



C-DEC 236/8
27/11/25

COUNCIL — 236TH SESSION

EIGHTH MEETING

(COUNCIL CHAMBER, WEDNESDAY, 26 NOVEMBER, AT 1000 HOURS AND 1430 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Election of the President of the Council

1. Tabled for the Council's consideration was C-WP/15761, whereby the Secretary General presented the following two candidatures for the post of President of the Council which had been received in response to State letter S 2/6-25/13 dated 27 March 2025 by the deadline of 12 September 2025 established previously by the Council: Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma, nominated by Japan in a letter received on 28 March 2025; and Dr. Sameh Elhefny, nominated by Egypt in a letter dated 26 June 2025. The nomination letters were set forth in Appendices A and B, respectively, to the paper, together with the candidates' curricula vitae.

2. In accordance with paragraph 2 of Appendix A of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council* (Doc 7559), Member States had been informed of the candidatures of Mr. Onuma and Dr. Elhefny by State letter S 2/6 – 25/17, dated 7 April 2025; and State letter S 2/6 – 25/61, dated 7 July 2025, respectively.

3. Further to paragraph 3 of Appendix A of the Rules of Procedure, the Council had invited the candidates to present their views, and to answer any questions posed, at a closed meeting of the Council held on 28 October 2025 at 1000 hours. The summary minutes of that meeting had been circulated to Council Members by e-mail dated 18 November 2025.

4. Pursuant to Article 51 of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* and paragraph 6 of Appendix A of the Rules of Procedure, the Council proceeded with the election, by secret ballot, of the President of the Council for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2028. Under paragraph 4 of said Appendix A, the election required a majority of the Members of the Council, i.e. 19 votes. The three Vice-Presidents of the Council, namely, the Representatives of Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and Argentina, respectively, served as scrutineers for the official tallying and verification of the ballots, in order to ensure transparency in the voting process.

5. With all 36 Representatives in attendance and eligible to vote, the result of the secret ballot was as follows (by alphabetical order):

Dr. Sameh Elhefny	14 votes
Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma	22 votes

There were no invalid ballots or blank ballots.

6. Based on this result, and pursuant to paragraph 4 of Appendix A of the said Rules of Procedure, the President of the Council declared Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma elected as President of the Council. His term would commence on 1 January 2026 and end on 31 December 2028.

7. The President of the Council, joined by the Secretary General, congratulated Mr. Onuma on his election, and expressed gratitude to the Government of Japan for their nomination, and support of ICAO's work. Following a warm round of applause, Mr. Onuma thanked all Representatives for conferring upon him the great honour of becoming the seventh President of the Council.

8. On behalf of the Council, the President also expressed appreciation to Dr. Sameh Elhefny, who served as the Representative of Egypt on the Council, and his nominating State, for their continued commitment and contributions to the work of the Organization.

9. It was noted that there would be further opportunity to mark the occasion of the election of the President of the Council, as well as bid farewell to the current President, during the ceremony planned at the Council meeting taking place on Friday, 28 November 2025.

Annual Report of the Evaluation and Audit Advisory Committee (EAAC)

10. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15782 Revision No. 1, which presented the annual report on the work of the Evaluation and Audit Advisory Committee (EAAC). The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG). In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, given that the oral report had not been made available 3 working days before the present meeting.

11. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) welcomed the EAAC annual report as contained in Appendix A to C-WP/15782 Revision No. 1, and acknowledged the consistent high-quality and value of EAAC's work for the Organization;
- b) took note of the Secretariat Action Plan to address the new EAAC recommendations, as contained in Appendix B to C-WP/15782 Revision No. 1;
- c) noted, in particular, the concerns expressed by EAAC on the implementation of the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, Quantum, and in that regard underlined the importance of close and effective monitoring and reporting on the implementation, stabilization and integration of the ERP and other related systems;
- d) further noted the status of the EAAC's prior recommendations, as contained in Appendix C to C-WP/15782 Revision No. 1, and reiterated the need for the Secretariat to implement EAAC recommendations in accordance with the established target dates, while encouraging the Secretariat to continue its constructive dialogue with EAAC to ensure it is responding effectively to its recommendations;
- e) also took note of the proposed work plan of the EAAC for 2026, and in that connection, requested OIO, as the EAAC Secretariat, to coordinate with EAAC to include a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of ICAO recruitment practices therein;
- f) approved the revised EAAC Terms of Reference, as contained in Appendix D of C-WP/15782 Revision No. 1;
- g) requested the Secretariat, in collaboration with EAAC, to arrange for an informal briefing of the Council on the work of EAAC, to be held in the coming months; and

- h) expressed its gratitude to the Chairperson of the EAAC, Mr. Damian Brewitt for his dedicated service and contributions in support of the work of the EAAC and the Council.

Programme of ICAO meetings for 2026 and tentative programme of meetings for 2027-2028

12. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15763, which presented the programme of meetings for the year 2026 and, for planning purposes, the tentative programme of meetings for the years 2027 and 2028. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG). In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, given that the oral report had not been made available 3 working days before the present meeting.

13. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) approved, in principle, the Programme of Meetings for 2026, as presented in Appendix A to C-WP/15763, taking into consideration that the dates for certain meetings will be decided at a later date, and subject to the modifications agreed by the COG being incorporated therein;
- b) noting the large number of meetings scheduled throughout the triennium, particularly in 2026, and the potential impacts on Secretariat resources, requested the Secretariat to review the proposed programme of meetings, and report back to the Council during the 237th Session, as necessary;
- c) approved the revised dates for the 237th Session of the Council, as follows:
 - i. Committee Phase: 26 – 30 January 2026 and 9 – 20 February 2026; and
 - ii. Council Phase: 23 March – 3 April 2026;
- d) approved, for planning purposes, the programme of meetings for the years 2027 and 2028, as presented in Appendices B and C to C-WP/15763, respectively, taking into consideration that the dates for the convening of certain meetings will be decided at a later date; and
- e) requested the Secretariat to prepare a working paper on the preparations for the convening of an Extraordinary Assembly, for presentation to the Council during the 237th Session.

Any other business

International Civil Aviation Operations in the Maiquetía (SVZM) Flight Information Region (FIR)

14. Agreeing to the request of the Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to deliver a statement to the Council in accordance with Rule 31 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, the Council took note of the information provided by the Representative regarding international civil aviation operations in the Maiquetía (SVZM) Flight Information Region (FIR). The Council further noted the statement of the Representative of the United States on the Council, in this respect. In recalling the information which had also been presented by the Secretary General on this matter (C-DEC 236/7), the Council requested the Secretariat to continue to monitor the situation in the Maiquetía FIR, and keep the Council informed of developments, as appropriate.