



SIXTH WORLDWIDE AIR TRANSPORT CONFERENCE (ATCONF/6)

Montréal, 18 to 22 March 2013

GENERAL

The attached constitutes the general part of the report and should be inserted at the appropriate place in the yellow folder.

**SIXTH WORLDWIDE AIR TRANSPORT CONFERENCE (ATCONF)
(2013)**

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

To: President of the Council

From: Chairperson, Worldwide Air Transport Conference (ATConf)

I have the honour to submit the report of the meeting of the Sixth Worldwide Air Transport Conference (ATConf/6), which was held in Montréal, from 18 to 22 March 2013

M. Benchemam
Chairperson

Montréal, 22 March 2013

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SIXTH WORLDWIDE AIR TRANSPORT CONFERENCE (ATCONF/6)**Montréal, 18 to 22 March 2013****HISTORY OF THE MEETING****1. SITE AND DURATION OF THE CONFERENCE**

1. The Sixth Worldwide Air Transport Conference (ATConf/6) was convened in the Assembly Hall of the Headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Montréal at 0930 hours on 18 March 2013. Mr. R. Kobeh González, President of the Council, opened the Conference, which was also addressed by Mr. T. Rifai, Secretary General of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and Ms. K. Macaulay, Chairperson of the Air Transport Committee (ATC). Mr. B. Djibo, Director, Air Transport Bureau, introduced the Conference Secretariat. The Conference completed its work on 22 March 2013.

2. ATTENDANCE

2.1 The meeting was attended by members and observers nominated by 131 Member States and 39 international organizations, as well as by advisors and others as shown in Appendix E — List of Delegates.

3. OFFICERS AND SECRETARIAT

3.1 Mr. M. Benchemam (Algeria) was elected Chairperson of the meeting. Mr. B. Susantono (Indonesia) was elected Vice-Chairperson of the meeting.

3.2 Mr. B. Djibo, Director of the Air Transport Bureau, served as Secretary of the Conference, and Mrs. N. Teyssier, Chief, Economic Analysis and Policy Section, served as Deputy Secretary. Assistant Secretaries were Mrs. M. Boulos, Mr. F. Malaud, Mr. J. Simon, Mr. P. Villard, and Mr. Y-Z. Wang; Mr. J. Byerly, Mr. J. de la Cámara, Mr. B. Péguillan, and Mr. Evalou Gngang, acted as Advisors to the Conference.

3.3 Administrative and language services were provided under the supervision of Dr. F. Liu, Director, Bureau of Administration and Services, Mr. O. Fabrici, Acting Chief, Conference and Office Services Section, Mrs. D. Rahmani, Chief, Documents Management and Outsourcing Section, and Mr. V. Samochkine, Chief, Interpretation Section.

4. AGENDA OF THE MEETING

4.1 The initial agenda for the meeting was approved by the Council of ICAO on 27 February 2012 (C-DEC 195/1, refers). The revised agenda shown hereunder, was approved on 31 January 2013 (EB 2013/4, refers).

AGENDA ITEM 1: GLOBAL OVERVIEW OF TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Agenda Item 1.1: Industry and regulatory developments

The Conference will review major developments in the air transport industry and progress in regulatory change since the last air transport conference (ATConf/5, 24-29 March 2003). This item will cover such areas as: airline alliances, consolidation and cooperative arrangements, low cost carrier models, airline economics and viability, and some major challenges facing the industry (such as the negative effect of fuel price volatility). The Conference will assess the impacts of these developments on the market and regulatory evolution.

Agenda Item 1.2: Other areas of ICAO's work that may have economic implications

The Conference will receive reports on progress in other areas of ICAO's work (e.g. aviation safety, security and environment) that may have economic implications on air transport development or on economic regulation (such as financing).

AGENDA ITEM 2: EXAMINATION OF KEY ISSUES AND RELATED REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Agenda Item 2.1: Market access

This item will cover the exchange of commercial rights — primarily beyond Third and Fourth Freedoms, more flexibility for all cargo services, liberalization of auxiliary services (e.g. ground handling); regional or plurilateral approaches, prospects for multilateralism, airline capacity and airport access issues, including slot allocation and night-flight restrictions.

Agenda Item 2.2: Air carrier ownership and control

This item will cover issues relating to the relaxation of rules for airline designation and authorization — moving beyond national ownership and control requirements; foreign investment in national airlines; and regulatory arrangements to facilitate airline access to international capital markets.

Agenda Item 2.3: Consumer protection

This item will cover issues relating to consumer protection, air passenger rights, related regulatory approaches and industry practices (including conditions of carriage, industry commitments, and airline insolvency); airline pricing transparency; development of ICAO guidance material, and compatibility or harmonization of regulatory approaches.

Agenda Item 2.4: Fair competition

This topic will cover issues relating to avoidance of unfair competitive practices; impact of industry consolidation and concentration; the effect of economic regulatory frameworks on the airline industry; and compatibility or harmonization in application of competition laws/rules.

Agenda Item 2.5: Safeguards

This topic will cover issues relating to sustainable and effective participation of all States, particularly developing countries, in air transport; assurance of services; and avoidance of unilateral action impinging on air transport.

Agenda Item 2.6: Taxation of and other levies on international air transport

This item will address issues relating to taxes/charges/fees imposed on civil aviation; the impact of taxation or non-aviation related levies on the development of air transport, and their implications for ICAO's policies on taxation and charges.

Agenda Item 2.7: Economics of airports and air navigation services

This agenda item will address issues relating to the outcome of the Twelfth Air Navigation Conference (AN-Conf/12, Montréal, 19-30 November 2012) with respect to the economic impact of aviation system block upgrades (ASBUs). Of particular concern will be issues relating to how current ICAO policies and guidance can be applied and how to best respond to ASBU financing challenges. The Conference will be presented with status reports on the financial situation of airports and air navigation services providers, implementation of recommendations resulting from the 2008 Conference on the Economics of Airports and Air Navigation Services (CEANS), and will consider related issues such as funding of regulatory oversight functions (i.e. for safety, security, and economic oversight of airport and air navigation services).

Agenda Item 2.8: Implementation of ICAO policies and guidance

This item will address the relevance and effectiveness of existing ICAO policies and guidance on the economic regulation of international air transport; their application or implementation by States; and measures to improve the situation.

5. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 The Conference met as a single body. Formal consideration of the agenda items was preceded on Sunday, 17 March 2013 by a Pre-conference Symposium, with the Conference *per se* commencing on Monday, 18 March.

5.2 The rules of procedure were the *Standing Rules of Procedure for Meetings in the Air Transport Field* (Doc 8683). Rule 26, which calls for the preparation of summary minutes, had been suspended by the Council.

5.3 Discussions in the main meeting were conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Some working papers were available in one language only. The report was issued in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

5.4 The Conference delegated authority to the Chairperson to approve the yellow cover Report.
