C-DEC 239/1
12/10/26

COUNCIL — 239TH SESSION

FIRST MEETING

(COUNCIL CHAMBER, THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2026, AT 1430 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Welcome to new Representatives

1. The Council warmly welcomed the newly appointed Representative of Poland (Mr. Andrzej Ilków).

CLOSED MEETING

Not available

OPEN MEETING

Any other business

Correspondence from the Russian Federation and Ukraine

5. The Council was informed that the Secretary General had received a letter from the Minister for Recovery, Infrastructure and Transport for Ukraine, dated 1 September 2026, regarding the current risks affecting the safety and security of air navigation within the airspace of the Russian Federation, including risk arising from the increased use of a range of aerial and missile systems. The Council further noted that on 2 September 2026, the Organization had observed that there were heightened risks of civil aircraft being targeted or caught in crossfire due to the use of long-range weapons systems, unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), global navigation satellite system radio frequency interference (GNSS-RFI), and advanced air defence systems in and around conflict zones throughout the world, and had accordingly issued a statement recalling that Article 3 bis of the 1944 Chicago Convention and ICAO Assembly Resolution A42-4 explicitly prohibit the use of weapons against civilian aircraft and reiterating its calls for stronger commitments from all Member States to protect civilian aircraft from all risks arising from conflict zones. The Council was further informed that the Secretary General had exchanged letters separately with the Deputy Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation on this matter. It was recalled that the President of the Council had circulated copies of these letters to all Council Representatives, via two emails, dated 28 September and 2 October 2026. It was further recalled that the Russian Federation and Ukraine, whose interests were especially affected in this matter, had been invited to participate without a vote in the Council's proceedings, in accordance with Article 53 of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* and Rule 31 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council* (Doc 7559/11).

6. In that connection, the Council took note of the oral update presented by the Secretary General regarding the key actions which had been taken by the Secretariat to address the risks affecting international civil operations in and around conflict zones.

Correspondence from the United Arab Emirates

7. The Council was informed that the President of the Council had received a letter from the Vice Minister of Economy and Tourism of the United Arab Emirates, dated 4 September 2026, requesting that ICAO conduct an assessment and review of constraints affecting eastbound air traffic flows from the United Arab Emirates. It was recalled that a copy of said letter had been circulated by the President of the Council to all Council Representatives, by email dated 30 September 2026.

8. In that connection, the Council took note of the oral update presented by the Secretary General regarding the key actions which had been taken by the Secretariat thus far to address the challenges identified by the United Arab Emirates affecting the flow of air traffic and requested that the Council be informed of further developments in this regard at the 240th Session.

Attacks affecting civilian airports, aircraft and civil aviation infrastructure in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

9. The Representative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia delivered a statement concerning the recent attacks affecting civilian airports, aircraft and civil aviation infrastructure in the kingdom. The Representative stated that the attacks, perpetrated by the Houthis on 6, 7 and 8 October 2026, had targeted four international airports and, according to preliminary information, had resulted in four fatalities and 39 injuries, the destruction of one civilian aircraft operated by a national air carrier, and damage to other civil aviation infrastructure.

10. Following the statement, the Council agreed, in accordance with Rule 30 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, to amend the Work Programme of the current session and the Order of Business for the first meeting to include this item under agenda item 2. The Council further agreed, by unanimous consent of all the Members of the Council represented at the first meeting, to bring this item to final action at that meeting.

11. The Council:

a) condemned in the strongest terms the attacks affecting civilian airports, aircraft, and civil aviation infrastructure in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

b) expressed solidarity with the people and Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and conveyed its deepest sympathies and condolences to victims and their families;

c) deplored the targeting of civil aviation infrastructure, the impact on civil aviation operations and on the safety and security of civil aviation, and the ongoing threat to international peace and security caused by such acts; and

d) agreed that a press release should be prepared and issued informing of this decision of the Council.

Request from Observers to participate in closed meetings of the Council

12. It was noted that in the absence of comments to emails circulated by the President of the Council in July, August and September 2026, and in accordance with Rule 32 a) of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council,* the Council had agreed to invite Ms. Beth Masterson (European Union) to participate as

Observer during the 239th Session of the Council's consideration of all items in closed session; Mr. Daniel Carnelly and, in his absence Ms. Anouck Barreaux, (ICCAIA); Mr. Brian Shury and, in his absence Mr. Sebastián Currás-Barrios, (IFALPA); Mr. Carlos Cirilo and, in his absence Mr. Daniel Vaca (CANSO); Ms. Nathalie Herbelles and, in her absence Ms. Anna Tormen (ACI); and Mr. Michael Comber (IATA), to participate as Observers during the 239th Session of the Council's consideration in closed session, of items related to aviation safety and security, as appropriate.

Appointment of Members and an Alternate on the Air Navigation Commission (ANC)

13. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 27 July 2026, to the President of the Council's email dated 21 July 2026, Ms. Griselda Laloux, nominated by the Government of Argentina, had been appointed as a Member on the Air Navigation Commission to succeed Mr. Martin A. Jacquet, with effect from 1 October 2026.

14. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 17 September 2026, to the President of the Council's email dated 10 September 2026, Mrs. Mariana Olivieri Caixeta Altoe, nominated by the Government of Brazil, had been appointed as Alternate to Mr. Rafael José Botelho Faria on the Air Navigation Commission, with effect from 9 September 2026 who will henceforth succeed Mr. Botelho Faria as Member on the Air Navigation Commission, with effect from 1 December 2026.

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

15. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 23 July 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 9 July 2026, Ms. Kerri Henry had been appointed as the Member from Canada to CAEP, replacing Ms. Wendy Bailey, with effect from 24 July 2026.

16. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 3 August 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 21 July 2026, Mr. Yasushi Yamashita had been appointed as the Member from Japan to CAEP, replacing Mr. Tadashi Yamamura, with effect from 4 August 2026.

17. It was noted that the absence of comments by 25 September 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 11 September 2026, Dr. Bader Alsagri has been appointed as the Member from Saudi Arabia to CAEP, replacing Mr. Mohammed Habib, with effect from 26 September 2026.

18. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 15 July 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 30 June 2026, Mr. Pasavi Ratchapongsirikul was appointed as the new CAEP Obsever from Thailand, with effect from 16 July 2026, in accordance with paragraphs 4.1.5 and 4.2.2 of the CAEP Directives, it being understood that this appointment had been approved by the Council via written procedure, on an exceptional basis.

19. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 24 September 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 10 September 2026, Mr. Georg Hassingler had been appointed as the Observer from the European Union to CAEP, replacing Ms. Ewa Oney, with effect from 25 September 2026.

20. It was noted that in the absence of comments by 25 September 2026 to the President of the Council's email dated 11 September 2026, Ms. Justyna Wodziczko had been appointed as the Observer from WMO to CAEP, replacing Ms. Stephanie Wigniolle, with effect from 26 September 2026.

List of international organizations that may be invited to attend suitable ICAO meetings

21. It was noted that in the absence of objections by 22 July 2026 to the President of the Council's memorandum PRES TO/3857 dated 15 July 2026, the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation

Authority (ECCAA), the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA), the Southern African Development Community - Aviation Safety Organization (SASO) and the Union des Gestionnaires d'Aéroports de l'Afrique du Centre et de l'Ouest (UGAACO) had been approved to be included in the *List of international organizations that may be invited to attend suitable ICAO meetings* as observers.

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