



International Civil Aviation Organization

CAR/SAM REGIONAL PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (GREPECAS)

Fifth Meeting of the GREPECAS Aviation Security Committee (AVSEC/COMM/5)

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 11 to 13 May 2006

AVSEC/COMM/5-WP/15

21/04/06

Agenda Item 4

Development of the AVSEC/COMM Work Programme

4.4 Regional Mechanism for sharing security information on threats to civil aviation

**REGIONAL MECHANISM FOR SHARING SECURITY INFORMATION
ON THREATS TO CIVIL AVIATION**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides the Meeting with a discussion of Regional Mechanism for sharing security information on threats to civil aviation.

References:

- AVSEC COMM/3
- State Letter SP 48/1-06/19 dated 24 March 2006
- Annex 17, New Security Standard 2.4.3. and 2.4.4.
- Security Manual for Safeguarding Civil Aviation Against Acts of Unlawful Interference (Doc 8973)

1. Introduction

1.1 No one ever imagined or anticipated the magnitude and impact to civil aviation when the terrorist used aircraft or weapons of mass destruction to meet their objective by placing fear in the traveling public and at the same time destabilizing the world economic system. It is imperative that the States use all available security information regarding threats to civil aviation and prevent acts of unlawful interference. The prompt and continuing dissemination and exchange of information and intelligence are essential to the maintenance of effective aviation security programs and will enable States, airports and air operators to adjust their programs in response to changing conditions and to specific or general threats. Effective aviation security requires that an efficient means of communication at the international, State and local levels be established for the exchange of information. The prompt, clear and orderly dissemination of such information is vital to the success of the security program.

1.2 The AVSEC COMM/3 meeting established as a task description to coordinate with the CLAC Group to develop a regional mechanism for sharing sensitive information on threats to civil aviation. The AVSEC COMM/4 reviewed this task and decided to retain it due to the State's needs for receiving security information on new and emerging threats to civil aviation.

2. New Annex 17, Security Standard 2.4.3. and 2.4.4.

2.1 Security Standard 2.4.3

2.1.1 Each Contracting State shall establish and implement procedures to share with other Contracting States threat information that applies to the aviation security interest of those States, or security information that affects the security interest of other Contracting States, in order to ensure that inappropriate use or disclosure of such information is avoided.

2.2 Security Standard 2.4.4

2.2.1 Each Contracting State shall establish and implement suitable protection and handling procedures for security information shared by other Contracting States, or security information that affects the security interest of other Contracting States, in order to ensure that inappropriate use or disclosure of such information is avoided.

3. Aviation Security Point of Contact (PoC) Network

3.1 Pursuant to the view expressed by the G8 Roma-Lyon Crime and Terrorism Group, and ICAO-wide Aviation Security Point of Contact (PoC) Network has been established for the communication of imminent threats to civil air transport operations. The objective of the PoC is to provide a network of international aviation security contacts within each State, who are designated as the appropriate authority to send and receive communications, at any time of the day or night, concerning imminent threat information, security requests of an urgent nature, and/or guidelines to support security requirements in the case of countering an imminent threat. Points of contact need to be available at all times, engaged in the threat assessment process and close to the decision making process for aviation security procedures.

3.2 Due to the sensitivity of the information to be contained in the Network, strict control must be exercised as failure to do so may compromise efforts and future security implementation endeavours. Consequently, in order to maintain control over this information, participating States should take into account the following:

- a) access to the ICAO Aviation Security PoC Network will be confined to those States that have placed their own contact details in the database and have been issued a password by ICAO;
- b) Aviation Security PoC Network participants will have an obligation to ensure that their contact details are kept up to date;
- c) participating States will be required to ensure physical protection of access to the PoC Network, confining access to those with genuine need for it in order to discharge their duties;
- d) participating States will commit to having internal procedures for ensuring that contacts made via the PoC Network are handled expeditiously, consistent with their urgency; and
- e) participation in the PoC Network will be made conditional on the State agreeing to abide with the above directives.

3.3 States who wish to participate in the ICAO Aviation Security PoC Network, please complete the form included in **Appendix** to this working paper and send it directly to the Chief, Aviation Security and Facilitation Branch, ICAO, fax; + 1 (514) 954-6408, e-mail: avsec @icao.int

4. Analysis

4.1 In light to these new emerging threats to civil aviation States should make it a priority to comply with these new Annex 17 Standards which address the establishment of procedures for sharing and protection of threat information to civil aviation with other States to prevent acts of unlawful interference. And actively participate in the ICAO Aviation Security Point of Contact (PoC) Network.

5. Action Required by the Meeting

5.1 The Meeting is invited to note the content of this paper and take any action which is considered appropriate to encourage regional cooperation and participation by States of the new PoC Network which will facilitate the implementation of these new Security Standards.

DRAFT

CONCLUSION 5/X

POINT OF CONTACT (POC) NETWORK

That the States:

- a) review the criteria information and designate the appropriate authority to receive imminent threats to civil air transport operations through this Network;
- b) before 30 June 2006 sign up with ICAO using the appropriate form for the Aviation Security Point of Contact (POC) Network.

ATTACHMENT to State letter SP 48/1-06/19

AVIATION SECURITY POINT OF CONTACT (PoC) NETWORK

Sign-up Form

Please complete the following form and ensure that the contact-point is not only knowledgeable but that he or she is available on a 24-hour basis.

1. CONTACT, TELEPHONE NUMBER, FAX and E-MAIL (*Example: "Country: Command Centre, Aviation Security Department, City, Country, Telephone: 1 - 555 - 555- 1212, Fax: 1 -555 - 555-1212, E-mail "*)

Contact Person (s) (up to 3 persons)

Name: _____

Position/Department: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

2. DESCRIPTION OF POINT OF CONTACT (*Example: "Country: Aviation Security Department is a telecommunications centre that is open 24 hours a day. Its personnel can immediately connect the caller to an appropriate investigator or expert. The Command Centre itself does not have electronic evidence investigators or experts."*)

3. LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES OF CONTACT (*Example: "Country: Command Centre personnel speak English only."*)

4. PLEASE PROVIDE E-MAIL CONTACT FOR DISTRIBUTION OF UPDATES TO CONTACT POINT LIST (*Example: "COUNTRY: Johndoe@xxx.gov and Marydoe@xxx.gov "*)

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