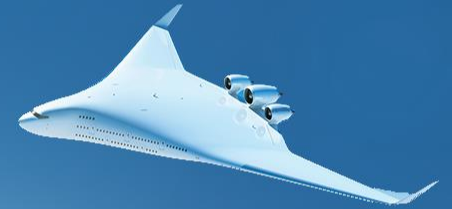




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# **Fifth Virtual Meeting of Directors General of South America (SAM) Region: *Briefing on High-level Conference on COVID-19 (HLCC)***

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- On 18 and 20 November 2020, the Council approved the convening of a single High-level Conference relating to the COVID-19 pandemic response and the aviation sector economic recovery, including an emphasis on safety and facilitation, and requested the Secretariat to consult Member States on the agenda (**C-DEC 221/10 and C-DEC 221/11**)
- On 15 December 2020, **State letter 20/31** was issued to seek comments on the provisional agenda (28 responses received)
- On 12 March 2021, the Council agreed to convene a High-level Conference on COVID-19 (HLCC 2021) from 12 to 22 October 2021 in a virtual or hybrid setting and established a Small Ad Hoc Group to review and adjust the agenda et al (**C-WP/15171 and C-DEC 222/10**)
- On 26 April 2021, the Council approved the agenda for the Conference (**Report of the Small Ad Hoc Group and C-DEC 223/1**)
- On 20 May 2021, **State letter 21/40** was issued to invite to attend the Conference



*Theme: “One Vision for Aviation Recovery, Resilience and Sustainability beyond the Global Pandemic”*

Consider a broad range of issues with particular focus on safety and facilitation objectives, taking into account the economic impact of COVID-19 on the aviation sector to:

- Reach a global consensus on a multilateral approach, supported by political will and commitments of States, to enable the safe and efficient recovery of aviation from the COVID-19 crisis
- Build a foundation to strengthen resilience in aviation and make it more sustainable in the future
- Promote and strengthen collective efforts to harmonize measures, and a risk management strategy through the implementation of the CART recommendations



- Opening on 12 October
- Ministerial Plenary I (Leading aviation recovery) on 12 October
  - Chair's Summary
- Ministerial Plenary II (Building resilience and sustainability) on 13 October
  - Chair's Summary
- Safety and Facilitation Streams from 14 to 21 October
  - Draft reports containing conclusions and recommendations
- Closing and Ministerial Plenary III on 22 October
  - Reports containing conclusions and recommendations by Safety and Facilitation Streams
  - Declaration



- **Ministerial Plenary I: Leading aviation recovery**
  - Explore approaches for States to enabling the safe and efficient recovery of civil aviation, focusing on economic and financial aspect and risk management
- **Ministerial Plenary II: Building resilience and sustainability**
  - Explore policy responses and strategic directions towards building a more resilient international civil aviation system than before
- **Ministerial Plenary (Closing): Shaping political responses to covid-19 challenges**
  - Set up firm commitments to confronting COVID-19 through effective multilateral actions
- **Format**
  - Brief keynote addresses to be delivered by one Minister from each of the six ICAO regions
  - Interactive roundtable style discussion chaired by President of the Council
  - Two types of intervention – reserved and spontaneous



- Agenda Item 1: Safety and operational measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Agenda Item 2: Strategy and policy
  - 2.1: Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP), and implementation of regional and national aviation safety plans
  - 2.2: Evolving regulatory capacity in aviation
- Agenda Item 3: Standardization
  - 3.1: Oversight and new approaches
  - 3.2: Risk management
  - 3.3: Ground handling
- Agenda Item 4: Implementation and support
- Agenda Item 5: Other issues to be considered by the Safety stream



- **Agenda Item 6: Facilitation operational measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond**
  - 6.1: Review of the appropriateness of the facilitation-related guidance addressing the impact on air travel of pandemic situations
  - 6.2: New and revised health-related Annex 9 Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs)
- **Agenda Item 7: Enhancing National Coordination and International Cooperation**
  - 7.1: National aviation plan in preparation for an outbreak of a communicable disease posing a public health risk or public health emergency of international concern
  - 7.2: National Air Transportation Facilitation Programmes and National Air Transport Facilitation Committees (NATFCs)
  - 7.3: Cross-sectorial Collaboration
- **Agenda Item 8: Enhancing digital data sharing to facilitate seamless and contactless processes during and beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic**
  - 8.1: Collection and sharing of passenger contact and health data through electronic travel systems
  - 8.2: Sharing passengers' identity information across borders to facilitate contactless travel
- **Agenda Item 9: Future approaches to the management of sustainable health-related Facilitation measures for the passenger experience and advancing the implementation monitoring**
  - 9.1 Accessibility for all passengers globally, including the most vulnerable, such as those with disabilities
  - 9.2: Monitoring the implementation of health-related Annex 9 SARPs
  - 9.3 Fostering resilience of air transport facilitation systems and processes
- **Agenda Item 10: Other issues to be considered by the Facilitation stream**



# Preparation Timeline



High-level Conference on COVID-19

Agenda

Videos of Proceedings

Programme and Event Directory

Daily Bulletin

List of Delegates

Order of Business

Organizational Plan

Presentations

Documentation

Guidelines regarding the preparation of Working papers/Information papers

Guidelines for Submission of Written and Video Statements

Conference Papers

Reference Documents Statements

Yellow Cover Report

## High-level Conference on COVID-19

Date: 12 - 22 October, 2021

Location: Virtual/Online

Venue: Virtual/Online



The High-level Conference on COVID-19 (HLCC 2021) will be held from 12 to 22 October 2021. Under the proposed theme of “One Vision for Aviation Recovery, Resilience and Sustainability beyond the Global Pandemic”, the objective of the Conference is to reach a global consensus on a multilateral approach, supported by political will and commitments of States, to enable the safe and efficient recovery of aviation from the COVID-19 crisis and building a foundation to strengthen resilience in aviation and make it more sustainable in the future. The Conference will consider a broad range of issues with particular focus on its safety and facilitation objectives, taking into account the economic impact of COVID-19 on the sector. The Conference will also be an opportunity to promote and strengthen collective efforts to harmonize measures and risk management strategy through the implementation of the recommendations by the ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART).

The Conference consists of the Plenary sessions (opening, three Ministerial and closing) and two technical streams, i.e. Safety and Facilitation. The Conference is expected to agree on a package of the following deliverables: a) Chair’s Summary, which provides an overview of the decisions at Ministerial Plenary (round tables I and II on 12 and 13 October); b) reports containing conclusions and recommendations by the Safety and Facilitation Streams within the scope of their respective agenda; and c) Declaration of the Conference, which will be adopted at the closing Ministerial Plenary on 22 October 2021.



- **20 May** – Issuance of State letter 21/40 and launch of the website
- **30 July** – Open of registration
- **1 October** – Deadline for registration and credential letters
- Separately, Delegations whose Ministers and/or Deputy Ministers wish to attend the Ministerial Plenary sessions are requested to separately inform the Secretariat ([hlcc@icao.int](mailto:hlcc@icao.int)) of their participation by **1 October 2021**

*Guideline for submission of pre-recorded video statements by Ministers/Deputy-Ministers has been published on HLCC website. More information will be posted on the Conference website, including reference documents, access to virtual platform, etc.*



- **End June** – Secretariat papers for Safety Stream have been published on HLCC website
- **Early August** – Secretariat papers for Facilitation Stream
- **Late August** – Secretariat papers for Plenary (agenda, timetable, and logistics)
- **30 August** – Deadline for working papers by States and international organizations and written Statements for the Ministerial Plenary
- **30 September** – Deadline for information papers by States and international organizations
- All submitted working and information papers will be published progressively and at least one week before the Conference

*States and international organizations are strongly requested to submit working and information papers well in advance the deadlines*



- **3 September** – First draft to be circulated to the Council members for review
- **15 September** – Deadline for comments by the Council members
- **20 September** – Second draft to be circulated to States and international organizations that have registered to attend the Conference for comments
- **4 October** – Deadline for comments by States and international organizations
- **6 October** – Third draft to be circulated to the Council members
- **12 October** – Fourth draft to be circulated to the Conference participants

*After the Conference starts, the President of the Council, as a Chairperson to the Ministerial Plenary, will have an authority to finalize the Declaration*



- **Tasks** – Focusing on the need to meet the political expectation and objectives of Member States vis-à-vis the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and the progress of the work of the other international organizations
- **Five meetings were held** – Discussed steps and elements to build political will and draft Ministerial Declaration of the Conference
- **Draft Declaration** – extensive discussions on the initial draft Declaration with the focus on identifying the key elements for building political will of Member States
  - Small Draft Group was established to refine the Draft Declaration

Chair: Representative of Equatorial Guinea

Members:

- Australia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Colombia
- Egypt
- France
- Greece
- Mexico
- Saudi Arabia
- Singapore
- Spain
- United Kingdom
- United States
- ABIS
- President of ANC

Industry Representatives:

- ACI
- CANSO
- IATA
- ICCAIA



- The Council requested the Secretariat to consider organizing regional meetings to prepare the participants for the Conference (C-DEC 222/10)
- Relevant information on the Conference have been provided for the participants of regional DGCA meetings.
- During the summer, Regional Offices are holding preparatory sessions (webinars or virtual meeting) to share and exchange information at the margin of other meetings
- PRES/SG addresses at the major events continue highlighting the importance of the Conference
- “Updates” promo email will be regularly sent out to the CRM contacts



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UNITING AVIATION

## Format and Schedule



*Planning has been based on the Alert Level in Montreal*

- **Consultation with the Government of Canada and Quebec Province** – respecting the local government authorities recommendations when holding an in-person meeting at ICAO HQ.
- **Virtual meeting platform** – Zoom is the preferred platform. Connection issues of certain States would be solved shortly, pending Zoom’s confirmation that the technical steps have been finalized at their end

**UN organizations’ practices**

- UN General Assembly has restricted in-person participation to New York-based delegates while pre-recorded video statements of Ministers were used
- ITU’s physical meetings are scheduled in two blocks of a maximum of 3 hours each over up to an 8-hour period
- ILO held a hybrid meeting of its governing body in March with only chairpersons and secretariat allowed in premises
- UNESCO hosts “light” hybrid meetings with limited resident delegates only
- WHO’s World Health Assembly was held virtually in May; due to security concerns the Interprefy platform was used
- UNIDO is convening restricted hybrid meetings with only the presiding officers and some Secretariat physically present



- The Council (C-DEC 223/11) ..... agreed that the HLCC 2021 should be held as a **totally virtual event** on the understanding that all participants would be connected remotely, while at the same agreeing that the **option of in-person participation in the Ministerial Plenary Sessions** at a ministerial level could be accommodated in conjunction with the hybrid model, subject to the certain criteria being addressed and met.
- Taking into account that notwithstanding recent developments, the criteria established by the Council for the hybrid-model continue not to be satisfied, the President of the Council confirmed on 23 July 2021 that **the HLCC, including the Ministerial plenary sessions, will be held in a full virtual setting.**



- **Safety and Facilitation Streams**

- Two 3-hour meetings each day with five staggered starting times (0200, 0500, 0800, 1100 or 1400 at EDT)

- **Plenary (tentative)**

- Opening (12 Oct) 8:00 – 9:00
- Ministerial I (12 Oct) 9:30 – 12:30
- Ministerial II (13 Oct) 5:00 – 8:00
- Closing (22 Oct) 5:00 – 6:00
- Ministerial Closing (22 Oct) 6:30 – 9:30

- **C-DEC 222/10** ... the meeting schedule should be structured in such a way as to ensure that the burden of working after hours would be shared by participants around the world, it being understood that the meeting times would be staggered
- **C-DEC 223/1** ... the meeting schedule of the Conference, including the timing of the daily sessions, should be staggered in such a way so as to ensure that the inconvenience of participating in the nighttime hours would be rotated as feasible as possible among participants in different time zones around the world
- **C-DEC 223/11** ... the meeting schedule of the Conference, including the timing of the daily sessions, should be staggered in such a way so as to ensure that the inconvenience of participating outside of standard business hours would be rotated as feasible as possible among participants in different time zones around the world, and in this connection, requested the Secretariat to seek further optimization of the proposed meeting times of the event to better take this factor into account

## Distribution of schedule inconvenience among Member States (% share of States and number of States)

Starting time (EDT)	Starting time (UTC)	Working hour (8:00 - 17:59)	Extended hour (7:00-8:59, 18:00-19:59)	Inconvenient hour (20:00-6:59)
<b>02:00</b>	06:00	39% (75)	34% (66)	27% (52)
<b>05:00</b>	09:00	72% (138)	4% (7)	25% (48)
<b>08:00</b>	12:00	65% (126)	19% (36)	16% (31)
<b>11:00</b>	15:00	56% (109)	21% (41)	22% (43)
<b>14:00</b>	18:00	19% (36)	18% (34)	64% (123)
<b>17:00</b>	21:00	21% (41)	4% (8)	75% (144)
<b>20:00</b>	00:00	10% (19)	12% (23)	78% (151)
<b>23:00</b>	03:00	18% (35)	8% (16)	74% (142)



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North Atlantic  
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(MID) Office  
Cairo

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Southern African  
(ESAF) Office  
Nairobi

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Asia and Pacific  
(APAC) Office  
Bangkok



THANK YOU