

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**EIGHTH MEETING OF CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES OF THE SAM REGION
(RAAC/8)**

(Buenos Aires, Argentina, 23 - 25 April 2003)

Agenda Item 2: Review of the ICAO AVSEC Programme and its impact in the region

AVSEC WARNING MESSAGES

(presented by Colombia)

Summary

This working paper submits to the consideration of civil aviation authorities the development by the AVSEC mechanism of messaging procedures to warn those States that might be affected by shortcomings and deficiencies detected in the security field.

1. Fundamental rights

1.1 The right to life is consecrated as a fundamental human right, and it is the responsibility of the States to guarantee such important right, from which other related rights are derived.

1.2 Terrorism affects this right and has no boundaries; it is a global problem. Unlawful interference is defined in criminal codes as a crime opposed to the rights to life, freedom, ownership and others that are consecrated as the pillars of a civilised society that lies within the context of an international order that upholds the principles and values that dignify the human being.

2. Description of the situation

2.1 Following the events of 11 September 2001, in which the world was faced with terrorism and the use of civil aircraft as weapons, the States resorted to ICAO for the measures required to send a clear message to air transport users and to respond with measures to prevent such acts, ratifying AVSEC as the proper instrument for security audits.

2.2 When confronting an enemy that constitutes a global problem, mechanisms should be sought to strengthen co-operation, expedite the investigation of such acts, enforce multilateral agreements, and monitor compliance with ICAO standards. Finally, the AVSEC mechanism must offer the clear possibility of supporting and reinforcing the struggle against terrorism and unlawful interference.

2.3 In order to strengthen international co-operation, each State, inasmuch as possible, should share with other contracting States such information as applicable to the security interests of global aviation. The vital need to share real-time information to protect the global aviation system up and above the individual concerns of the States must be upheld.

2.4 But since the problem is of a global nature, a shortcoming or deficiency in one State will immediately affect the security of others. Consequently, it is absolute necessary for the AVSEC mechanism to warn or create a warning mechanism so that the States whose systems can be affected or are at greater risk may take the necessary preventive measures when factors that impact the overall security system of the region are detected.

3. **Suggested action**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information contained in this working paper;
- b) request the GREPECAS AVSEC committee and ICAO to study and propose warning procedures that will allow the States to adjust their security systems when shortcomings and deficiencies that might increase the security hazard are detected.

-END-