C-DEC 238/5
29/6/26

COUNCIL — 238TH SESSION

FIFTH MEETING

(COUNCIL CHAMBER, THURSDAY, 25 JUNE 2026, AT 1430 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Welcome to a Representative

1. The Council warmly welcomed the newly appointed Representative of Qatar (Mr. Mohammed Al Khater).

Earthquakes in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and status of civil aviation operations

2. The Council was united in expressing its solidarity with the people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela following the loss of life and severe destruction caused as a result of the twin earthquakes that struck Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) on 24 June 2026.

3. The Council also took note of the information presented by the Secretary General regarding the status of civil operations in the Maiquetía FIR, and the significant operational impacts of recent events. It was understood that the South American (SAM) and North American, Central American and Caribbean (NACC) Regional Offices, through the Contingency Coordination Team (CCT), were coordinating with the Venezuelan authorities and other entities to ensure the safety of aviation operations in the Maiquetía FIR, and the affected region.

Environmental protection – Recent developments in ICAO and other United Nations bodies and international organizations

4. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15839, which presented an update on recent developments related to ICAO's cooperation with other UN bodies and international organizations in the field of aviation and the environment, including the preparations for the UNFCCC COP31 to be held from 9 to 20 November 2026 in Antalya, Türkiye, as well as the latest developments in climate finance and aviation taxation, as well as ICAO's outreach efforts. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Climate and Environment Committee (CEC).

5. Following consideration, the Council:

a) noted the information contained in C-WP/15839 and in particular, expressed its support for the Secretariat's efforts to conduct outreach in order to reinforce ICAO's continued leadership on international aviation and climate change;

b) reaffirmed the importance of ICAO and its Member States continuing to express clear concern on proposals that would use international aviation as a potential source for the mobilization of revenue for climate finance to other sectors, in order to ensure that

international aviation is not targeted as a source of such revenue in a disproportionate manner, including through coordination with government representatives and national delegations to relevant UN bodies and international organizations;

c) requested the Secretariat to continue to develop impactful outreach materials and communication strategies to effectively showcase ICAO's commitments and achievements in advancing all aspects of aviation environmental protection, including targeted materials on aviation levies and taxation, and to keep the Council informed on these during its 239th Session; and

d) invited the Organization to continue to pursue related high-level outreach, including through the good offices of the President of the Council and the Secretary General, with a view to reaching relevant stakeholders outside ICAO and the aviation community.

Convening the Third High-Level Conference on Aviation Security (HLCAS/3)

6. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15834, which presented a proposal for convening the third High-level Conference on Aviation Security (HLCAS/3), including expected outcomes and the preparatory process leading to the Conference. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Aviation Security Committee (ASC).

7. Following consideration, the Council:

a) approved the convening of HLCAS/3 to be held at ICAO Headquarters during the week of 12 April 2027;

b) endorsed the proposed outcomes and timeline of activities, as contained in the working paper, taking into account the comments made thereon by the ASC during its discussion and reflected in its oral report, while also emphasizing that the Conference should serve to accelerate efforts towards the evolution of the Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP);

c) requested the Secretariat to issue a State letter seeking States' input as part of the preparatory process leading to HLCAS/3, including the development of the Conference agenda and associated documentation;

d) emphasized the importance of continued coordination on cross-cutting matters for the preparation of the respective High-level Aviation Security and Safety Conferences, while maintaining the distinct scope and objectives of each conference;

e) encouraged the Secretariat to continue its consultations with relevant ICAO bodies and expert groups as preparations for the HLCAS/3 progress; and

f) requested the Secretariat to provide a progress report on the preparation of the Conference, including the Conference agenda, which should reflect relevant cross-cutting aspects, and to conduct an assessment of the impacts of convening this event on resources and the delivery of the work programme to the Council at its 239th Session.

Elections by the Council

8. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15827 Revision No. 1, which related to: the election of the three Vice-Presidents of the Council, and the Chairpersons of the Air Transport (ATC), Aviation Security (ASC), Climate and Environment (CEC), Finance (FIC), Joint Support (JSC), Technical Cooperation (TCC) and Relations with the Host Country (RHCC) Committees, as well as the

Committees on Governance (COG) and Cooperation with External Parties (CCEP); in addition to the composition of these Committees. In this connection, Representatives had been invited to submit the names of Members and Alternates to serve on the various Council Committees in the President's memorandum PRES TO/3859 dated 21 April 2026.

9. For the purposes of electing the First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents, as well as the Chairpersons of the Committees, the Council 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* (Doc 7559) related to the elections taking place by secret ballot unless waived by unanimous decision of the Members represented at the meeting.

10. On the nomination of the Representative of Colombia, the Council elected the Representative of the United Arab Emirates (Mr. Saeed Mohammad Al Suwaidi) as its First Vice-President, the Representative of France (Ms. Florence Cormon-Veyssière) as its Second Vice-President, and the Representative of Brazil (Mr. Michel Arslanian Neto) as its Third Vice-President, for the period 2026-2027, with effect from the 239th Session, pursuant to Appendix B of its Rules of Procedure.

11. In electing the incoming Vice-Presidents, the Council expressed its appreciation to the three out-going Vice-Presidents: Ms. Eileen Poh (Singapore), Mr. Saeed Mohammad Al Suwaidi (United Arab Emirates) and Mr. Gerardo Ezequiel Bompadre (Argentina).

12. Pursuant to Appendix E of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council* (Doc 7559), and the Special Provisions of the *Rules of Procedure for Standing Committees of the Council* (Doc 8146), the Council then:

a) appointed the Members and Alternates of the JSC, FIC, ASC, TCC, CEC and the RHCC, as presented in Appendix B of the working paper, for the period 2026-2027, with effect as from the 239th Session;

b) appointed the Members and Alternates to the CCEP, as listed in Appendix C, for the period 2026-2027, with effect as from the 239th Session, and in doing so, agreed to suspend that part of Rule 2 of Appendix B of the *Rules of Procedure for Standing Committees of the Council* (Doc 8146), which indicates that the CCEP shall consist of five Representatives on the Council, or in their absence, their Alternates;

c) noted that the composition of the ATC and COG consisted of Representatives of all Members of the Council or in their absence, their Alternates, for a period of three years, with effect as from the 236th Session of the Council; and

d) agreed that authority would be delegated to the President of the Council to amend the composition of the JSC, FIC, ASC, TCC, CEC and RHCC, these being Committees with open membership, as required.

13. Pursuant to Appendix E of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council* (Doc 7559), and the Special Provisions of the *Rules of Procedure for Standing Committees of the Council* (Doc 8146), the Council then elected the Chairpersons of the ATC, FIC, JSC, TCC, ASC, CEC, RHCC, COG and CCEP, for the period 2026-2027, with effect from the 239th Session, as follows:

a) on the nomination of the Representative of Spain, the Council elected the Representative of Uganda (Mr. John Wycliffe Kabbs Twijuke) as the Chairperson of the Air Transport Committee (ATC);

b) on the nomination of the Representative of Japan, the Council elected the Representative of Switzerland (Ms. Helena Hallauer-Hess) as the Chairperson of the Finance Committee (FIC);

c) on the nomination of the Representative of Nigeria, the Council elected the Representative of China (Mr. Xinming Lyu) as the Chairperson of the Joint Support Committee (JSC);

d) on the nomination of the Representative of Saudi Arabia, the Council elected the Representative of Cuba (Ms. Mercedes Vázquez González) as the Chairperson of the Technical Cooperation and Implementation Support Committee (TCC);

e) on the nomination of the Representative of South Africa, the Council elected the Representative of Italy (Mr. Sergio Martes) as the Chairperson of the Aviation Security Committee (ASC);

f) on the nomination of the Representative of Mexico, the Council elected the Representative of Equatorial Guinea (Mr. Estanislao Esono Anguesomo) as the Chairperson of the Climate and Environment Committee (CEC);

g) on the nomination of the Representative of Uruguay, the Council elected the Representative of Qatar (Mr. Mohammed Al Khater) as the Chairperson of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (RHCC);

h) on the nomination of the Representative of France, the Council elected the Representative of Colombia (Mr. Mauricio Ramírez Koppel) as the Chairperson of the Committee on Governance (COG); and

i) on the nomination of the Representative of India, the Council elected the Representative of Malaysia (Mr. Nurulhakeem Hasim) as the Chairperson of the Committee on Cooperation with External Parties (CCEP).

14. In electing the incoming Chairpersons of the Committees, the Council expressed, by acclamation, its appreciation to all the outgoing Chairpersons of the Committees.

15. Bearing in mind that the Edward Warner Award (EWA) Committee met on a triennial basis prior to the Assembly, the Council also agreed, in line with recent practice, that the composition of the Committee would be determined at a future Session of the Council in advance of the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly.

Any other business

Meetings scheduled in the inter-sessional period

16. The Council took note of the information presented by the Representative of Angola, as the host State of the ICAO Global Aviation Gender Summit (Luanda, Angola, 21 to 23 July 2026), and the Representative of Egypt, as the host State of the Eleventh Edition of AFI Week (Cairo, Egypt, 27 to 31 July 2026), regarding the status of arrangements for each of these upcoming events, respectively.

— END —