



INFORMATION PAPER

HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON AVIATION SECURITY (HLCAS)

Montréal, 12 to 14 September 2012

Agenda Item 9: Any other business

PACIFIC DIRECTORS OF CIVIL AVIATION: AVIATION SECURITY FORUM

(Presented by Papua New Guinea)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 A regional meeting of Pacific Directors of Civil Aviation was held in Suva Fiji from 20–21 June 2012. The meeting provided an opportunity for regulators of aviation security from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) to share ideas, enhance understanding and promote cooperative approaches to the achievement of aviation security outcomes.

1.2 Participating in the forum were Directors of Civil Aviation (or their nominated representatives) from: Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

1.3 Representatives of the following key stakeholders were also in attendance: Airports Council International (ACI), Air Pacific, Air Vanuatu, Asian Development Bank, Association of the South Pacific Airlines (ASPA), Australia Department of Infrastructure and Transport - Office of Transport Security (OTS); International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority (NZCAA), New Zealand Ministry of Transport (NZMoT), Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO), Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference Secretariat (PIDCSEC), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the United States Department of Homeland Security–Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

1.4 The agenda for the meeting included discussions on: international developments and the outcomes of recent meetings, threat and risk issues facing the region, developments in technology and screening, lessons learned and outcomes from Universal Security Audit Program visits and capacity building activities in the region.

1.5 Additional updates were provided by key regional bodies (ICAO, SPC, PASO, ASPA, ACI), donor agencies (ADB, World Bank) and aircraft operators.

1.6 The meeting agreed a number of outcomes (Attachment 1) and reaffirmed its commitment to a Joint Statement on the International Civil Aviation Organisation Declaration on Aviation Security (Attachment 2).

1.7 The meeting was hosted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the attendance of participants was supported by the Australian Department of Infrastructure and Transport (Office of Transport Security).

APPENDIX A
PACIFIC DIRECTORS OF CIVIL AVIATION
AVIATION SECURITY FORUM
20-21 JUNE 2012
SUVA FIJI

Meeting outcomes

Following two days of deliberations, the meeting agreed on a set of outcomes, which are included below.

The meeting:

- (i) Reaffirmed its commitment to mitigate the ongoing threats posed to civil aviation, given the severe social and economic impacts of such threats being realised.
- (ii) Recognised that Amendment 12 to Annex 17 has been applicable since 1 July 2011.
- (iii) Noted that supply chain security may not be the most appropriate model for achieving cargo security for many Pacific Islands.
- (iv) Noted the potential benefits that could be derived from identifying and, where possible developing, a pool of certified people to provide assistance to other States in meeting their international aviation security requirements.
- (v) Stressed the importance of States providing specific information in relation to their capacity building needs to support a longer term and more strategic approach, in an environment of increasing financial constraints.
- (vi) Noted, in the context of training needs, that ICAO can provide tailored capacity building, having regard to the target audience, if the collective needs of the region or a group of states are expressed.
- (vii) Recognised that the high turnover rate of staff in the aviation sector presents significant challenges; a significant contributor to the requirement for ongoing capacity building support in the region.
- (viii) Recognised that the threat to civil aviation is constantly evolving and that Pacific Island Countries and Territories are not immune to the consequences of that threat.
- (ix) Noted the current and planned capacity building activities of donor governments, and regional and international bodies.
- (x) Reaffirmed the need to build on existing regional mechanisms, such as the FRSC, with SPC exploring their support in the ongoing collection, analysis and dissemination of relevant aviation threat information and intelligence.
- (xi) Noted the activities of both the World Bank and Asian Development Bank in providing support to the Pacific region.
- (xii) Noted the work done by the Association of South Pacific Airlines in developing training packages that are appropriate to the needs of their membership.

- (xiii) Noted that application of security measures can, at times, present challenges in relation to facilitation in the Pacific region.
 - (xiv) Recognised Airports Council International's ability to provide capacity building support to the region, while acknowledging the need for relevant information from States to support targeted activities.
 - (xv) Noted steps taken by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's Transport Programme to initiate a data collection and retention program, including data relevant to the current level of training and skills in the region.
 - (xvi) Noted the progress made by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's Transport Programme in the collection and dissemination of information to Pacific Island countries and territories through regular publications.
 - (xvii) Agreed that there was a further need for coordinated information dissemination in regard to changes to international requirements and Civil Aviation Rule amendments.
 - (xviii) Recognised that States needed assistance in the adoption of Civil Aviation Rules to ensure their legislative regimes remained current and specific to the local operating environment.
 - (xix) Noted that model legislation has been developed by a Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat project that can assist States in undertaking a gap analysis of their ratification of aviation security related international conventions.
 - (xx) Noted the ongoing challenges to states posed by Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP) visits and that many states require external assistance to prepare for visits and to address requirements arising from corrective action plans.
 - (xxi) Recognise the ongoing work that PASO carries out to support its members in the area of aviation security and USAP audits.
 - (xxii) Reaffirmed its desire to work together to promote the exchange of information and ideas and develop, where possible, regional approaches to the achievement of aviation security outcomes.
 - (xxiii) Recognised the improved co-ordination between donors and partners such as the Australian and New Zealand governments, the US Transportation Security Administration; regional organisations such as PASO and SPC, and international organisations such as ICAO, to coordinate their capacity building activities across the region.
 - (xxiv) Agreed to table the outcomes of this meeting with the Joint Statement on the ICAO Declaration on Aviation Security at the 49th Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation - Asia and Pacific Regions to be held in India from 8-12 October 2012 and the ICAO High-level Aviation Security Conference to be held in Canada from 12-14 September 2012.
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APPENDIX B
PACIFIC DIRECTORS OF CIVIL AVIATION
JOINT STATEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION
DECLARATION ON AVIATION SECURITY

Directors of Civil Aviation (or their senior representatives) from Cook Islands, Guam, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Wallis and Futuna; and representatives from Australia, New Zealand, the United States of America, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Pacific Aviation Safety Office, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference Secretariat, Association of South Pacific Airlines and regional airport and aircraft operators, attended a Regional Aviation Security Forum in Suva, Fiji on 24–25 May 2011.

The forum provided an opportunity to discuss international developments in aviation security and to exchange information and ideas among key regional partners.

The forum also considered the Declaration on Aviation Security issued following the 37th Session of International Civil Aviation Organization Assembly in Montréal, Canada in October 2010 and wishes to make the following statements in response.

The Pacific region:

- acknowledges the value of the Declaration on Aviation Security as a pathway towards continuous improvement and the ongoing achievement of aviation security outcomes;
- agrees that the threat to civil aviation is constantly evolving and recognises that the Pacific is not immune from the consequences of that threat
- seeks recognition for the unique nature of the region and the importance of accessible aviation transport services to the maintenance of economic and social development through travel, tourism and trade;
- will continue to strive to fully implement, to the extent possible, the Standards and Recommended Practices contained in Annex 17 – Security to the Chicago Convention;
- will seek to identify mechanisms that will support the identification of current and emerging threats and the development of appropriate responses;
- agrees to promote training to ensure the correct use of available technology and the development of appropriate contingencies to ensure and maintain the detection and treatment of threats to civil aviation;
- agrees to continue to work with regional and international partners in a collaborative way to maintain communication and co-ordination and the development of harmonised regional approaches, wherever possible;
- will seek the support of the Pacific Immigration Directors' Conference Secretariat to achieve compliance with the security related Standards and Recommended Practices contained in Annex 9 – Facilitation to the Chicago Convention and to improve border management procedures; and
- will continue to work closely with donor organisations and key regional partners to ensure the maintenance and currency of skills and capability within the region.

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