



ASSEMBLY — 36TH SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 15: Aviation Security Programme

STRENGTHENING THE SCREENING OF LIQUIDS

(Presented by China)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper introduces Chinese government's implementing ICAO's the security control guidelines for screening liquids, gels and aerosols, and points out that this measure can not eliminate all threats of liquid explosives to civil aviation due to the restriction of technical equipment.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) request ICAO to inform each Contracting State's position and implementation status since the tamper-evident bag standard has been issued;
- b) to formulate more considerate liquids screening measure, study and provide the list of liquids which may threat the aviation security.
- c) to coordinate the Contracting States to increase the expenditure on liquids screening equipments, and to strengthen the international cooperation on research and development of liquid-valid security equipment

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to the Strategic Objective B of enhancing global civil aviation security.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Not applicable.
<i>Reference:</i>	

¹ Chinese and English versions provided by China

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Administration of Civil Aviation of China (CAAC) has been focusing on and studying the security measures to liquid explosives which threaten the civil aviation safety.

1.1.1 On 5 February 2003, CAAC issued Bulletin regarding to restriction on carrying liquids on airplane in China, according which some measures, such as limiting the volume of liquids passengers carried and opening the containers filled with liquids for inspect, be taken.

1.1.2 The research institutes are encouraged to develop liquids screening equipment. In 2006, Model LS8016 liquid screening equipment, manufactured by NUCTECH Company Limited, was permitted by CAAC and had been installed and used at the airports in China.

1.1.3 After attempted terrorist attack aiming at civil aircraft in UK, screening of liquids has attracted attention of international civil aviation industry. In order to deal with the threat of IED assembled and used by dangerous persons, ICAO Council issued new temporary security control guidelines for screening liquids, gels and aerosols on 1 December 2006.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF ICAO TEMPORARY SECURITY CONTROL GUIDELINES IN CHINA

2.1 Based on thorough study and with careful evaluation of the threat level, CAAC takes different levels of security measures on domestic flights and international flights which depart from Chinese airports. The temporary security control guidelines provided by ICAO applies to the international passengers, while looser control measures apply to the domestic passengers.

2.1.1 To find out the key point, CAAC makes wide investigation and thoroughly understands the screening ability of each security screening department of every airport, evaluates aviation security level of domestic airports, and comprehensively considers the impact of applying ICAO security control guidelines on screening measures.

2.1.2 CAAC actively communicates with relevant authorities of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Singapore, discusses the disposition of duty free liquids carried by transit passengers, and promotes the mutual trust and recognition among the region.

2.1.3 On 17 March 2007, CAAC issued Bulletin regarding to restriction on carrying liquids on airplane in China to the public, and applies ICAO temporary security control guidelines for liquids carried by passengers taking international flights, while takes looser security control measure to domestic passengers. CAAC also enhanced the propaganda by flexible manners, required airport to prepare enough plastic bags for international passengers, and provided on-site direction for passengers to do appropriate packing in line with the standard.

2.2 With the well preparation, the implementation of Bulletin regarding to restriction on carrying liquids on airplane in China is understood and supported by most of the passengers. Passengers carrying the liquids comply with the rules; the security screening goes orderly and smoothly. There is no flight delay due to long time screening or any conflicts. The overall security situation is stable. However, there are a small part of international passengers ignore the directions and requirements by the

personnel. As a result, it is often too late to check in baggage when the excess liquids are detected after the passenger has passed through immigration control.

2.3 In order to improve the technique of liquids screening equipment in Chinese airports and further strengthen the defence against the liquids explosive, CAAC allocated security-specific fund to 147 China airports to equip Model LS8016 liquid screening equipment.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 As international civil aviation industry attaches great importance to the security screening of liquids, many countries have made a lot of efforts on the study of liquids detect methods. At present and in the near future, the most effective and safest security way is combination of regular measures, such as X-ray screening, visual examination, inspection by removing the bottle lids, restriction on carrying liquids, etc. ICAO temporary security control guidelines provide a uniform operation mode of liquids screening, which is helpful to the unification of international civil aviation security standard.

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