



WORKING PAPER

ASSEMBLY — 40TH SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 30: Other issues to be considered by the Technical Commission

**ON THE RUSSIA-CHINA CONSORTIUM'S SUPPORT OF
ICAO SPACE WEATHER POLICY**

(Presented by the Russian Federation)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This working paper addresses the need of support of willingness of the Russia-China Consortium to participate in the ICAO system to provide airlines with information about hazardous space weather phenomena as a global center of space weather for global aviation. The inclusion in the system of the fourth global center is aimed at strengthening the system and at the rational use of scientific/ technical potential of centers that have successfully passed the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) audit.

Action: The Russian Federation is requesting that the Assembly is invited to support the nomination of the Russia-China Consortium as a global space weather center for international aviation.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to the Safety Strategic Objective.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Because the informational service on space weather over three years is submitted without offsetting the expenses to States who organized consulting centers for space weather, users, just like the ICAO budget will not bear additional expenses when creating the fourth global center.
<i>References:</i>	

¹ Russian version provided by the Russian Federation.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Space weather centers in the Russian Federation and China had WMO audits with positive results; they comply with WMO/ICAO requirements. This means that the Russia-China Consortium can be designated a global space weather center for international aviation without submitting additional requirements.

2. REVIEW OF THE ISSUE

2.1 In 2018, the WMO, pursuant to the WMO- and ICAO-approved procedure to create space weather centers in the interests of international air navigation, sent to the Russian Federation (Institute for Applied Geophysics (IAG)) and China (Space Weather Center of the Chinese Meteorological Administration) a group of international experts to do an audit to check if the center created there complied with WMO/ICAO requirements. The auditors were presented with a hardware/software complex of a potential space weather center for international air navigation and its work was demonstrated. The IAG received the highest score, an A, on the audit, which means "fully compliant."

2.2 In connection with the foregoing, the Russian Federation and China have created the Russia-China Consortium to provide international air navigation with real-time data on space weather in order to act as a single provider of information: a consortium. The appropriate agreement was signed and sent to ICAO with a proposal to grant this consortium "Global" status.

2.3 Since both China and Russia had previously passed a WMO audit with the same good scores as representatives of already designated global centers, there should not be additional requirements.

2.4 We think that the support of the Assembly for the ambition of the Russia-China Consortium to become part of the ICAO system to provide airlines with information about hazardous space weather phenomena as a global center is timely.

2.5 Recently, the Russia-China Consortium has held several organizational events to improve the work of centers, pursuant to requirements presented to global centers:

- a) regular and ongoing monitoring of space weather is done for air navigation on the territory of the Russian Federation, drafting and submitting consultative notices in the event threshold levels are exceeded;
- b) the backup hardware/software complex is prepared, which fulfills the function of a space weather center for international air navigation, and is located outside the territory of the main Russian center;
- c) a bilateral meeting was held in Beijing to concur issues of joint functioning of two centers, during which we determined the sequence of work in the framework of the Russia-China Consortium, agreed to the platform for storage and buffering information as well as protocols, volume and types of information for exchange; and

- d) a cycle of lectures was prepared on the topic of, "Space Weather for Aviation" including in the daily program of the Institute to boost the qualification for weather service specialists.

2.6 Since the informational service for space weather over the first three years has been provided without offsetting the expenses of States who organized space weather consulting centers, users, just like the ICAO budget will not bear additional expenses in the creation of the global center.

2.7 The Russia-China Consortium is hereby appealing to the ICAO Assembly with a request to support the Council of ICAO issuing a decision on designating said Consortium a global center, which would make more effective the work of the ICAO space weather service and ultimately will facilitate improved aviation safety for aircraft on an international scale in a context of hazardous space weather phenomena.

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