

REPORT ON HAITI

(Presented by the Secretary General)

During an update to the Council, at the second meeting of its 189th Session on 15 February 2010, it was decided that a technical cooperation project should be developed in the knowledge of the deficiencies and problems being encountered in Haiti and that it should address not only the current emergency situation but also future needs. This report on Haiti presents for the information of the Council the actions taken by ICAO to date, the outcomes and the next steps.

Meeting with Haitian Prime Minister – 18 June 2010

The ICAO Regional Director of the North American, Central American and Caribbean (NACC) Office in Mexico, met with the Haitian Prime Minister and Director General of Office National de l'Aviation Civile (OFNAC), the Haitian civil aviation authority, to discuss proposals prepared by the ICAO NACC Office and the Technical Co-operation Bureau for Haitian aviation sector recovery/reconstruction that included a Management Services Agreement (MSA), two Project Documents – one for the civil aviation authority and one for the airport authority, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the establishment of the Civil Aviation Steering Committee (CASC), which identifies ICAO as the focal point to coordinate donor contributions and provide oversight. Both the MSA and MoU were signed by the Prime Minister.

World Bank, ICAO, Government of Haiti Meeting – 30 August 2010

World Bank/ICAO Collaboration on Haiti Aviation Sector Recovery.

The ICAO Regional Director of the Mexico Office met with the Director General of OFNAC and World Bank representatives to discuss the air transport sub-component of the World Bank Infrastructure & Institutions Emergency Recovery Grant, which consists of the following components (total amount US\$3 million):

1. reconstruction of ground - air communications tower;
2. repair and/or replacement of two VORs (PAP, OBN), and assessment/realignment of PAP ILS (IMG);
3. repair/installation of approach light system at PAP;
4. financing of associated costs for air traffic controller training; and
5. construction of a runway end safety area (RESA) for RWY 10 at PAP.

World Bank received and discussed the draft terms of reference (TORs) for the above-mentioned works, and it was determined that a consultancy was necessary to prepare detailed TORs and tenders for these components, which would provide technical specifications, tender evaluation and assistance in supervising implementation.

World Bank will **grant assignment of the above-mentioned consultancy to the Technical Co-operation Bureau of ICAO.**

Next step: Preparation of terms of reference for the technical consultancy for the preparation of TORs and tender documentation for the five project components. The objective is to procure this consultancy by latest 4 October 2010.

ICAO Briefing to the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC) representatives on the Haitian Aviation Sector – 31 August 2010

A briefing was provided on 31 August 2010, at the World Bank in Washington, D.C., to brief Member States and international organizations of the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC) on the current status of the Haitian aviation sector. The meeting was conducted by the ICAO Regional Director of the Mexico Office who informed the representatives on the ICAO technical assessment performed in March 2010, the resulting prioritized action plan, the proposed ICAO projects, and the proposed establishment of the ICAO mechanism for coordinating assistance from multiple donors. The ICAO Regional Director was supported by Acting Director, Technical Co-operation Bureau and participants included representatives from Brazil, Canada, Dominican Republic, Haiti, France, Spain, the European Commission, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the United States (Department of Transportation, State Department, Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), FAA, TSA) and the World Bank. The objective was to raise participant awareness of the key role of aviation in the Haiti recovery process, the need for donor contributions and to establish ICAO as a focal point for donor coordination.

Key discussion items:

- ICAO NACC Office did a technical **assessment of the sector** that identified infrastructure needs related to the devastation resulting from the earthquake along with other necessary improvements. The total financial requirement to bring infrastructure and operations to standards amounts to approximately **US\$230 million**; among the most urgent items are navigation and communications equipment, new air traffic control tower and area control center, runway facilities (lights, pavement), and security (perimeter fencing);
- despite the key importance of air transport to Haiti's economic development and recovery, and response to other possible future natural disasters, such as hurricanes, which are prevalent in the area, **air transport is considered a low priority for most donors** given the immense needs of the country in many other sectors;
- so far, **only a few donors have committed support** to the air transport sector: World Bank (grant US\$3 million), IDB (study on security, airport design and construction estimated at US\$2.5 million), Dominican Republic (air traffic controller training), USTDA (various studies US\$813,000), US FAA (mobile control tower), US TSA (screening equipment), and Venezuela (unconfirmed long-term project of financing a secondary radar system);
- in order to leverage donor funding for the sector, as well as to better coordinate between all donors and the sector, the meeting agreed to ICAO's proposal to create a **Civil Aviation Steering Committee for Haiti (CASC)**, which will be jointly headed by ICAO (Regional Director of Mexico Office) and Haitian authorities, and include all donors and stakeholders.

Next step: A follow-up meeting of the newly established CASC with the authorities and donors will be held in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on **5 October 2010**. The objective is to advance donor commitment and coordinate implementation of existing projects.

Given the above, I believe that ICAO Council members should urge their respective States to contribute donations for the Haitian aviation sector recovery in view of the results of the ICAO technical assessment, corresponding action plan and clearly defined projects.

Raymond Benjamin