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Международная
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Ref.: SR 169/1-08/36

13 June 2008

Subject: Invitation to attend the Special Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Regional Air Navigation (RAN) Meeting (2008) — Durban, South Africa, 24 to 29 November 2008 (www.icao.int/AFIRAN08)

Action Required: a) reply concerning attendance as soon as possible; and b) submit documentation by 10 October 2008

Sir/Madam,

1. I have the honour to extend an invitation to your Government/Organization to participate in the Special Africa-Indian Ocean Regional Air Navigation Meeting (2008), to be held in South Africa from 24 to 29 November 2008, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of South Africa. The meeting will be held at the International Convention Centre in Durban. All Contracting States, as well as the international organizations listed in Attachment A, are urged to attend.

2. The Special AFI RAN Meeting (2008) will offer an opportunity to strengthen region-wide commitment to resolving deficiencies, address critical safety issues and serve as a checkpoint for assessing progress of the *Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa* in the Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Region. The meeting will address efficiency and air navigation planning issues in the AFI Region by developing comprehensive work programmes for the implementation of air navigation facilities and services. This forum will also serve as a platform for cooperation, bringing together States at senior decision-making and technical levels, including Civil Aviation Authorities, service providers and users. It should be noted that, as this is a special regional air navigation meeting, the objectives of the meeting will not include an amendment to the existing air navigation plan.

Credentials

3. Credentials are required for the meeting. Such credentials should be signed on behalf of the State or international organization concerned, by a person duly authorized to do so, giving the name and position of each member of the delegation and indicating the capacity in which he or she is to serve at

the meeting (Contracting States: Delegate, Alternate, Adviser; Non-Contracting States and international organizations: Observer). The credentials may be sent in advance to the Secretary General or be deposited, when registering on-site, with the Secretary of the meeting through the designated Credentials Coordinator.

4. The meeting will be conducted in accordance with the *Directives to Regional Air Navigation Meetings and Rules of Procedure for their Conduct* (Doc 8144). In accordance with Part I, Rule 6 of Doc 8144, Contracting States entitled to participate as members in a regional air navigation meeting are those whose territories or dependencies are located partially or wholly within the geographical area to be considered by the meeting. Those Contracting States located outside the area which a) have notified ICAO that aircraft on their register or aircraft operated by an operator whose principal place of business or permanent residence is located in such States, operate or expect to operate into the area, or b) which provide facilities and services affecting the area are also entitled to participate as members. Contracting States not meeting the above criteria, non-contracting States, international organizations and other bodies may be invited by the Council to participate in a RAN meeting, but their representatives shall have “Observer” status.

Agenda and organization

5. The draft agenda for the meeting, which was developed and approved by the Air Navigation Commission, is at Attachment B. The meeting shall be conducted in English and French.

6. It has been agreed that the meeting will consist of a General Committee and two technical committees (Safety Committee and Efficiency Committee). The General Committee will serve as the principal body of the meeting and will be responsible for the formulation of directives and operational policies to guide the work of the meeting as a whole. The General Committee should be attended by high-level delegates (Ministers, Directors General of Civil Aviation, regulatory authorities and other senior officials) in order to formally adopt recommendations made by the two technical committees. The technical committees should be attended by experts in the flight safety, operations, airworthiness and air navigation fields duly authorized to make decisions. States may include in their delegations, as advisors, representation from air navigation service providers and aircraft operators.

7. The General Committee will address Agenda items 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8. The Safety Committee will address Agenda Items 4 and 5 and the Efficiency Committee will address Agenda Item 6.

Documentation

8. Documentation that your Government/Organization may wish to submit for discussion at the meeting should be forwarded electronically, in Microsoft Word format, to ICAO Headquarters, Montreal (icaohq@icao.int, with a copy to spAFIRAN@icao.int) as soon as practicable and no later than six weeks prior to the opening of the meeting (i.e. **10 October 2008**). This will ensure timely translation and electronic distribution in time for full consideration by participants prior to the meeting. It is important to note that the deadline for submission of documentation will be strictly enforced and no additional documentation will be accepted for distribution at the site of the meeting.

9. Working papers should be limited to four pages of new text, including any appendices. As a matter of policy, working papers of more than four pages and information papers are no longer translated by the Organization. Unless exceptional circumstances prevail, longer papers will have to be presented as information papers in their original language(s) only. If the subject of such longer papers is considered essential to the meeting’s work, a summary of not more than four pages should be produced for translation.

10. The documentation for the meeting will be placed on the ICAO website (<http://www.icao.int/AFIRAN08/>) on an ongoing basis. One printed set of documentation per delegation will be made available at the site of the meeting. Documentation will also be available electronically via WiFi on-site.

Registration and other arrangements

11. Online registration for this event and additional information related to hotels, the International Convention Centre and other logistical arrangements are available on the ICAO Special AFI RAN Meeting (2008) website.

Exhibition

12. This event provides an ideal opportunity for the global aviation industry in general to exhibit their products and to meet personally with the high-level aviation decision-makers in the AFI Region. To this end, an exhibition will be hosted at the venue. Additional information in this regard can be obtained from:

Ms. Fatima Cele
Deputy Director: External Communications National Department of Transport
Email: LongwaF@dot.gov.za
Telephone: (27 12) 309 3779
Facsimile: (27 12) 309 3313
Mobile phone: (27 82) 908 0054

13. I would appreciate it if you could advise, as early as possible, by mail, facsimile (+1 514-954-6428) or e-mail (spAFIRAN@icao.int), whether your Government/Organization plans to attend the Special AFI RAN Meeting (2008).

14. Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Taïeb Chérif
Secretary General

Enclosures:

- A — International organizations invited as Observers
- B — Draft agenda for the meeting

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS INVITED AS OBSERVERS

(See Doc 8144, Part I, paragraph 6.2)

Aeronautical Radio, Inc. (ARINC)
Airports Council International (ACI)
African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC)
African Development Bank (ADB)
African Union (AU)
Agency for Air Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA)
Arab Civil Aviation Commission (ACAC)
Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO)
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
East African Community (EAC)
Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS)
European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC)
European Economic Community (EEC)
European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL)
International Aeronautical Federation (FAI)
International Air Transport Association (IATA)
International Council of Aircraft Owner and Pilot Associations (IAOPA)
International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Association (IFALPA)
International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Associations (IFATCA)
International Maritime Organization (IMO)
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Société internationale de télécommunications aéronautiques (SITA)
Southern African Development Community (SADC)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Department of Peace Keeping Operations (DPKO)
World Bank (WB)
World Food Programme (WFP)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

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ATTACHMENT B to State letter SR 169/1-08/36

**SPECIAL AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN (AFI)
REGIONAL AIR NAVIGATION (RAN) MEETING (2008)
(South Africa, 24 to 29 November 2008)**

DRAFT AGENDA

- Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the draft agenda (General Committee)
- Agenda Item 2: Outline of the working methods of the meeting (General Committee)
- Agenda Item 3: Overview of the *Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa*, the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) and the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) (General Committee)
- Agenda Item 4: Current status of aviation safety and related activities in the Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Region (Safety Committee)
- the current status of aviation safety in the region; and
 - review of current regional/sub-regional aviation safety activities, including assistance efforts by States, donor agencies, international organizations, regional organizations and ICAO
- Agenda Item 5: Development of a set of comprehensive work programmes in the safety field (Safety Committee)
- review proposed aviation safety activities based on GASP principles;
 - need for the alignment and development of current aviation safety initiatives;
 - process to rationalize and coordinate the provision of bilateral or multilateral assistance through the *Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa*;
 - agree to a suitable and consolidated action plan aimed at improving aviation safety in the AFI Region on the basis of the African Comprehensive Implementation Programme (ACIP) work programme; and
 - agree on a follow-up system on the implementation of safety-related activities
- Agenda Item 6: Development of a set of comprehensive work programmes in the Air Navigation field, aimed at improving efficiency of the air navigation system (Efficiency Committee)
- identify major air navigation deficiencies in the region;
 - review regional/sub-regional air navigation planning and implementation activities, including assistance efforts by States, donor agencies, international organizations, regional organizations and ICAO;
 - define regional air navigation performance objectives based on GANP principles;

- agree on comprehensive work programmes with timelines and milestones to meet the identified performance objectives;
- agree on a format for the development of national action plans to support the regional work programmes; and
- agree on follow-up action to be taken through the planning and implementation regional group (PIRG) process

Agenda Item 7: Approval of report material (General Committee)

Agenda Item 8: Any other business (General Committee)

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