



C-DEC 225/3
24/2/22

COUNCIL — 225TH SESSION

THIRD MEETING

(VIRTUAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2022, AT 1000 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Status of the Finance Initiative Project

1. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report presented by the Secretary General which, in accordance with C-DEC 224/5, provided a status update on activities undertaken in relation to the Finance Initiative Project. The Council also had for consideration an accompanying PowerPoint presentation by the Secretariat.
2. Following consideration, the Council:
 - a) took note of the progress made by the Secretariat to advance the work under the Finance Initiative Project, particularly in light of the significant constraints on staff and financial resources, and in this connection, also noted that these resource limitations could hinder future progress, such that all work under the project remained subject to the availability of resources and a well-justified business case; and
 - b) requested the Secretariat to continue to keep the Council apprised of further developments relating to the Finance Initiative Project, with the next such report expected to be presented during a subsequent session.

Procedure for inclusion in the *List of international organizations that may be invited to attend suitable ICAO meetings*

3. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15283, which presented a written procedure to refine the current process and criteria for the assessment of requests from international organizations to be added to the *List of international organizations that may be invited to attend suitable ICAO meetings* as observers. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).
4. Following consideration, the Council:
 - a) took note of the information presented in the working paper, as well as the views expressed by the COG thereon, as reflected in its oral report;

- b) agreed to defer approval of the proposed written procedure as contained in the Appendix to C-WP/15283 to a future session, pending the outcome of the additional assessment to be undertaken by the Secretariat on the potential implications of the new written procedure for international organizations already included on the *List*, and any further recommendations that may arise in that regard;
- c) requested the Secretariat to proceed to review pending requests from international organizations that have sought to be added to the List, on the understanding that these requests would be assessed against the criteria contained in the proposed written procedure on a tentative basis only, given the decision referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph; and
- d) recalled that there remained an ongoing requirement for the Council to consider in due course, arrangements for engaging with external stakeholders with which it would be in the interests of ICAO to initiate and/or establish a formal relationship.

Annual Report of the Ethics Officer for 2021

5. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15330, which reported on the activities undertaken by the ICAO Ethics Officer during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).

6. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the information contained in C-WP/15330, and in so doing, reiterated the importance of the mandate of the Ethics Officer, and requested that the allocation of resources to the Ethics Office be duly considered during the preparation of the next triennial budget;
- b) took note of the recommendation in paragraph 4.6 of C-WP/15330 relating to the need to review the existing due diligence process with regard to ICAO's relationships with external third parties, particularly private sector partnerships;
- c) agreed that the present Annual Report of the Ethics Officer for 2021 and subsequent such reports, subject to comments and advice by the Secretary General, should be published on the ICAO public website, as a means to enhance outreach, and strengthen organizational transparency and public trust; and
- d) requested that future Annual Reports of the Ethics Officer continue to provide updated statistics, using a consistent terminology/classification, in order to identify emerging trends and monitor different concerns that may be raised over time.

Annual Report of the Chief of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO)

7. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15328, which presented a summary of all of the assurance, advisory and other oversight activities undertaken by the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO) in 2021, as well as the results achieved during that period. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).

8. Following consideration, the Council:
- a) expressed appreciation for the significant work carried out by OIO over the course of 2021, as reported in C-WP/15328, and in this connection, recognized the invaluable contributions of OIO to strengthening the accountability and governance framework of the Organization;
 - b) requested the Secretariat to continue to improve the implementation of outstanding OIO recommendations, and to further reduce the timelines for completing Management Action Plans in order to finalize OIO audit and evaluation reports in an expeditious manner as practicable; and
 - c) further requested the Secretariat to continue to explore options that would enhance the resources available to support the work of OIO, including by offering secondment opportunities for personnel from Member States.

Progress Report on the Implementation of the ICAO Policy on Interactions with External Parties

9. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15293 Revision No. 2, which reported on the activities undertaken by the Committee on Cooperation with External Parties (CCEP) since the last progress report was presented during the 222nd Session (C-DEC 222/11). The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).

10. Following consideration, the Council:
- a) took note of the information presented in C-WP/15293 Revision No. 2, and in so doing, approved the actions outlined in paragraph 5.1 of the working paper;
 - b) requested the CCEP to consider measures to streamline the number of agreements reviewed by the Committee, and to present its recommendations in this regard to the Council, together with its annual report on activities relating to the implementation of the Policy, during the 228th Session; and
 - c) requested the Secretariat to ensure that an updated list of current agreements be uploaded to the Council website, with a view to enhancing transparency in this regard.

ICAO Multilingualism Strategy

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled “Multilingualism in the United Nations system” (JIU/REP/2020/6)

11. The Council agreed to consider these two items concurrently.
12. The first item was considered on the basis of C-WP/15333, which presented a draft ICAO Multilingualism Strategy, which had been developed as a means to promote multilingualism throughout the Organization, enhance the provision of quality language services, and strengthen the linguistic capabilities of ICAO. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).
13. The second item was considered on the basis of C-WP/15342, which outlined the recommendations and key findings from the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) report entitled “Multilingualism in

the United Nations system” (JIU/REP/2020/6), and provided the comments of the United Nations Chief Executive Board (CEB) and response of the ICAO Secretariat. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).

14. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the information contained in C-WP/15342, as well as the associated COG oral report thereon, and in so doing, reaffirmed the importance of multilingualism as a core principle in the functioning of the Organization, with the understanding that the table of recommended actions appended to the working paper would need to be updated accordingly in order to reflect the Council’s decision on the Strategy;
- b) endorsed the proposed ICAO Multilingualism Strategy as presented in Appendix A to C-WP/15333, on the understanding that the implementation of the Strategy would also elaborate on developing cooperation mechanisms with Member States to facilitate the provision of multilingual support, in the six official ICAO working languages and others; and
- c) requested the Secretariat to present an annual report to the Council on the implementation of the Strategy, throughout the 2023-2025 triennium.

Draft Assembly Working Paper - Draft Scales of Assessment for 2023, 2024 and 2025

15. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15290, which presented a draft Assembly working paper outlining the Draft Scales of Assessment for 2023, 2024 and 2025. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Finance Committee (FIC).

16. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) approved the draft Assembly working paper on the Draft Scales of Assessment for 2023, 2024 and 2025;
- b) approved the Draft Resolution as contained in Appendix A to the draft Assembly working paper, for submission to the 41st Session of the Assembly; and
- c) requested that the Secretariat continue to present the Draft Scales of Assessment during the winter Session of the Council preceding the Assembly for future triennia, subject to the availability of the relevant data.

Draft Assembly Working Paper – Appointment of the External Auditor of ICAO for the financial years 2023, 2024 and 2025

17. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15291, which provided information relating to the appointment of the External Auditor of ICAO, and pursuant to C-DEC 224/5, presented a Draft Assembly working paper communicating said decision to re-appoint the President of the Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO) (Switzerland) as External Auditor of ICAO for 2023, 2024 and 2025.

18. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) approved the Draft Assembly working paper and Draft Resolution on the re-appointment of the President of the SFAO (Switzerland) as the ICAO External Auditor for 2023, 2024 and 2025, in accordance with Financial Regulation 13.1; and
- b) approved, upon the end of his tenure, the succession of the incumbent External Auditor by his successor as President of SFAO, in accordance with Financial Regulation 13.2.

Progress achieved by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (RHCC)

19. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report presented by the Chairperson of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (RHCC), as well as an update presented by the Representative of Canada on behalf of the Host State.

20. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the information provided by the RHCC, including in relation to the status of issues under consideration by the Committee;
- b) expressed its appreciation to the Representative of Canada and his Delegation for their for the ongoing support proffered by the Host State to the Organization and the diplomatic community since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in this connection, welcomed the assurances provided by the Host State with respect to facilitating participation by all Member States to the upcoming 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly, as well as their commitment to working closely with the Secretariat on the arrangements in this respect; and
- c) took note of the updated information provided by the Representative of Canada on behalf of the Host State concerning the recent changes to the COVID-19 related local public health directives, including the lifting of certain restrictions in the coming days and weeks, and in this regard, further noted the plan for the gradual return to the workplace that had been developed by the Secretariat, in light of the directives of the Government of Québec.

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