



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
FIFTH MEETING OF DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION (DGCA/5)
OF ESAF AND WACAF STATES
(Dakar, Senegal, 4 November 2013)

Agenda Item 4: Air Transport Issues

**ENVIRONMENT - IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE ACTION PLANS
TO REDUCE CO₂ EMISSIONS.**

THE ICAO STATES' ACTION PLANS AND ASSISTANCE TO STATES INITIATIVE

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper reports on developments related to States' action plans for CO₂ emissions reduction activities since the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly. It also presents the steps by which ICAO will further support States in preparing, updating and implementing action plans, and follow-up the results of the 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly. It also reports on the developments related to the provision of assistance to ICAO Member States in facilitating access to technology transfer, capacity building and financial resources, as well as in the preparation of action plans on CO₂ emissions reduction activities.

1. PROGRESS SINCE THE 37TH ASSEMBLY

1.1 The 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly encouraged States to voluntarily submit Action plans to ICAO, outlining their respective policies and actions on reduction of CO₂ emissions from international aviation, and to annually report to ICAO on the implementation of such measures (Assembly Resolution A37-19, paragraph 9).

1.2 The Assembly also invited States to voluntarily submit action plans to ICAO as soon as possible, preferably by the end of June 2012, to enable ICAO to compile the information contained therein in order to assess the progress made toward the achievement of the global aspirational goals. Assembly Resolution A37-19 states that action plans should include information on the basket of measures considered by States in preparing the Action plans, reflect respective national capacities and circumstances, and identify any specific assistance needs (A37-19, paragraph 10).

1.3 It also requested the Council to study identify and develop processes and mechanisms to facilitate the provision of technical and financial assistance, as well as facilitate access to existing and new financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building to developing countries, and initiate specific measures to assist developing States (Resolution A37-19, paragraph 22).

To facilitate the preparation and submission of States' Action plans, ICAO developed, in collaboration with an ad-hoc group of experts from the ICAO Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP), Doc 9988, *Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on Emissions Reduction*¹. Doc 9988 guides States through the process of preparing and submitting an action plan on CO₂ emissions

¹The ICAO Guidance Document is available on the ICAO public website at http://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Documents/ActionPlan/GuidanceMaterial_DevelopmentActionPlans.pdf

reduction activities to ICAO. A dedicated interactive web-interface and an action plan template were also developed to facilitate the submission of States' action plans. The CAEP Steering Group meeting in September 2011 endorsed the guidance document and recommended the use of the web-interface by States in the submission of action plans to ICAO.

1.4 In addition, ICAO organized seven hands-on training workshops in 2011 and 2012 across the ICAO regions, during which participants from 91 States, representing 93 per cent of global international air traffic were trained to use the template as a guideline for developing an action plan. The guidance document was updated after each workshop, in order to reflect the suggestions received from ICAO Member States. Although States are not obligated to use this template, it facilitates the compilation of data and information to be submitted. The workshops were also an opportunity for national action plan focal points to share information with ICAO regarding the CO₂ emissions reduction activities currently being undertaken by their respective States.

1.5 ICAO has been offering technical assistance by developing specific tools and corresponding guidance material. The CAEP-approved ICAO Fuel Savings Estimation Tool (IFSET), developed by the Secretariat, with the support of States and international organizations, assists Member States and air navigation service providers (ANSPs) in determining expected fuel savings from the implementation of various operational improvements. IFSET will also facilitate the ongoing analysis being carried out by the Secretariat on the assessment of environmental benefits from the Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU) strategy. For example, IFSET was used to quantify and analyze the reductions in fuel burn and emissions resulting from the adoption of operational measures by ASECNA. ASECNA presented a working paper on this subject in 2012. Further assistance to States in the use of IFSET will be provided during the upcoming Advanced ATM Techniques Symposium and Workshop to be held in Montreal from 4 to 6 November 2013.

1.6 By the end of September 2013, 70 Member States, representing 80.91 per cent of global international air traffic, prepared and submitted action plans to ICAO. It is expected that by the end of 2013, an additional 18 States will submit their action plans, bringing the total to 90 per cent of global international air traffic, which is far beyond the 70 per cent initially targeted. These positive results demonstrate the high level of States' interest and engagement in this initiative.

2. THE 38TH ASSEMBLY AND NEXT STEPS

2.1 The 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly, held from 28 September to 4 October 2013, acknowledged the successful outcome of the various initiatives undertaken by the Organization, in particular in connection with the preparation of States' action plans, and in such a short timeframe since the last Assembly. The Assembly further acknowledged that this success highlighted the level of interest, cooperation and engagement by ICAO Member States and other stakeholders in the initiatives. However, some challenges remain in terms of the quality of action plans received. Specifically, in terms of data collection, the use of tools, and the assessment of the environmental benefits to be accrued from the selected measures, should be undertaken in a more harmonized and targeted manner.

2.2 The compilation of the results for the first submission of action plans was not possible due to the lack of data contained therein and the lack of harmonization in the methods used. These are some of the areas where improvement should be sought during the next triennium, with a view to enabling States to develop a more robust action plan.

2.3 Some States with lower levels of aviation activity did not participate in the initiative. The Secretariat has been exploring the possibility of the preparation and submission of joint action plans by groups of States.

2.4 With regard to the transparency of information contained in States' action plans, 20 States have decided to make their action plans publically available. Those States' action plans have subsequently been published on the ICAO public website².

2.5 The 38th Assembly requested the Council "to continue to provide guidance and other technical assistance for the preparation and update of States' action plans prior to the end of June 2015, in order for States to conduct their necessary studies and to voluntarily submit their action plans to ICAO" (Assembly Resolution A38-18, paragraph 15).

2.6 In this regard, the ICAO Secretariat plans to refine Doc 9988, building upon the experience acquired and taking into account the comments and suggestions received. The Secretariat is planning a new series of "Assistance and Capacity Building" seminars on action plans and assistance to States for 2014 and 2015, in order to facilitate States' development and update of their action plans (see the tentative timetable in the Appendix).

2.7 The 38th Assembly also highlighted that ICAO has been building partnerships with other international organizations, with a view to facilitating access to financing to Member States that require such assistance. ICAO has entered into such partnerships with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as well as the European Union (EU), and will continue to coordinate with other multilateral agencies, financial institutions and international organizations that have funding streams dedicated to climate change mitigation.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

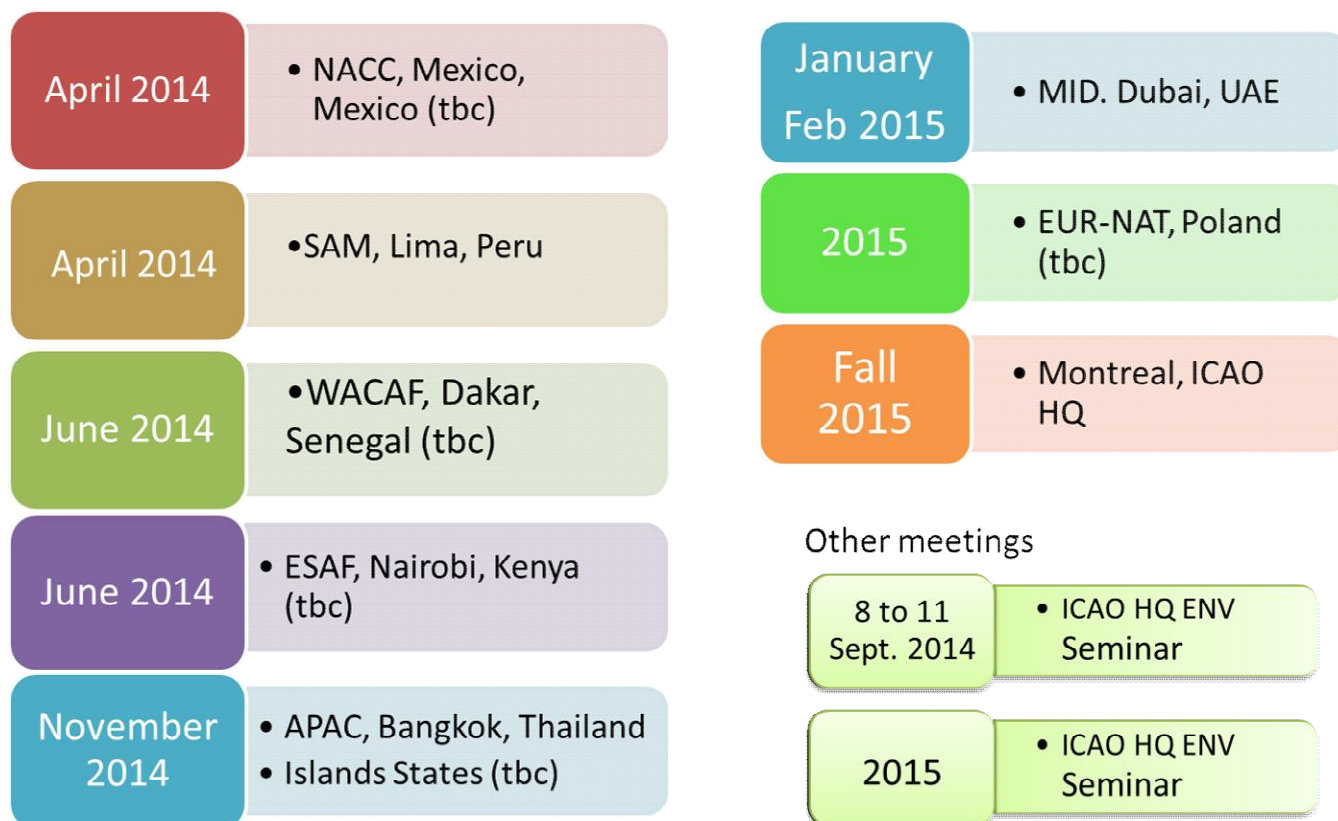
3.1 The meeting is invited to call upon the Directors General of Civil Aviation of ESAF and WACAF States to:

- a) note the progress achieved on the States' Action Plans and Assistance to States Initiative since the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly;
- b) continue to support the ICAO initiative on States' Action Plans and Assistance to States;
- c) note the ICAO Assistance and Capacity Building seminars planned for 2014 and 2015 and encourage States to provide support to the seminars; and
- d) encourage the participation of the national action plan focal points in the ICAO Assistance and Capacity Building seminars.

² <http://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/action-plan.aspx>

APPENDIX

TENTATIVE PLAN FOR “ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING SEMINARS FOR ACTION PLANS AND ASSISTANCE TO STATES” – 2014 AND 2015, AND ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENT MEETINGS



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