

# COUNCIL — 235TH SESSION SEVENTH MEETING

# (COUNCIL CHAMBER, FRIDAY, 13 JUNE 2025 AT 1000 HOURS) SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

#### **OPEN MEETING**

### Condolences - Accident involving Air India Flight 171

1. The Council expressed its deepest condolences to the Government and people of India, and to the families of the victims of the tragic accident involving Air India Flight 171, which occurred on 12 June 2025 in Ahmedabad, India. The Council noted that an update on the preliminary investigation into the cause of the accident would be presented to the Council by the Representative of India in due course.

# Recurring GNSS Radio Frequency Interference and their implications on the safety and security of international civil aviation

- 2. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15745, presented by Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden, which reported on recurring GNSS Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) in the Baltic, Eastern and Northern Europe regions, and its implications on the safety and security of international civil aviation.
- 3. Following consideration, the Council:
  - a) recalling its recent decision on this serious matter (C-DEC 234/11, refers), reaffirmed its grave concern regarding the harmful impact of GNSS RFI on the safety and security of international civil aviation, which went against the principles enshrined in the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* (Chicago Convention) and its Annexes;
  - b) noted, with serious concern, the recurring incidents of GNSS RFI originating from the Russian Federation, affecting international air navigation in the Warszawa (EPWW), Vilnius (EYVL), Riga (EVRR), Tallinn (EETT), Helsinki (EFIN), and Sweden (ESAA) Flight Information Regions (FIRs);
  - c) strongly urged the Russian Federation to strictly comply with its obligations under the Chicago Convention and its Annexes;
  - d) called on the Russian Federation to ensure that similar occurrences do not recur in the future;
  - e) considering the implications of the ongoing GNSS RFI in on the safety and security

- of international civil aviation in the Baltic, and Eastern and Northern European regions, requested the ICAO European and North Atlantic (EUR/NAT) Regional Office to engage collaboratively with the Russian Federation to address this issue;
- f) requested the President of the Council to send a letter to the relevant authorities in the Russian Federation to communicate the Council's present decision, and to request the Russian Federation to report to the Council, within thirty days of receipt of said letter, on the appropriate action taken to comply with the Council's decision and its obligations under the Chicago Convention and its Annexes;
- g) requested the Secretary General to issue a State letter informing Member States of the Council's decision on this subject;
- h) considering the serious and continuous risk posed to international civil aviation by the recurring incidents of GNSS RFI originating from the Russian Federation, agreed to remain seized of the matter and to continue cooperation with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) for the benefit of the international civil aviation system; and
- agreed to give further consideration to reporting this matter in accordance with Article 54(k) of the Chicago Convention to the 42nd Session of the Assembly at a subsequent meeting during the current 235th Session.

#### Recurrence of GNSS RFI on the Korean Peninsula

- 4. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report (Restricted, Revision No.1, dated 6 June 2025) from the Secretary General.
- 5. Following consideration, the Council:
  - a) reiterated its grave concern that notwithstanding its previous decisions of 18 June 2012 (C-DEC 196/4, refers), 31 May 2016 (C-DEC 208/9, refers), 14 June 2024 (C-DEC 232/4, refers) and 26 March 2025 (C-DEC 234/11, refers) relating to the incidents of GNSS Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) on the Korean Peninsula originating from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), these incidents had continued to recur in the intervening period and had been ongoing since 2 October 2024, jeopardizing the safety of internation civil aviation in the Incheon Flight Information Region (FIR);
  - b) noted, that pursuant to C-DEC 234/11, a letter was sent from the President of the Council, dated 6 May 2025, to the minister responsible for civil aviation in the DPRK, communicating the Council's decision of 26 March 2025 and requesting the DPRK to report to the Council, within thirty days, on the appropriate action taken to comply with the Council's decisions and its obligations under the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* (Chicago Convention) and its Annexes;
  - c) further noted, with regret, that the DPRK had yet to respond to the aforementioned letter, despite the thirty-day timeframe having expired on 5 June 2025, or more generally to any other aspect of this matter;
  - d) considering the serious and continuing risk posed to international civil aviation as a result of these recurring incidents of GNSS RFI originating from the DPRK, and

acknowledging that the DPRK had yet to respond to the Council's repeated requests and decisions or comply with its obligations under the Chicago Convention and its Annexes, agreed to report the matter as an infraction of the Chicago Convention to the 42nd Session of the ICAO Assembly in accordance with Article 54 k) of the Chicago Convention; and

e) requested the Secretariat to prepare a draft Assembly working paper on this matter, for consideration by the Council at a subsequent meeting of the current 235<sup>th</sup> Session.

## Assembly Resolutions A41-1, A41-2 and A41-3

- 6. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report (Restricted, Revision No. 1, 6 June 2025) from the Secretary General.
- 7. Following consideration, the Council:
  - a) took note of the information contained in the Secretary General's oral report regarding developments in connection with the infractions of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* (Chicago Convention) as reported in Assembly Resolutions A41-1, A41-2 and A41-3, since their adoption by the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the Assembly in 2022;
  - b) further noted that there had been no developments or further information received from the Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) regarding actions taken to address or resolve the infractions identified in the referenced Assembly Resolutions;
  - c) requested the Secretariat to prepare draft Assembly working papers to report on the status of developments relating to each of the Assembly Resolutions A41-1, A41-2 and A41-3 for consideration by the Council at a subsequent meeting of the current 235<sup>th</sup> Session.

# Draft Assembly Working Paper - Outcome of the Ministerial Segment of the Facilitation Conference, Doha, Qatar

- 8. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15718, which presented a draft Assembly working paper on the outcome of the High-level Ministerial Segment convened on 17 April 2025 during the ICAO Facilitation Conference, held in Doha, Qatar from 14 to 17 April 2025. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Air Transport Committee (ATC).
- 9. Following consideration, the Council:
  - a) conveyed its sincere appreciation to the Government of Qatar for having generously hosted the ICAO Facilitation Conference, and for its important contributions in enabling a successful and meaningful outcome;
  - approved the dissemination of the Doha Declaration to Member States, and in that connection, supported continued efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Declaration through outreach activities, including during global and regional events;
  - c) also supported the inclusion of relevant clauses of the Doha Declaration into the proposed updates to Assembly Resolutions A41-17, *Consolidated statement on continuing ICAO policies related to facilitation*, and A41-14, *Assistance to victims of*

air accidents and their families, for submission to the 42nd Session of the ICAO Assembly, as appropriate; and

d) approved the draft Assembly working paper attached to C-WP/15718, as amended by the ATC and attached to its oral report, and subject to the additional modifications agreed by the Council during its consideration of this item, namely the addition of a paragraph clarifying operative clause k) of the Doha Declaration, the division of operative clause q) into two separate clauses, as well as editorial refinements, and, in doing so, delegated authority to the President to thereafter approve the revised working paper on its behalf for subsequent submission to the 42nd Session of the Assembly.

### Analysis of the Safety of International Civil Aviation of the Triennium 2022, 2023, 2024

10. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15747 (Information paper), presented by Bolivia (Plurinational State of), which presented a safety analysis of the degree of Effective Implementation (EI) of international civil aviation within the framework of the USOAP-CMA, the increase in global departure traffic, fatal accidents and fatalities, and the number of passengers transported in the triennium 2022, 2023, 2024. It was recalled that the Council had held an extensive discussion on the analysis contained in C-WP/15747 in the context of the informal briefing of the Council held on 9 June 2025, on the subject of aviation safety trends.

## 11. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) expressed appreciation to the Representative of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) for his important technical insights and contributions in support of the Council's discussions relating to the safety of international civil aviation, and in doing so, took note of results the safety analysis presented under C-WP/15747, highlighting in particular the potential factors which pose higher risks to aviation safety, while also welcoming the recommended actions aimed at prioritizing safety and reducing the likelihood of aviation accidents; and
- b) requested that the Secretariat consider the recommendations contained in paragraphs 2.5 and 2.6 of C-WP/15747, in the context of developing measures to address key risks to the safety and security of international civil aviation.