



## **LEGAL COMMITTEE – 39th SESSION**

(Montréal, 25 to 28 June 2024)

### **Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business**

#### **THIRD EDITION OF THE CIVIL AVIATION LEGAL ADVISERS' FORUM**

(Presented by the United Kingdom)

#### **1. BACKGROUND**

1.1 The inaugural Civil Aviation Legal Advisers Forum (CALAF) was organised by the ICAO Legal Affairs and External Relations Bureau (LEB) and hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) from 16 to 17 May 2019 in Singapore. More than 80 legal advisers from 40 States and one regional organization attended. The second edition of CALAF was hosted by the Sultanate of Oman from 21 to 23 February 2023 and drew an even larger attendance as more than 150 legal advisers from over 60 States, and international organizations participated in the Forum. These events enabled legal advisers from civil aviation administrations to share and exchange views on current issues of interest to the international aviation community and on strengthening their support for their Organizations and State.

1.2 In welcoming the First edition of CALAF, the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly (Montréal, 27 September to 7 October 2022), in Resolution A41-4, Appendix G, *Enhancing the capacity and effectiveness of States to implement air law treaties and update national laws and regulations*, invited Member States to support the CALAF initiative and to consider hosting subsequent editions of the Forum as well as to encourage and facilitate their legal advisers to participate in and to contribute to the Forum.

1.3 Accordingly, with a view to supporting the implementation of Resolution A41-4, the United Kingdom has agreed to host, from 26 to 28 November 2024, the third edition of CALAF, with support from the ICAO Legal Affairs and External Relations Bureau (LEB).

#### **2. PROPOSED THIRD EDITION OF CALAF**

2.1 Considering the important role that civil aviation legal advisers and air law practitioners play in supporting their States and Organizations to implement air law treaties, to formulate and update national laws and regulations to give effect to international treaty obligations and regulatory requirements, and to contribute to adherence to the rule of law, the United Kingdom will host the third edition of CALAF, with support from LEB. It is intended that this third edition of CALAF will be organized by the Civil Aviation Authority of the United Kingdom and will take place in London at the Royal Aeronautical Society.

2.2 The proposed third edition of CALAF will facilitate a continuing focus of attention on issues of interest to the international aviation community in the legal field and closer interaction and collaboration among air law professionals, particularly those serving in organizations that regulate civil aviation, through the presentation of issues on a variety of topical legal subjects and include inputs from industry and academia on some issues. These subjects will include innovation and sustainability, enforcing aviation regulations, accident investigation, mechanisms to enhance aviation safety, States' obligations under the Cape Town instruments of 2001,<sup>1</sup> facilitation, the ratification of international air law treaties and enhancing the capacity and effectiveness of civil aviation legal advisers.

2.3 Participation in the Forum will be open to, inter alia, civil aviation legal advisers and air law practitioners who are interested in supporting their State or Organization to respond effectively to new and emerging opportunities, challenges and threats to the development of international civil aviation.

2.4 The United Kingdom will observe the responsibility of a Contracting State hosting a worldwide ICAO event and will make every effort to hold a successful and fruitful event to benefit participating Member States.

### 3. CONCLUSION

3.1 With a view to ensure that legal advisers effectively carry out their responsibilities to support their States in the development and implementation of air law, the planned CALAF will contribute to the continuous update and enhancement of their competencies, capabilities and capacities while promoting closer collaboration between them as well as contributing to the dissemination of knowledge on international air law.

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<sup>1</sup> *Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment*, both signed at Cape Town on 16 November 2001.