

TENTH SESSION OF THE STATISTICS DIVISION (STA/10)

Montréal, 23 to 27 November 2009

DRAFT REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 12

The Plenary, on 27 November 2009, approved the draft report on Agenda Item 12.

Agenda Item 12: Collection, analysis and dissemination

Review of the Current Reporting Status Commercial Air Carriers (WP/24)

Review of the Current Reporting Status: Airports and Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) (WP/25)

12.1 **DOCUMENTATION**

12.1.1 WP/24 and 25 covered the reporting status of the statistics collected by ICAO through its Air Transport Reporting Forms for commercial air carriers (A through EF) and those for airport and air navigation service providers (ANSPs) (I through L) respectively. In addition to a description of the individual programme, its major uses and its reporting coverage, both papers also looked at the potential benefits of implementing new reporting processes with the objective of further improving the coverage and utility of these data.

12.2 **DISCUSSION**

- A State suggested that due to the high number of Forms required to be submitted by some States, one way to improve both the completeness and timeliness of the data would be for States to know at the beginning of each year what forms were due and when, as well as the level of confidentiality which would be accorded to the data submitted. In this context, it would also be useful for States to be aware when the forms were received by the Secretariat and finally loaded into the ISDB.
- 12.2.2 The Division noted that subject to availability resources, such system would be fairly easy to implement as all the requested information formed part of the data kept in the tracking system of the ISDB. It was further noted that the Secretariat was at present evaluating a commercial software which might be suitable for such a task.
- 12.2.3 A State wished to bring to the attention of the Division a Joint Meeting of the Airports Economics Panel (AEP) and the Air Navigation Economics Panel (ANSEP) scheduled for the following week. Though somewhat late to modify their Agenda, the Secretariat should nevertheless attempt to seek their opinion on the usefulness of these data and the need for confidentiality associated with the Air Transport Reporting Forms associated with airports (Forms I, I-S and J), and air navigation service providers (forms K and L), if any.
- 12.2.4 It was noted that there was a general consensus among the participants on the need to appoint a focal point (or more if necessary) according to subject matter, in the national civil aviation administration of each Member State. Consequently the Division adopted the following recommendation:

Recommendation 12/1

The Division recommends that:

- a) Member States should name one or more focal contact points for aviation statistics within their national civil aviation administration, and
- b) the list of focal contact points should be made available through the ICAO secure website.

The Quality of Statistical Data (WP/32 – presented by Colombia)

12.3 **DOCUMENTATION**

12.3.1 In WP/32, presented by Colombia, it was stated that while ICAO had established a statistical system which was fundamental for the development of civil aviation, there was currently no method available to validate the quality of the data at its origin, namely airlines and States. One of the major difficulties to be faced during the discussions on cooperative programmes in air transport, were those related to the differences in the figures used to support such proposals. Generally, these differences occurred because or lack of awareness of the validation processes they might have gone through, and the controls used during the transmission or consolidation of the data.

12.4 **DISCUSSION**

12.4.1 The Secretariat pointed out that internally the Statistics Programme had already a quality process system in place, through notably the validation procedures used to cross check data submitted, as well as through the statistical workshops and on-the-job training sessions that also contributed to the quality assurance measures. In line with some of the proposals made in WP/32, it agreed to explore how for instance, the quality process mechanism instituted by the World Bank with their member States, could be adapted and implemented for the improvement of civil aviation statistics quality. This was supported by another State's suggestion to link the data validation and quality control issues among the parties concerned, to the proposed coordination mechanism among international organizations regarding civil aviation statistics (STA/10-WP/26).

Recommendation 12/2

The Division recommends that:

ICAO should consult with selected international organizations and explore how to adapt their quality process mechanism to the needs of ICAO and its member States.
