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**ASSEMBLY — 36TH SESSION**

**TECHNICAL COMMISSION**

**Agenda Item 29: Flight recorders**

**REPORT ON UPGRADING REQUIREMENTS IN ANNEX 6 – VOLUME I TO PROVIDE FOR  
A TWO HOUR RECORDING DURATION ON ALL AIRCRAFT**

(Presented by Egypt)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

It is considered of utmost importance to increase the recording duration of the cockpit voice recorder (CVR) to two hours on all aircraft.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	The information contained in this paper enhances Strategic Objective A through the development of specifications for aircraft cockpit voice recorders.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	Minimal, considering its benefits.
<i>References:</i>	Annex 6, Part I Annex 6, Part III

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Currently, aircraft CVR requirements in Annex 6, Part I and Part III are as follows. ICAO **requires** Contracting States to:

- a) equip fixed-wing aeroplane and helicopters with a cockpit voice recorder for which the recording duration is at least 30 minutes of its operation;
- b) fixed-wing aeroplanes with a maximum take-off mass of more than 5 700 kg and for which the certificate of airworthiness is first issued after 1 January 2003 shall be equipped with a CVR with a recording duration of two hours; and
- c) helicopters for which the certificate of airworthiness is first issued after 1 January 2003 shall be equipped with a CVR with a recording duration of two hours.

1.2 ICAO **recommends** to Contracting States (as provided in Annex 6, Part I, Chapter 6, para 6.3.9.2) the following:

"A CVR, installed in aeroplanes of a maximum certificated take-off mass of over 5 700 kg for which the individual certificate of airworthiness is first issued on or after 1 January 1990, should be capable of retaining the information recorded during at least the last two hours of its operation." (Appendix 2)

1.3 ICAO **recommends** to Contracting States (as provided in Annex 6, Part III, Section II Chapter 4, para 4.3.7.2) the following:

"A CVR, installed in helicopters for which the individual certificate of airworthiness is first issued on or after 1 January 1990, should be capable of retaining the information recorded during at least the last two hours of its operation."

1.4 The recommendations made by aircraft accident investigation committees stressed the utmost importance of increasing the CVR recording duration to two hours.

## 2. CONCLUSION

2.1 A civil aviation authority is entitled to establish legislation to upgrade a recommendation to require its operators to abide by them. This, however, will not achieve the desirable results unless the other countries are implementing the same Standards.

2.2 Consequently, we propose to the ICAO Air Navigation Commission to upgrade to Standards the recommendations contained in Annex 6, Part I, Chapter 6, para 6.3.9.2 and Annex 6, Part III, Section II, Chapter 4, para 4.3.7.2 (particularly to increase the CVR recording duration to two hours as a requirement) and allow for a sufficient period of time for their implementation.