



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
NORTH AMERICAN, CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL OFFICE**

UPDATE ON THE SITUATION IN HAITI

1 March 2011

Following the oral report to the ICAO Council on the operational situation in Haiti provided by the Secretary General on 15 February 2010, a decision was taken by the Council on 1 March 2010, for ICAO to develop a technical cooperation project for the reconstruction of the civil aviation sector in Haiti and encourage voluntary contributions from Contracting States, financial institutions and the aviation industry.

This briefing provides an update on the situation in Haiti since the last report posted on the ICAO Council website in September 2010.

The activities of the North American, Central American and Caribbean (NACC) regional office, with the support of the Air Navigation Bureau (ANB) and Technical Co-operation Bureau (TCB), have included leading and coordinating the ICAO assistance provided to Haiti for emergency response following the earthquake; restoration and reconstruction of facilities and services that were affected by the earthquake; and strengthening, upgrading and developing civil aviation system assistance.

Accomplishments:

- implementation of the ATS contingency plan immediately following the interruption of air navigation services in January;
- a multi-disciplinary on-site technical assessment and a prioritized action plan that was also presented to the Western Hemisphere Conference on Haiti Civil Aviation hosted by the United States Federal Aviation Administration (FAA);
- a technical cooperation mechanism with a Management Services Agreement (MSA) between ICAO and Haiti;
- agreement for the establishment of the Civil Aviation Steering Committee (CASC) for potential donor States, organizations, and projects established by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU); the Haitian Prime Minister signed both the MSA and MoU documents;
- the ICAO/Haiti Briefing on the Haitian Civil Aviation Reconstruction in Washington D.C. at World Bank (WB) Headquarters on 31 August 2010;
- as a result of the meeting and under the ICAO technical cooperation mechanism, the World Bank, a member of the CASC, approved for ICAO to contract consultants for the Haiti Civil Aviation Sector Infrastructure and Institution Emergency Recovery Grant Project, which is the first and only project so far to be implemented under the ICAO/Haiti Technical Cooperation agreement;
- ICAO was established as the focal point for aviation sector donor coordination through the CASC mechanism.
- ICAO NACC Regional Officers conducted further technical evaluation and missions in 2010 for the aeronautical information management (AIM) and aviation security (AVSEC) fields; these fields were not included in the initial NACC assessment.

Current Tasks:

Two umbrella ICAO Technical Cooperation projects have been formulated: the Post-2010 Haiti Earthquake Reconstruction and Modernization of the Air Navigation Infrastructure, Improving Services and Strengthening the Civil Aviation Authority for the Office National de l'Aviation Civile (OFNAC) and the Port-au-Prince Toussaint L'Ouverture International Airport for the Autorité Aéroportuaire Nationale (AAN).

Owing to the cholera outbreak and widespread civil unrest due to preliminary presidential election results in Haiti, the Director General of Civil Aviation (OFNAC) for Haiti, asked the Regional Director, NACC to postpone the CASC Meeting until further notice. Recently, Regional Director, NACC received communication from the Director General asking that the first CASC meeting take place in Port-au-Prince before 20 March.

The first meeting of the Haiti Civil Aviation Steering Committee (CASC) will be held in Port-au-Prince on 10 March 2011. Haitian government officials will report on the status and any subsequent development of civil aviation since the October meeting; ICAO will provide an update on the OFNAC and AAN Technical Cooperation Projects and the World Bank "Haiti Civil Aviation Sector Infrastructure and Institution Emergency Recovery Grant" Project. Other States and organizations will be invited to report on other completed, ongoing and planned projects, which will serve to review and update the status of the prioritized action plan from the ICAO assessment; confirm items already being addressed; and identify potential donors for the outstanding action items. In addition, the existing CASC Memorandum of Understanding between Haiti and ICAO is expected to be counter-signed by donor States and organizations during the meeting.

The two ICAO Technical Cooperation project documents (OFNAC and AAN) have been under review by the Government of Haiti, and the Minister of Transport (MoT) is expected to sign the documents in conjunction with the upcoming meeting.

ICAO NACC and TCB visited Haiti in October for a meeting with Haitian government officials, including the Haitian MoT, OFNAC, and international organizations including the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) in relation to the ICAO Technical Cooperation MSA, CASC and assistance projects. Agreement was reached with OFNAC and World Bank on the Terms of Reference and next steps for the ICAO Technical Cooperation project for consultancy services related to the World Bank project. This project is now in the final stages of ratification and activities are expected to commence next month.

Next Steps:

ICAO NACC, with the support of Haiti Prime Minister Bellerive, is seeking to arrange a meeting among ICAO, Director General of OFNAC, and former U.S. President Clinton at his offices in New York in order to highlight the aviation sector and facilitate presentation of the ICAO developments to the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission (IHRC), which is co-chaired by Prime Minister Bellerive and former President Clinton.

ICAO NACC is also contemplating a follow-up assessment to the March 2010 assessment that was conducted by NACC office; however, this follow-up is dependent on funding. The follow-up assessment will enable the update of the project documents and prioritized action plan.

Despite the stated commitments made by States and international organizations following the disaster, none has provided any assistance to the civil aviation reconstruction/development projects in Haiti coordinated by ICAO with the exception of the World Bank. However, the United States has provided extensive direct assistance to Haiti.
