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ASSEMBLY — 37TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 21: Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of ICAO

SITUATION OF ICAO REGIONAL OFFICES LOCATED IN AFRICA

(Presented by 53 Contracting States¹, Members of the African Civil Aviation Commission)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper deals with the major role played by ICAO Regional Offices in providing assistance to States in the AFI Region in all civil aviation domains. It invites the Assembly to support those offices.

Action: The Assembly is invited to instruct the Secretary General of ICAO to allocate appropriate resources to its Regional Offices serving Africa.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to all Strategic Objectives.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	No additional resources required.
<i>References:</i>	A37-WP/43 Draft Budget of the Organization for 2011, 2012 and 2013

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Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cap Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Three out of the seven ICAO Regional Offices are located in Africa and thus serving African States:

- a) The Office for Western and Central Africa Region is accredited to 24 States and 2 Territories
- b) The Nairobi Office for Eastern and Southern African Region is accredited to 23 States and 2 Territories
- c) The Office for Middle East Region, located in Cairo, is accredited to 19 States, 3 out of them are African

1.2 It is worth noting that 3 States from Northern Africa are under the responsibility of the ICAO European and North Atlantic Office located in Paris.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The importance of the work and activities carried out by ICAO Regional Offices cannot be over-emphasized both on technical and diplomatic aspects i.e. representing ICAO to States of the Regional Offices area of accreditation in order to provide advice and assistance in the implementation of ICAO air navigation plans and general policy.

2.2 For Regional Offices to fulfil their mission with the desired efficiency, they need sufficient means/resources which must be commensurate with the stakes and challenges that the various regions they cover should take up.

2.3 The Regional Offices serve Regions which are not all at the same level of development, which geographical features are different and which problems are not similar. It is clear, in the light of these elements that certain Regional Offices need more resources than in order to face problems which the magnitude is specific to the Region they serve.

2.4 Indeed, to focus on the African continent which is our main concern due to its physical and socio-economic characteristics, this continent is today the continent whose resources/means of its ICAO Regional Offices must be preserved first and foremost and even reinforced/increased.

2.5 In fact, in addition to the huge size of the land and maritime territory covered by most of the FIRs under the responsibility of the African States, the fact that most of the least developed countries are located in Africa is a very effective indicator which makes possible to realize the special environment in which ICAO Regional offices operate in Africa, and consequently their requirements/needs which are specific.

3. **CONCLUSION**

3.1 The ICAO Regional Offices' assistance to African States is more than ever being needed. That is why African States renew their unflinching support to the ICAO Regional Offices serving the continent.

4. **ACTION BY THE ASSEMBLY**

4.1 The Assembly is invited to instruct the Secretary General of ICAO to allocate appropriate resources to its Regional Offices located in Africa.

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