

ELEVENTH AIR NAVIGATION CONFERENCE

Montreal, 22 September to 3 October 2003

Agenda Item 2: Safety and security in air traffic management (ATM)

2.1 Safety management systems and programmes :

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FACILITY FOR AVIATION SAFETY (IFFAS)

(Presented by the African States¹)

SUMMARY

This paper underscores the benefits that would be derived by African States from the effective implementation of the International Financial Facility for Aviation Safety in the field of aviation safety, air operations and aircraft airworthiness as well as in the field of aeronautical telecommunications, air traffic services and search and rescue.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 African States had played a key role in fostering the International Financial Facility for Aviation Safety (IFFAS).

1.2 Indeed, already in 1998, on the occasion of the Rio de Janeiro Conference on the funding of CNS/ATM systems, the creation of an international aeronautical fund was advocated by African States.

* English and French versions provided by African States.

¹ Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cap Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

1.3 Renamed IFFAS, this aeronautical fund was finally dedicated to the funding of lines of action following the conclusions of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme and the Global Aviation Safety Plan, notably under Resolution A33-10 adopted in Montreal in October 2001 by the 33rd ICAO Assembly.

2. IFFAS AND AVIATION SAFETY

2.1 The difficulty in having access to sources of sufficient financing are the cause of several deficiencies identified in Africa in various civil aviation domains.

2.2 The first phase of the USOAP Programme on implementation of Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) in Annex 1 — *Personnel Licensing*, Annex 6 — *Operation of Aircraft* and Annex 8 — *Airworthiness of Aircraft* to the Convention on international civil aviation revealed a number of deficiencies. Although concerned States made tremendous efforts with the assistance of ICAO Regional Offices with a view to eliminating such deficiencies, some States among the poorest in the world have been experiencing difficulties to mobilize the necessary funding for the implementation of appropriate plans of action.

2.3 The start of the IFFAS activities would offer to the aforementioned States a major opportunity to have access to external financial whereas the “traditional” development partners are concentrating their assistance to those States to education, health and environment sectors.

2.4 IFFAS would thus enable to eliminate these deficiencies and consequently enhance the aviation safety within those States.

3. PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Despite the efforts made by African States which made possible the elimination of many deficiencies in the air navigation field as this was acknowledged during the Fourteenth APIRG Meeting held in Yaoundé, Cameroon in June 2003, many deficiencies still exist.

3.2 It is therefore most likely that the extension of the USOAP Programme to air traffic services and aerodrome operations will reveal more deficiencies for the African continent whose elimination will call for mobilization of funds, possibly from States outside the African continent.

3.3 Therefore the eligibility criteria of projects in Annex B of the IFFAS Administrative Charter should be interpreted with flexibility bearing in mind the project impact on safety as the major eligibility criterion, as safety could be linked to air operation and aircraft airworthiness, as well as to aeronautical telecommunication, air traffic services and search and rescue.