



ASSEMBLY — 36TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 13: Progress report on the implementation of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) under the comprehensive systems approach

CONDUCTING FLIGHT SAFETY OVERSIGHT AUDITS

(Presented by the Interstate Aviation Committee²)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper suggests that an international ICAO Standard for aircraft operator audits should be developed.

Action: The Assembly is invited to consider the establishment of a working group of experts on criteria for aircraft operator audits with the aim of developing an appropriate international standard.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to Strategic Objective A — <i>Enhance global civil aviation safety.</i>
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Not applicable.
<i>References:</i>	

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 One of the ways to ensure the required flight safety level is to conduct inspection audits on the periodic basis. Such audits are applied to the national aviation administrations (conducted by ICAO) and airlines (conducted by the authorized national aviation authorities or by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in case of airlines-members of IATA).

¹ English and Russian versions provided by the Interstate Aviation Committee.

² Interstate Aviation Committee (IAC) is the executive body of the interstate Agreement on Civil Aviation and Airspace Use (international agreement, participants of which include Azerbaijan Republic, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, the Ukraine, Republic of Uzbekistan).

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

2.1 The number of the audits is beginning to exceed the level when the audited State or airline is able to eliminate the revealed deficiencies without any detriment to the main activity. Furthermore, there is a tendency to extend the sphere of the national authority control over the structures, which are not dependent on them, and, moreover, are within the jurisdiction of other States. While different assessment criteria are applied, one should note a legal collision regarding the uncertain legal status of the audits.

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