



C-DEC 229/5
28/6/23

COUNCIL — 229TH SESSION

FIFTH MEETING

(COUNCIL CHAMBER, WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 2023, AT 1000 AND 1430 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Welcome to the High Commissioner of Jamaica

1. The Council welcomed the presence at the meeting of Her Excellency, Sharon J. Miller, the High Commissioner of Jamaica to Canada.

Statement by the United Arab Emirates

2. At the invitation of the President of the Council, a statement was delivered by His Excellency, Mr. Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi, Director-General of the General Civil Aviation Authority of the United Arab Emirates, regarding the progress made with respect to the arrangements for the convening of the third Conference on Aviation and Alternative Fuels (CAAF/3). On behalf of the Council, the President welcomed the statement and expressed his gratitude to the United Arab Emirates, as the host State for CAAF/3, for its continued engagement and commitment to delivering a successful outcome to this event.

Financial Statements and Report of the External Auditor for the Financial Year 2022

3. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15484 and Addenda Nos. 1 and 2, which presented the audited Financial Statements of the Organization for the year ended 31 December 2022, reflecting the financial situation of ICAO, as well as the financial performance of projects and activities managed by ICAO on behalf of third parties. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Finance Committee (FIC), as well as a PowerPoint presentation by the External Auditor. In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, given that the FIC oral report had not been made available 72 hours before this meeting.

4. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) expressed appreciation to the representatives of the Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO) for their comprehensive report and for the additional clarifications provided during the Committee Phase;
- b) noted with satisfaction the External Auditor's unqualified opinion on the Organization's Financial Statements for the financial year 2022, as well as for the substantial improvements in the financial situation and management of the Organization compared to recent years, and while expressing appreciation to the Secretariat for the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations,

requested that the Secretariat undertake all efforts to close any outstanding recommendations, particularly those related to IT;

- c) approved the submission of the financial audit reports listed in the Executive Summary of C-WP/15484 to the next ordinary session of the Assembly for approval, and in doing so, took note of the Secretariat plan of action in response to the recommendations by the External Auditor, as contained in the Annex to C-WP/15484; and
- d) took note of the concerns expressed by the Council over the course of its deliberations, with respect to the underlying risks identified by the External Auditor regarding the After Service Health Insurance (ASHI) and pensions liabilities, and requested the Secretariat to continue to monitor this issue and to keep the Council apprised of any developments in this regard, especially vis-à-vis decisions taken on this matter elsewhere in the United Nations system.

Report of the Small Group on Sustainable ICAO Financing and Budgeting

5. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15500, presented on behalf of the Small Group on Sustainable ICAO Financing and Budgeting. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Finance Committee (FIC).

6. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the final report of the Small Group on the Sustainable ICAO Financing and Budgeting, as contained in the Appendix to C-WP/15500, and in doing so, congratulated the Small Group for the progress achieved in this critical area, and for their well-timed and comprehensive report;
- b) agreed that the recommendations of the Small Group, together with the comments of the FIC, as reflected in its oral report, and as further amended by the Council and appended to the present C-DEC, should be taken into consideration in the context of planning the next triennium Budget, as well as the Business Plan;
- c) invited the Small Group to continue its deliberations with a view to refining any recommendations that would require further consideration by the Council, in particular, in relation to alternative scenarios for the preparation of the budget, based on the Zero-based Budget (ZBB) methodology, as well as possible options for the inclusion of industry and other stakeholders in ICAO's financing model, and in this connection, requested the Small Group to continue to keep the Finance Committee regularly apprised of the progress made; and
- d) expressed its sincere appreciation to Mr. Víctor Aguado, the former Chairperson of the FIC and outgoing Chairperson of the Small Group, for his outstanding and tireless efforts, as well as his leadership and dedication to strengthening the financial sustainability of the Organization, which has provided a solid foundation for further work in this regard.

Membership of the Ad Hoc Cybersecurity Coordination Committee (AHCCC) & convening of its first meeting

7. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15501, which presented the composition of the Ad Hoc Cybersecurity Coordination Committee (AHCCC), the nominations received for its membership, and the proposed agenda for its First Meeting.

8. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the proposed composition and membership of the AHCCC, as outlined in Appendix A to C-WP/15501;
- b) reaffirmed the importance of ensuring equitable geographic representation and gender balance in the membership of all ICAO bodies, and in doing so, delegated authority to the President of the Council to explore opportunities to enhance the composition of the AHCCC in this respect, and finalize the membership of the AHCCC, accordingly; and
- c) approved the convening of the First Meeting of the AHCCC during the Committee Phase of the 230th Session, as well as the proposed meeting agenda, as contained in Appendix B to C-WP/15501.

Developments in the Establishment of Cost Recovery for the Provision of Space Weather Information Services

9. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15490, which presented the progress of the work towards the development of a cost recovery mechanism for the provision of space weather services. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Air Transport Committee (ATC). In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, given that the ATC oral report had not been made available 72 hours before this meeting.

10. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) agreed that the Secretariat should continue its work to elaborate the draft space weather information services Agreement, taking into account the views of the ATC, as outlined in the Committee's oral report, and in this connection, requested that an informal briefing on this subject be organized during the 230th Session, with a view to providing the Council with the additional information required to facilitate its further deliberations in this regard, and with a view to addressing the questions and comments contained in the Annex to the ATC oral report;
- b) requested the Secretariat to consider and further elaborate the possible legal implications associated with the potential role of ICAO as Administrator under the Agreement, particularly with the respect to the settlement of potential disputes between the Parties to the Agreement; and
- c) agreed that the Independent Oversight Task Force Report would be circulated in advance of the 230th Session and within a timeframe that would provide Delegations with sufficient time for consideration and consultation, on the understanding that a formal decision for approval in this regard would be taken subsequently during the Session.

Any other business

Report of the Small Group on Innovation (SGI)

11. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report presented by the Chairperson of the Small Group on Innovation.

12. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) welcomed, with appreciation, the report of the SGI, and the significant progress made by the Small Group, with the substantial support of the Secretariat, in advancing the Organization's work on innovation;
- b) invited the Air Navigation Commission to formalize a proposal for the conceptualization and deployment of the Standardization Roadmap, based on the principles developed by the ANC ad hoc Working Group on Innovation and subsequently presented to the SGI, as outlined in paragraph 4 of the oral report;
- c) noted that the scope of the first iteration of the Standardization Roadmap would be dedicated to, *inter alia*, the aircraft and engine technologies identified in the work associated with the Long-Term Aspiration Goal (LTAG), and that the methodology developed for this purpose would then be applied to other aspects of the LTAG work, and ultimately to other Strategic Objectives;
- d) agreed that the Standardization Roadmap should capture all technological and process innovations in support of the ICAO Strategic Objectives, with a view to supporting the effective planning and resource management of the Organization, while also providing greater certainty and predictability to the industry regarding the timely development of the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs);
- e) recommended that the Secretariat consider integrating the various concepts of operations pertaining to future operational and technological developments into a single, overarching concept of operations;
- f) invited the SGI to continue its work in support of the ICAO 2024 Innovation Fair; and
- g) noted the progress achieved with respect to the independent assessment on innovation being conducted by the United Nations Staff System College (UNSSC), and in this regard, invited the SGI to present its recommendations arising therefrom to the Council during a future Session.

Arrangements for the fourth meeting of the Industry Consultative Forum (ICF/4)

13. The Council took note of the information presented by the Chairperson of the Steering Group on the ICAO-Industry Consultative Forum (SGICF) regarding the arrangements for the fourth meeting of the ICF (ICF/4), which it was understood was tentatively planned to take place from 5 to 6 February 2024. It was further noted that as previously agreed, the topic of the ICF/4 would be cybersecurity and cyber resilience.

Representation of the ICAO Governing Body on the Staff Pension Committee

14. The Council took note of the preliminary information presented by the President of the Council concerning Council representation on the ICAO Staff Pension Committee as well as the United Nations Pension Board. In this connection, it was noted that the President intended to present a proposal to the Council for its consideration during the 230th Session.

APPENDIX

COUNCIL AMENDMENTS TO THE APPENDIX OF THE FIC ORAL REPORT

- Develop a comprehensive resource mobilization programme to complement the funding of the Implementation Support pillar while maintaining other programmes to cover unfunded Business Plan activities;
- Consider the participation of industry and other interested stakeholders in ~~Implementation Support funding~~ ICAO Budget funding, defining rules of engagement and governance arrangements, identifying appropriate firewall provisions, and avoiding the conflict of interest, undue influence and unfair competitive advantage;
- Further explore ways on how ICAO can leverage ~~on the Global Industry Alliance modality in IMO and other~~ partnerships experiences used by other international organizations, while taking note that this type of arrangement may not bring additional financial resources to the Regular Budget, but may be important from a strategic perspective;
- Further consider the feasibility of propositions made during COSM on introducing fees/charges in international aviation activities, including the models followed by other international organizations ~~in the International Telecommunication Union~~, which, after the discussion in the Council may be presented to the Assembly for complementing the assessment of States.

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