



DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE ON A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR AVIATION SAFETY

Montréal, 20 to 22 March 2006

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

THEME 2: IMPROVING AVIATION SAFETY

Topic 2.4: Mutual recognition DGCA/06-WPs/8, 13 and 27

1. DGCA/06-WP/8 titled “Mutual recognition” was presented for the consideration of the conference. Also related to the topic being discussed were WPs/13 and 27 presented by the United States and the African States, respectively.
2. There was general support for the actions proposed in WP/8. Several delegates remarked on the growing concern regarding flags of convenience in aviation, which endangered the safety of air transport. It was noted that States needed to strengthen safety oversight of both domestic and foreign operations. In this regard, it was recognized that provisions and guidance material to assist in the surveillance of foreign aircraft operations would be useful.
3. In his summary, the Chairman noted that paragraph 4.1 of WP/8 was supported. He suggested that the following action be incorporated: that States should enact operating rules for foreign air carriers in accordance with the Convention and establish a programme to monitor foreign carriers and trigger action when safety concerns arise. Based on the agreed actions, the Chairman recommended the inclusion of a safety clause in bilateral agreements between States. In addition, provisions and guidance material on the subject of surveillance of foreign aircraft operations should be developed as quickly as possible.
4. In closing, the Chairman remarked that implementation of Article 33 (Recognition of certificates and licenses) of the Chicago Convention was one of the pillars of safety and was based on trust. However, this trust was based on the understanding that the requirements under which such certificates or licences were issued or rendered valid were “equal to or above the minimum standards which may be established from time to time pursuant to this Convention”, as required by Article 33.

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