



Assembly — 42ND SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 13: Aviation Security — Policy

**COORDINATION MECHANISMS BETWEEN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY AND
CYBERSECURITY AUTHORITY FOR A BETTER GOVERNANCE**

(Presented by Morocco)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Promoting coordination mechanisms between civil aviation authority and cybersecurity authority within States would ensure a harmonized and consistent approach regarding cybersecurity in civil aviation on the national level.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) note the proposal brought forward in this working paper;
- b) encourage enhanced collaboration between the civil aviation authorities and cybersecurity authorities; and
- c) invite ICAO to develop guidance on point 2.4 of the Cybersecurity Action Plan.

<i>Strategic Goals:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Goal <i>Every Flight is Safe and Secure</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	<i>The actions referred to in this paper will be subject to the resources available in the Regular Program Budget and/or from extra budgetary contributions.</i>
<i>References:</i>	Cybersecurity Action Plan, Second edition – January 2022

¹ English and French versions provided by Morocco.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ever-evolving technology landscape in the aviation industry has undoubtedly ushered in a wealth of advantages. But alongside these advances comes an evolving threat landscape in the form of cyber risks, because of the interconnectivity of aviation systems and dependence on digital infrastructure, which leave the sector susceptible to potential vulnerabilities, necessitating immediate action and collaboration.

1.2 Considering the urgent need to bolster the resilience of civil aviation against cyber threats, this working paper proposes to highlight principles for collaboration between authorities in charge of civil aviation and cybersecurity in order to establish robust coordination mechanisms.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 It is widely recognized that cybersecurity is a transversal and integrated discipline by its very nature. For this purpose, many States have established a Cybersecurity authority which coordinates the implementation of cybersecurity strategies within all sectors. Action item 2.4 of the ICAO Cybersecurity Action Plan (CyAP) was introduced to achieve a better governance of cybersecurity in the aviation sector within states by promoting coordination mechanisms between civil aviation authorities and those responsible for cybersecurity.

2.2 Coordination and alignment between civil aviation regulations and cybersecurity requirements can be related to many aspects of cybersecurity such as:

2.2.1 Cyber Incident reporting:

By implementing effective communication channels and protocols for reporting incidents, cybersecurity breaches can be swiftly brought to the attention of the necessary authorities.

2.2.2 Cyber Threat and Risk evaluation:

Working together to create guidelines for risk management enables a better assessment of cyber threats that pertain to the aviation industry, and assures a proactive identification of potential threats, allowing the aviation sector to stay ahead of evolving cyber risks.

2.2.3 Cybersecurity Oversight:

Involving cybersecurity authorities in the oversight process of cybersecurity implementation measures ensures that industry standards align with the latest cybersecurity practices, adapting to emerging threats effectively.

2.2.4 Training and expertise:

Collaborative efforts in designing and implementing cybersecurity training programs and sharing best practices enhance the collective knowledge base and ensure that aviation personnel are well-equipped to identify and respond to potential cyber threats.

3. **CONCLUSION**

3.1 Effective coordination and collaboration between civil aviation and cybersecurity authorities create a synergy that strengthens the overall security posture of the aviation sector. By enhancing communication, combining efforts and sharing expertise, the aviation community can more effectively address and mitigate the dynamic and sophisticated nature of cyber threats, ensuring the safety and security of global air travel.

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