Second Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Technical Group (E/CAR/CATG/2) Meeting
Miami, United States, 15 to 17 July 2015

Agenda Item 4:   Air Navigation Matters
4.1   Global/Regional Air Navigation Developments

ICAO POSITION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)
WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE (WRC-2015)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This working paper recalls the States support for the ICAO position for WRC-2015, particularly focus for the last remaining CITEL regional Meeting to be held in Ottawa as agreed in the ANI/WG/02 Meeting

Action:	Suggested actions are presented in Section 3.
Strategic Objectives:	• Safety • Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency • Environmental Protection
References:	• Fourth North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/4), Ottawa, Canada, 24 to 28 March 2014 • Second NAM/CAR Air Navigation Implementation Working Group Meeting (ANI/WG/2), Puntarenas, Costa Rica, 1 to 4 June 2015

1.   Introduction

1.1   The radio frequency spectrum is a scarce natural resource with finite capacity limits and for which demand is constantly increasing. The availability of the necessary radio frequency spectrum is a critical aspect for safety of civil aviation and the effective implementation of existing and future Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) and Air Traffic Management (ATM) systems-

1.2   Radio frequency spectrum congestion imposes on all users the duty of spectrum-efficient operation. The adequate allotment/assignment of frequencies for aeronautical national/international use, based on regional agreements and coordinated between States and ICAO, is an indispensable task for the optimum use of radio frequency spectrum and safety of aviation operations.

1.3   Due to the importance of this matter, States and Territories adopted the ICAO Twelfth Air Navigation Conference Assembly Recommendation 1/12 (*Development of the aeronautical frequency spectrum resource*) and Assembly Resolution A38-6 (*Support of the ICAO policy on radio frequency spectrum matters*), urging Member States, international organizations and other civil aviation stakeholders to firmly support the ICAO frequency spectrum strategy and the ICAO position at WRCs and in regional and other international activities conducted in preparation for WRCs.

1.4   ICAO submitted the ICAO position as approved by the ICAO Council through electronic bulletin, Ref: E 3/5. 15-13/57, dated 2 July 2013.

2.   Discussion

2.1   During the ANI/WG/02 Meeting, States were recalled on their support for the ICAO position for WRC-2015, emphasizing ICAO and the NAM/CAR Regions support to this position. ICAO activities for assisting the States are the following:

> a)   ICAO participation in the Interamerican Commission of Telecommunication CITEL meetings like the XXIV Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Commission: Radio communications (XXIV PCC.II) (Merida, Mexico) and the XXV Meeting of the Permanent Consultative Commission II: Radio communications (XXV PCC.II) (Medellin, Colombia);
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> b)   keeping State Points of Contact (PoCs) list in support of the ICAO WRC-15 Position for coordination and mutual support;
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> c)   keeping the Regional Frequency Assignment List available for States and general public: ICAO Website: http://www.icao.int/NACC/Pages/frequency.aspx.; and
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> d)   the results from the MEVA/TMG/30 Meeting for the registration of the Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) nodes in the ITU master register (following Conclusion MEVA TMG/26/21 - *Review and agreement on actions to Follow-Up on AN-CONF/12 Recommendation 1/14 and Recommendations from the Regional Preparatory Workshop for ITU WRC-15*).

2.2   For the CAR Region, CITEL is the regional forum for expressing this support. CITEL may receive all the States positions, individually or as a group, e.g., the Caribbean Telecommunication Union (CTU) and COMTELCA for Central America.

2.3   The ANI/WG/02 Meeting also took note that in the most recent CITEL meeting held in Medellin, Colombia (XXV PCC.II), and although some supports to ICAO position were completed, such as: flight tracking initiative and the Agenda Items 1.7 and 1.17; the participation of the Civil Aviation Authorities from the CAR Region was very low. The next CITEL meeting is scheduled for August 2015 in Ottawa (XXVI PCC.II).

2.4   Finally, it was commented that the ICAO Position as introduced in 2013 will in all likelihood have some updates in time before the WRC-15. None of the updates will however change the position; they will merely be clarifications in light of studies within ICAO and ITU-R. In light of this new update, the States were urged to coordinate this information with their corresponding Spectrum regulators, following the Conclusion NACC/WG/4/5 - Active Support from States for ICAO ITU WRC-2015 Position, and adopted the following conclusion ANI/WG/2/2:

CONCLUSION
ANI/WG/2/2   *COORDINATION FOR UPDATED VERSION OF THE ICAO WRC-2015 POSITION.*

That in order to ensure an effective coordination for the support of the ICAO Position for WRC-2015 considering the update of this position by ICAO NAM/CAR States:

a)   timely coordinate that this update of the ICAO Position is shared with their national Spectrum regulators; and

b)   attend as possible, with their National Spectrum Regulators to attend the last 2015 Regional CITEL (Ottawa, Canada, August 2015) and vote for the Interamerican proposals related with the ICAO position

3.   Suggested Action

3.1   The Meeting is invited to:

a)   take note of the efforts of the States/Territories and ICAO to protect and ensure the optimum use of the aeronautical spectrum;

b)   inform of your assigned aviation experts to attend with the corresponding Spectrum Regulators to the Regional CITEL meeting and vote for the Interamerican proposals related with the ICAO position; including the protection of the C-Band and the Global Flight tracking initiative;

c)   Agree on actions to support the ANI/WG/2/2 Conclusion as detailed in paragraph 2.4; and

d)   take any other action as deemed necessary.

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