



WORKING PAPER

ASSEMBLY — 37TH SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 25: Follow-up of the High-level Safety Conference (2010)

TRANSPARENCY OF SAFETY DATA

(Presented by the United States)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The March 2010 ICAO High-level Safety Conference resulted in several recommendations regarding the sharing of safety information among States and with the travelling public. The United States calls attention to Recommendation 2/3 b) 1), which directs ICAO to develop specific criteria for the sharing of Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) in a form that would permit travellers to make informed decisions about the safety of air transportation. The United States stresses the importance of this recommendation, and recommends it be accomplished in an expedited manner. The Assembly is also invited to consider a more specific proposal for ICAO to develop a process to share the list of States with SSCs directly with the public in a transparent and readily understandable manner.

Action: The Assembly is invited to consider the importance for ICAO to:

- a) provide the list of States with SSCs in an appropriate format to the travelling public;
- b) develop a more prominent location and a clear explanation of the significance of the existing USOAP results provided on the ICAO Flight Safety Information eXchange site to allow the travelling public to make an informed travel decision; and
- c) direct the Council to review the follow-up action to the Secretariat as follows, “Prepare, for action by Council during the 192nd Session, a recommendation to address sharing SSCs with interested stakeholders including how ICAO could develop a process to share SSCs to facilitate the public’s ability to make informed decisions regarding the safety of the air transportation system.”

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective A (Enhance global civil aviation safety).
<i>Financial implications:</i>	N/A
<i>References:</i>	HLSC 2010 conclusions and recommendations Doc 9935, <i>Report of the High-level Safety conference 2010</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Recommendation 2/3 b) 1) of the March 2010 ICAO High-level Safety Conference (HLSC) calls for the following:

ICAO should develop criteria for sharing Significant Safety Concerns (SSC) with interested stakeholders and assess how the information on SSCs could be shared with the public in a forum which would allow them to make an informed decision about the safety of air transportation.

1.2 The ICAO Council considered a working paper (C-WP/13554) in its 190th Session, presented by the President of the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) and endorsed the above HLSC recommendation and requested the Secretary General to present a proposal on the subject to the Council during its 192nd Session. In addition, C-WP/13554 requested that the Secretariat prepare a recommendation on how SSCs can be shared to facilitate the public's ability to make informed decisions regarding the safety of the air transportation system.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Due to an increasing demand by the public to have accurate, dependable and reliable information on their choice of air transportation, the United States believes it is the obligation of the global aviation community to provide timely, easily accessible, clear and concise information to maintain the travelling public's confidence in the aviation industry.

2.2 The United States believes that the travelling public has the right to know whether a State meets international aviation safety Standards and provides appropriate oversight of the air carriers that operate to and from the United States. The United States enhances public information through the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) program. The FAA audits a State's civil aviation authority to determine if it is in compliance with ICAO safety Standards. The State is identified as meeting international standards (Category 1) or not meeting international standards (Category 2). This categorization is made available through a public announcement and posted on the FAA's website.

2.3 The United States agrees with the HLSC and the Council that passengers should be adequately informed of significant safety concerns as they surface. The United States proposes that ICAO, as the organization responsible for conducting the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Program (USOAP) audits and, as part of its Continuing Monitoring Approach program, develop 1) a mechanism to share that a State has been identified by the international community as having SSCs in a timely manner and 2) a more prominent location and a clear explanation of the significance of the existing USOAP results provided on the ICAO Flight Safety Information eXchange site to allow the travelling public to make an informed travel decision.

2.4 As proposed in C-WP/13554, a recommendation to Council will be provided by the Secretariat in 2011 during the 192nd Session. The United States believes this timing is appropriate given the importance of this recommendation, and urges the Secretariat to act upon the recommendation in an expedient manner.

3. **CONCLUSION**

3.1 The United States supports Recommendation 2/3 b) 1) and the subsequent follow-up actions taken by the ANC, Council, and the Secretariat.

3.2 In addition, the United States proposes that Recommendation 2/3 b) 1) be amended to specify that ICAO should develop a process to share the list of states that have SSCs directly with the travelling public.

4. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 The Assembly is invited to consider the importance for ICAO to 1) provide the list of States with SSCs in an appropriate format to the travelling public and 2) develop a more prominent location and a clear explanation of the significance of the existing USOAP results provided on the ICAO Flight Safety Information eXchange site to allow the travelling public to make an informed travel decision.

4.2 Direct the Council to review the follow-up action to the Secretariat as follows, “Prepare, for action by Council during the 192nd Session, a recommendation to address sharing SSCs with interested stakeholders discussing how ICAO could develop a process to share SSCs to facilitate the public’s ability to make informed decisions regarding the safety of the air transportation system.”

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