



DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION-MIDDLE EAST REGION

Second Meeting (DGCA-MID/2)
(Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 20-22 May 2013)

Agenda Item 12: Any Other Business

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR TRANSLATION
OF ICAO PUBLIC WEBSITES AND TO ACHIEVE PARITY
IN ARABIC DOCUMENTATION**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

In an effort to improve the efficiency of its administrative processes and communications with its Member States, ICAO is seeking the support of Member States to provide voluntary financial contributions for translation support of the ICAO public websites to Arabic. Moreover, Assembly Resolution A37-25, ICAO Policy on Language Services, reaffirmed that parity and quality of services in all of the working languages of ICAO are the continuous objectives of the Organization. While, many official documents and publications are now available in the Arabic language, a lack of resources has prevented the completion of phase 1 of the project as presented at the First Meeting of the Directors General of Civil Aviation – Middle East Region (DGCA-MID/1).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Assembly Resolution A29-21 calls for the progressive use of Arabic in interpretation and translation. The report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled “Review of Management of Internet Websites in the United Nations System Organization” presents a review on the effectiveness and efficiency of the use of Internet websites as a communication tool for information dissemination and stresses the importance of related issues such as, among others, multilingualism. ICAO has started a project related to the updating of its web management structure.

1.2 *ICAO Public websites:* In State Letter A4/32-11/32 – Voluntary support for language translation and hosting services of ICAO public websites in languages other than English – the Secretary General sought the voluntary financial support of Member States in order to undertake the project and due to the limited resources available. The initial translation work is estimated at **USD 264,000** with an additional annual support cost of **USD 66,000** for maintenance of translated texts to reflect any changes made in the original English texts.

1.3 *ICAO Publications:* As a measure aimed at strengthening the use of the Arabic language in ICAO, publications have been progressively phased-in, as and when resources have become available. At the first meeting of the DGCA-MID held in the United Arab Emirates in March 2011, the Secretariat presented a working paper advising members that translation costs for the List of Publications Requiring Arabic Translation amounted to approximately **USD 395,000**. The Secretariat also informed members that a contribution of **USD 47,000** had been received from Saudi Arabia. The translation of Annex 16, Volumes 1 and 2 and Annex 10, Volume 2 has been completed. Additional voluntary contributions and/or support were sought at that time. No contributions have been received to date but an additional amount of **USD 360,000** is still required to complete the translation of the remaining documents.

1.4 Alternatively, ICAO would also welcome non-financial support in the form of in-country translation capacity for publications and public websites in the Arabic language.

2. ACTION BY THE MEETING

2.1 Member States are once again encouraged to provide voluntary contributions and/or support for the translation of ICAO's publications and websites into Arabic to reaffirm the quality of service in all ICAO working languages and to enhance accessibility.

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