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WORKING PAPER

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AUTOMATIC LICENCE VALIDATION FOR TECHNICAL AERONAUTICAL PERSONNEL ACROSS COCESNA MEMBER STATES BASED ON THE PROVISIONS OF ICAO ANNEX 1

(Presented by Costa Rica on behalf of COCESNA Member States²)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main aim of this working paper is the establishment and implementation of a procedure for automatic validation of airline transport pilot licences among COCESNA Member States, in accordance with the established regulations, through the standardization of norms, procedures and oversight processes.

Action: The Assembly is invited to support the establishment and implementation of an automatic validation procedure for COCESNA Member States, by:

- taking note of the information in this paper;
- developing guidance material and documentation to guide States in establishing the automatic licence validation procedure;
- expanding the scope of the Standards and Recommended Practices (SRPs) relating to recognition of licences by States; and
- supporting, with expert guidance, the procedure for automatic licence validation among the COCESNA Member States.

<i>Strategic Goals:</i>	This working paper relates to <i>Every Flight is Safe and Secure, No Country Left Behind</i> and <i>The International Civil Aviation Convention and other Treaties, Laws and Regulations address all Challenges</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Not defined
<i>References:</i>	Annex 1 — <i>Personnel Licensing</i> Doc 7300, <i>Convention on International Civil Aviation</i>

¹ Spanish version provided by COCESNA.

² Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Automatic licence validation is a procedure that entails coordination and the drawing up and standardization of regulations among those Member States that decide to implement such a procedure, as well as the elaboration of an agreement between States to establish the requirements and modalities for the entire process of establishment and implementation. The aim is to ensure the effectiveness of the procedure, while not imposing further requirements over and above those previously existing for the applicant.

2. BACKGROUND AND CHALLENGES

2.1 Automatic validation presents various challenges, as follows:

- a) lack of clarity as to the scope of agreements on the validation of licences;
- b) regulatory harmonization by States; and
- c) standardization of the components of the licensing system.

3. DEVELOPMENT

3.1 In developing the automatic validation procedure, its scope of application has been defined as covering holders of an airline transport pilot licence (ATPL) who belong to or work for an air operator. In accordance with the standard in Annex 1, a series of actions has been drawn up, to be followed by States in order to comply with the requirement, including:

3.2 Phase 1: Cross-checking of laws and regulations of States Parties:

- a) as a first step, set up a cross-check of the licensing regulations in the States involved in the project to determine whether the respective regulatory standards are similar;
- b) identify the regulations needed to carry out the procedure (licensing regulations, medical regulations, regulations for training centres);
- c) identify which amendment to Annex 1 includes such regulations;
- d) develop additional regulations (if applicable); and
- e) approve regulations.

3.3 Phase 2: Agreement on automatic licence validation for technical aeronautical personnel between the civil aviation authorities of the COCESNA Member States:

- a) preparation of a draft validation agreement;
- b) meetings of the working group to review the draft;

- c) legal analysis of the validation agreement;
- d) signing of the agreement by the States Parties;
- e) registration of the agreement with ICAO in accordance with Article 83 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation; and
- f) inform States Parties of the registration number assigned by ICAO.

4. **CONCLUSION**

4.1 Automatic validation among COCESNA Member States is a procedure that guarantees efficiency in the process of licence recognition, specifically for holders of an ATPL who work for an air operator belonging to a holding company. This facilitates the transfer of personnel between operators, allowing them to exercise the privileges granted by the licence through validation.

4.2 The establishment of a requirement for automatic validation within the regulatory framework is important, as is the elaboration of an agreement between the States Parties setting forth the requirements for users. This assures the applicant that the procedure is effective, while at the same time imposing no further requirements than those already established.

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