



A37-WP/354
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ASSEMBLY — 37TH SESSION
TECHNICAL COMMISSION

DRAFT TEXT FOR THE REPORT
ON
AGENDA ITEM 41

The attached material on Agenda Item 41 is submitted for consideration by the Technical Commission.

Agenda Item 41: Support of the ICAO policy on radio frequency spectrum matters

41.1 The Commission reviewed A37-WP/35, presented by the Council, introducing and examining the strategy for establishing and promoting the ICAO Position for future International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRCs). The paper noted Resolution A36-25 and highlighted the continued requirement for increased attention by aviation to the ITU WRC process in order to balance the increased pressure for spectrum access by non-aviation users. The working paper also highlighted the requirement for an associated and requirements driven long term communications, navigation, and surveillance (CNS) strategy to introduce more spectrum efficient systems within the aviation bands.

41.2 The Commission reviewed A37-WP/132, presented by Canada, introducing the requirement to globally coordinate the allocation of radio spectrum in order to facilitate the transmission of flight data from aircraft in support of accident investigation. The paper requested that the Assembly consider the concept of such flight data transmissions from aircraft, and to recognize the overall safety benefits this would provide to the aviation industry. The Commission recalled that this issue was discussed under agenda item 25 under safety initiatives arising from recent accidents. The Commission noted the financial implications of such and that the Council would address this as part of its review of that agenda item.

41.3 The Commission agreed that study work is necessary within an appropriate technical panel to identify and develop the functional requirements for the transmission of flight data from aircraft in support of accident investigation transmission. These requirements could in turn be used to identify suitable spectrum.

41.4 The Commission considered A37-WP/154, presented by Canada, highlighting the changing trends by some States considering implementation of Administrative Incentive Pricing (AIP) the potential impact to aviation resulting from increased spectrum licensing costs, the need for aviation to develop a long term spectrum strategy in the context of future AIP implementation, and the need for enhanced participation by States experts to support the work of ICAO. The paper highlighted the need for continued and strong support of Resolution A36-25.

41.5 The Commission considered A37-WP/192 presented by Belgium, on behalf of the European Community and its Member States, by the other States Members of the European Civil Aviation Conference, and by EUROCONTROL. The paper addressed the need for a cohesive strategic approach to spectrum planning of aeronautical systems that support critical safety and operational requirements as well as a roadmap for the transition from the current situation to the future system.

41.6 The paper proposed to task ICAO with the identification of global CNS concepts and systems that will be required to support global aircraft operations and with the associated determination of a related spectrum strategy, including a roadmap for the transition from the current situation to the future system. The paper recommended that a timeframe should be established within which technology transitions should take place and redundant systems removed and that an agenda item should be included on the 2012 twelfth Air Navigation Conference with a view to reporting on these activities.

41.7 The Commission noted that with respect to the recommendation of WP/192, work on identification of global CNS concepts is already included in the current radio frequency spectrum strategy and NextGen/SESAR work programme but that it could positively benefit from a stronger linkage to a long term global CNS implementation plan. The proposed 2012 twelfth Air Navigation Conference should develop a roadmap for CNS equipage transitions to support the spectrum strategy.

41.8 The Commission reviewed A37-WP/263, presented by the Russian Federation, outlining the preparation by the Russian Federation for the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) and proposing that ICAO should clarify its position regarding WRC 2012 agenda item 1.25 as regards protecting 13.25-13.4 GHz frequency band, allocated to the aeronautical radio navigation service (ARNS).

41.9 The Commission noted that ICAO had already identified potential issues with frequency sharing with the Mobile Satellite Service within this band as currently discussed in the WRC 2012 preparatory process and that ICAO would be submitting a paper to this effect to the WRC 2012 conference preparatory meeting (CPM) which will be held in February 2011. Depending on the outcome of the CPM, the ICAO Position on all agenda items for WRC-12 will be updated/clarified as necessary.

41.10 An information paper was provided by China (A37-WP/189).

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