



C-DEC 237/2
26/3/26

COUNCIL — 237TH SESSION

SECOND MEETING

(COUNCIL CHAMBER, MONDAY, 23 MARCH 2026, AT 1430 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Condolences

1. The Council expressed its deepest condolences to the victims and their families of the tragic accident at LaGuardia airport in New York involving Air Canada Flight AC8646, while wishing a full and swift recovery to those injured.

Opening of the session and amendments to the work programme of the Council and calendar of meetings for the 237th Session

2. The Council took note of the information presented by the President of the Council, as well as the updates pertaining to the proceedings of the 237th Session.

3. On the basis of a proposal by the President of the Council, and in addition to the amendments to the work programme for the 237th Session reflected in C-WP/15764 Revision No. 1, the Council agreed to further amend its work programme to include an additional item pursuant to a request by the United Arab Emirates under Article 54 n) of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, supported by a draft working paper, jointly presented by Jordan, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Morocco. In that connection, it was understood that the Council would be notified in due course of the date on which this item would be considered, and that those Contracting States not represented on the Council and whose interests were especially affected in this matter would be invited to participate without a vote in the Council's proceedings, in accordance with Rule 31 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council* (Doc 7559/11).

4. On the basis of a further proposal by the President of the Council and pursuant to a letter addressed to the President of the Council from the Vice Minister of Roads and Urban Development and President of the Civil Aviation Authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran invoking Article 54 n) of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, the Council agreed to further amend the work programme for the 237th Session to include an additional item on the matters referred to therein. It was understood that the Council would be notified in due course of the date on which this item would be considered, and that those Contracting States not represented on the Council and whose interests were especially affected in this matter would be invited to participate as without a vote in the Council's proceedings in this regard, in accordance with Rule 31 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council* (Doc 7559/11).

5. It was further noted that an additional meeting of the CEC would be held in the afternoon on Tuesday, 24 March 2026, immediately following the conclusion of the COG, as reflected in the President Memorandum PRES SS/3819, Revision No. 4, dated 20 March 2026.

International civil aviation operations in the Middle East Region

6. The Council took note of the information presented by the Secretary General regarding developments affecting international civil aviation operations in the Middle East (MID) Region that pose a potential risk to the safety and security of aviation. The Council noted the key actions which had been taken by the Secretariat thus far to address these risks, as well as the actions planned going forward.

Election of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Governance (COG) and on Cooperation with External Parties (CCEP)

7. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15821 (Corrigendum No. 1), which in light of the departure of the Chairperson of the Committee on Governance (COG) (Representative of Australia), invited the Council to elect a new Chairperson of the COG for the remainder of the 2025-2026 term.

8. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) agreed to suspend paragraph 3 of Appendix B and that part of paragraph 2 of Appendix E of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, related to elections taking place by secret ballot unless waived by unanimous decision by the Members represented at the meeting;
- b) on the nomination of the Representative of Japan, elected the Representative of France (Ms. Florence Cormon-Veyssière) as the Chairperson of the COG for the remainder of the 2025-2026 term, with immediate effect; and
- c) pending the departure of the Chairperson of the CCEP later this Session, agreed to postpone the election for the time being, it being understood that the Council would return to this matter at a subsequent meeting.

Appointment of the External Auditor of ICAO for the Financial Years 2026, 2027, and 2028

9. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15822 Revision No. 1, which presented an update regarding the appointment of the External Auditor of ICAO, after the Organization was advised that the tenure of Mr. Pierre Moscovici as First President of the Cour des comptes (France), would end with effect from 31 December 2025.

10. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) noting that Mr. Pierre Moscovici's tenure as First President of the Cour des comptes (France) had ended with effect from 31 December 2025, approved, in accordance with Financial Regulation 13.2, the appointment of his successor, Ms. Amélie de Montchalin, as the External Auditor of ICAO for the financial years 2026, 2027 and 2028; and
- b) agreed to delegate authority to the President of the Council to approve the appointment of future successors in the position of First President, Cour des comptes (France) as External Auditor of ICAO, should such succession occur during the financial years 2026, 2027 and 2028.

Joint report of the CCEP and the Secretariat on the implementation of the ICAO Policy on Interactions with External Parties

11. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15816, which presented the joint report of the CCEP and the Secretariat on the implementation of the revised ICAO *Policy on Interactions*

with External Parties, pursuant to C-DEC 234/6, and consistent with the provisions of said Policy. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).

12. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the information presented in C-WP/15816 regarding the implementation of the Policy, and in doing so, supported the recommendation proposed by the COG in relation to action b) and paragraph 4.3 of the working paper, as contained in its oral report;
- b) agreed to review the continued relevance of the CCEP's oversight role in the implementation of the revised Policy, in 2027, particularly in the review of due diligence assessments of possible new kinds of arrangements with the industry and private sector on, for example, sustainable budget which is being considered by the appropriate small group, and climate financing; and
- c) further noted the intention of the Secretariat to continue to improve the relevant Administrative Instructions, in particular for those cases where the external party is a State entity or an organization of the United Nations system, and commensurate with their associated risk profiles.

New Governance Framework for the AFI Plan, the AFI SECFAL Plan and the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF)

13. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report presented by the Chairperson of the AFI Plan, AFI SECFAL Plan and HRDF Steering Committee.

14. Following consideration, the Council took note of the information presented in the oral report, and welcomed the establishment of a unified governance structure for the AFI and AFI SECFAL Plans and the HRDF, which aimed at strengthening leadership, accountability, resource mobilization and measurable results across aviation safety, security, facilitation and capacity development initiatives in the AFI Region.

Annual Report of the Ethics Office for 2025

15. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15815, which reported on the activities undertaken by the ICAO Ethics Office during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).

16. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) noted the information contained in C-WP/15815, and reaffirmed its support for the work of the Ethics Office, underscoring the importance of adequate resources being allocated to the Office, while fully cognizant of the budgetary and resource constraints of the Organization, and particularly encouraging voluntary contributions by Member States;
- b) supported the recommended actions outlined in paragraphs 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 of C-WP/15815, highlighting in particular the need to strengthen provisions to ensure clarity on the roles and responsibilities of managers and supervisors in serving as the first line of defence in addressing workplace concerns, and to ensure that they are provided with adequate training in this regard;
- c) requested that future iterations of the annual report should include a trends analysis to provide better oversight of potential changes over time and their implications, and that

the relevant reports relating to the implementation of the ICAO Ethics Framework, namely, the Annual Reports on Ethics, of the Investigative Entity on Cases of Misconduct and on Actions Taken in Response to Complaints of Misconduct and Retaliation, should be issued concomitantly to facilitate the Council's understanding, and;

- d) requested the Secretariat to organize an informal briefing during the next Session to clarify, in a holistic manner, relevant matters including the existing procedures and the respective roles and responsibilities of the different entities involved in the formal and informal conflict-resolution mechanisms at ICAO.

Halon Replacement

17. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15807, which presented information on the status of halon replacement in civil aviation following the adoption of Assembly Resolution A42-11, *Halon replacement*. The working paper also identified key issues requiring further work, highlighted the importance of coordination with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and outlined proposed actions for Council consideration to support the effective implementation of Resolution A42-11.

18. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) noted the information presented in C-WP/15807 concerning the status of halon replacement in civil aviation and the requirements of Assembly Resolution A42-11, *Halon replacement*, and in that connection, requested that the ICAO Secretariat, in accordance with Operative Clause 6 of Resolution A42-11, continue to engage with UNEP and relevant Montréal Protocol advisory bodies to facilitate and benefit from their update of the assessment on global halon reserves and the sustainable management of existing halon banks, to report back to the Council on this matter in the 239th Session, and to invite the relevant representatives of UNEP to participate in that session; and
- b) requested that the Air Navigation Commission (ANC), in accordance with Operative Clause 7 of Resolution A42-11, continue the necessary technical work, through existing ICAO mechanisms, to develop a proposal based on safety, available data and alternative solution development, for a revised applicability date for halon replacement in Annex 8 for new aircraft Type Certificate applications, noting that any proposal to defer the applicability date should be accompanied by a technical analysis, including in relation to the availability of suitable halon alternatives for use in aviation, in the specified timeframe.

Any other business

Request from Observers to participate in closed meetings of the Council

19. It was noted that in the absence of comments to emails circulated by the President of the Council in December 2025 and January 2026, and in accordance with Rule 32 a) of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, the Council had agreed to invite Ms. Delphine Micheaux Naudet (European Union) to participate as Observer during the 237th Session of the Council's consideration of all items in closed session; Mr. Michael Comber (IATA); Mr. Daniel Carnelly and, in his absence, Ms. Anouck Barreaux, (ICCAIA); and Mr. Brian Shury and, in his absence, Mr. Sebastián Currás-Barrios, (IFALPA), to participate as Observers during the 237th Session of the Council's consideration in closed session of items related to aviation safety and security, as appropriate.

Appointment of a Member and Alternate on the Air Navigation Commission (ANC)

20. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 19 February 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 13 February 2026, Mr. Rafael José Botelho Faria, nominated by the Government of Brazil, had been appointed as a Member on the Air Navigation Commission to succeed Mr. Victor de Sant'Anna Souza, who will henceforth serve as his Alternate, with effect from 23 February 2026.

Appointment of Members to the Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP)

21. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 3 February 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 20 January 2026, Ms. Catherine Marthe had been appointed as the Member from Switzerland to CAEP, replacing Mr. Urs Ziegler, with effect from 4 February 2026.

22. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 4 March 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 18 February 2026, Ms. Ye Lee had been appointed as the Member from Australia to CAEP, replacing Ms. Sarah Millard, with effect from 5 March 2026.

Appointment of Members of the Technical Advisory Body (TAB)

23. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 15 December 2025 to the President of the Council's email dated 1 December 2025, Ms. Mónica Cuéllar had been appointed to serve as Member from Colombia to the TAB, to replace Mr. Sebastián Carranza, with effect from 16 December 2025.

24. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 17 December 2025 to the President of the Council's email dated 4 December 2025, Dr. You Lim Jang had been appointed to serve as Member from the Republic of Korea to the TAB, to replace Mr. Jong Ik Yoo, with effect from 18 December 2025.

Public Key Directory (PKD) Board Membership

25. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 13 January 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 6 January 2026, the Council approved the list of members appointed/reappointed to the PKD Board. In addition, it was noted that Mr. Cor de Jonge (Netherlands) was re-elected as Chairperson of the PKD Board, while Ms. Tori (Victoria) Lamb (Australia) was elected as the Vice-Chairperson.

Appointment of a member to the Commission of Experts of the Supervisory Authority of the International Registry (CESAIR)

26. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 30 January 2026 in response to the President's memorandum PRES TO/3834 dated 23 January 2026, a member nominated by the United Kingdom, Ms. Doris Posch, was appointed as a member of the Commission.