Aviation Environmental System (AES); and the identification and implementation of measures to reduce aviation emissions.

2.3.3 The Dominican Republic is participating in the ICAO-EU joint project and has achieved the following environmental protection outcomes:

- a) A National Action Plan Team has been officially established to ensure the proper implementation of emissions reduction measures;
- b) The Action Plan Team has received training to prepare robust action plans;
- c) The Dominican Republic Action Plan on Emissions Reduction (DRAPER) has been updated and submitted to ICAO on schedule, with more accurate data and a balanced selection of mitigation measures;
- d) An Aviation Environmental System (AES) for emissions monitoring has been introduced and is operational;
- e) The National Action Plan Team has been trained to use the AES for data collection, monitoring and official submission of CO<sub>2</sub> reports to ICAO;
- f) Various mitigation measures covered in the DRAPER have been implemented including: initiatives in support of performance-based navigation (PBN) and air traffic flow management (ATFM); reinforcement of best practices in environmental protection; improved energy efficiency at national airports, as well as coordination with the ICAO-EU project personnel in order to carry out feasibility studies on alternative fuels; installation of solar power (PV) units in at least two airports, and; reduced reliance on Auxiliary Power Units (APU) with the introduction of 400 Hz electrical converters, or ground power units (GPU), and pre-conditioned air units (PCA);
- g) The State is in the process of setting up an environmental unit within the Civil Aviation Authority, the Dominican Republic Civil Aviation Institute (IDAC), to ensure the sustainability, implementation and continuity of further updates to the DRAPER;
- h) Increased participation in high-level climate change policy and first-time participation in the national emissions inventory with robust data.

### 3. CONCLUSION

3.1 Recognizing the different circumstances among States in their capacity to respond to the challenges associated with climate change and the need for support, especially to developing countries and States having particular needs;

3.2 Recognizing the positive results achieved in mitigating CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, with support from the capacity building programmes;

3.3 Considering that various States in the region could benefit from this type of assistance for the development of robust action plans and the implementation of a national emissions monitoring

system, such as AES, in order to establish emissions inventories and monitor reduced or captured CO<sub>2</sub> from international aviation;

3.4 The Dominican Republic urges ICAO and encourages Member States to pursue their efforts and work together with developing States in facilitating access to financial support, technology transfer and capacity building.

3.5 Requests the Assembly to:

- a) Earmark resources for the expansion and improvement of States' environmental assistance projects for the development and implementation of emissions reduction Action Plans and of monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) systems such as AES for creating emissions inventories and monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international aviation;
- b) Request the Secretariat to organize seminars and/or workshops on a global scheme for international aviation aimed at officials and experts from Member States as well as relevant specialized organizations;
- c) Ensure that ICAO continues to play a pivotal role in providing assistance to its Member States through the dissemination of the latest information on best practices and the provision of guidance and other technical assistance to help enhance capacity building and technology transfer, and;
- d) Build closer ties with States and international organizations to support the continuing implementation of certain mitigation measures for developing States and technology transfer, while promoting access to funding and capacity building.

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