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Agenda Item 18: Environmental Protection – Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA)

APPROACH TO MITIGATE CO₂ EMISSIONS FROM AVIATION

(Presented by Seychelles)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper will provide information on steps taken by the Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority (SCAA) to implement ICAO's environment programmes in a bid to mitigate CO₂ emissions from Civil Aviation. The Paper will also brief on different projects spearheaded by the Authority aimed at raising awareness and consciousness about the impact civil aviation has on the natural environment.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	Mitigate the impact of aviation activities on the environment to safeguard our future and the sustainable development of the industry.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Provision made in the 2022/2023 CAA annual budget.
<i>References:</i>	Doc 9988, <i>Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities</i> Doc 9501, <i>Environmental Technical Manual</i> Annex 16 – <i>Environmental Protection, Volume IV – Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA)</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Seychelles has over the years championed environment protection and conservation for posterity. The country has been an active advocate in calling the global community to take meaningful steps to tackle climate change and its associated impact. Seychelles is party to the historic Paris Agreement of 2015, aimed at limiting global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius.

1.2 Since 2018, the Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority (SCAA) incorporated environment as one of its strategic objectives. Demarche to implement ICAO's programmes took a new impetus.

1.3 By 2022 Seychelles had completed and finalised its State Action Plan and is an avid participant in CORSA; having submitted year on year its CO₂ emissions data to ICAO since 2019.

1.4 The drive locally to promulgate ICAO's vision for a more sustainable industry has been very active. In 2021, a number of initiatives, projects and programmes had been prepared and put in place to achieve this endeavour.

1.5 This paper will provide a brief on Seychelles' participation in CORSIA and its State Action Plan. The paper will also summarize some of the efforts being done locally to sensitize about ICAO's environmental programmes.

2. ICAO ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES

2.1 Carbon Offsetting Reduction Scheme in International Aviation- CORSIA

- In 2018, Seychelles took necessary steps to participate in CORSIA. Through the ICAO-ESAF office, Seychelles secured a series of capacity building opportunities under the ACT-CORSIA buddy programme with the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA).
- Under the buddy programme, Seychelles promulgated information about CORSIA to air operators and set up a mechanism locally to collect and compile data to be submitted.
- Seychelles submitted its first CO₂ emissions report to ICAO via the CORSIA Central Registry (CCR) in 2020.
- Thus far Seychelles has submitted three CO₂ emissions report, as detailed in the below table:

Year	Total number of flights during reporting period	Total CO ₂ emissions international flights (tonnes)
2019	2046	64958.4989
2020	846	25661.57
2021	726	22592.727

- In 2022, Seychelles will confirm that it would voluntarily participate in CORSIA.

2.2 State Action Plan

- In 2021, Seychelles secured capacity building assistance under the ICAO-EU Phase II programme in order to develop its State Action Plan (SAP).
- Following Board approval to develop and implement the State Action Plan, several organisations were invited to nominate candidates to sit on the National Action Plan team.

- With the assistance of ICAO, the team completed the SAP in under six months and submitted its SAP to ICAO in June 2022.
- Based on data obtained in the development of the State Action Plan, it was determined that if no action was taken CO₂ emissions will grow from 64,958,500 tons of CO₂ (tCO₂) in 2019 to 216,528,332 tCO₂ in 2050, which represents an increase of 233% in thirty years.
- Seychelles identified fifteen (15) mitigation measures from the following categories of ICAO’s basket of measures: Technology and standards, Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), operational improvements, Market Based Measures (MBM) and supplemental benefits (airport improvements).
- Amongst the fifteen mitigation measures which range from: new improved air navigation technology providing operators better options, reduced weight on aircraft and greener technologies at the Seychelles airport, **Seychelles will also be conducting two feasibility studies on Sustainable Aviation Fuel and Cleaner Energy Sources for the airport as a priority.**
- With the implementation of the fifteen mitigation measures in combination there will be a reduction of **3,546tCO₂ emissions from international aviation per year.**

3. LOCAL PROGRAMMES

3.1 Seychelles introduced different projects to sensitize about the vision of ICAO in terms of mitigating impact of the aviation industry on the environment. Below table is a summary of some of the efforts:

Programme	Details
Young Innovators Challenge	This is an initiative which mirrors ICAO’s 2021 competition to commemorate 10 years since the launch of SAP. Students from secondary and professional development centres have to come up with green and sustainable solutions for the airport. These solutions will be taken into consideration in the future planning and development of the airport in Seychelles.
Environment Pledge	A programme to encourage people to make a pledge and for every pledge made, a tree is planted. This is in a bid to encourage people to make environmental commitments and also contribute in the restoration of one of Seychelles biggest forest.
Partnerships	The State is working with NGOs and schools in taking action to preserve and protect the environment.