



C-DEC 231/7
25/03/24

COUNCIL — 231ST SESSION

SEVENTH MEETING

(COUNCIL CHAMBER, WEDNESDAY, 20 MARCH 2024, AT 1430 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Annual Report of the Ethics Officer for 2023

1. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15564, which reported on the activities undertaken by the ICAO Ethics Officer during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG).
2. Following consideration, the Council:
 - a) noted, with satisfaction, the information contained in C-WP/15564;
 - b) recalling its previous decision with respect to the title of the Ethics Officer (C-DEC 228/1, refers), took note of the information collected and circulated by the Secretariat on the titles used for the ethics functions by other entities of the United Nations system, and in doing so, endorsed the Secretary General's proposal to amend the current title of the "Ethics Officer" to "Ethics Advisor";
 - c) approved the proposed amendment to paragraph 41, "Unethical conduct", of the ICAO Ethics Framework, as described in paragraph 3.23 of C-WP/15564, whereby the current wording "staying in a conflict of interest situation" should be replaced with the text "failure to disclose the existence of a conflict-of-interest situation or to comply with a request by ICAO to address it";
 - d) invited the COG to further explore options regarding the development of a Code of Conduct for the members of the Delegations to ICAO, with a view to providing guidance on recommended standards of behaviour, as well as in relation to interaction between Delegations and the ICAO Secretariat (C-DEC 223/10, refers), while acknowledging the mutual benefits to be gained from the positive collaboration and open interaction between the National Delegations and the Secretariat;
 - e) further to the preceding sub-paragraph d), also affirmed that it would be necessary for the proposed work on the development of a Code of Conduct to take into account and uphold the privileges and immunities of Delegations in accordance with applicable international treaties; and

- f) requested the Secretariat to review and update the ICAO Personnel Instructions (PI) 1.3.1, *Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse*, in order to better align the existing ICAO framework with the relevant policies in force in the United Nations system, particularly with a view to placing greater focus on the victim-centred approach.

ICAO Strategic Plan: Progress Update

3. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report presented by the Secretary General. The Council also had for consideration oral reports thereon from the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) and the Committee on Governance (COG). In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, given that the oral reports of the ANC and COG had not been made available at least 72 hours before the present meeting.

4. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the progress made by the Secretariat in developing the long-term ICAO Strategic Plan 2026-2050, as reported in the Secretary General's oral report;
- b) further noted the comments raised by the COG and the ANC in relation to the draft ICAO Strategic Plan, as reflected in their respective oral reports, as well as the views expressed by the Council over the course of its deliberations, and in doing so, requested that the Secretariat take these recommendations into account as a basis for further improvement and refinement of the Strategic Plan;
- c) agreed to establish a Consultative Group of the Council to contribute to the work being undertaken by the Secretariat in further developing the ICAO Strategic Plan, with a view to presenting a revised iteration to the Council during the 232nd Session, it being understood that the Council would have an opportunity to consider and review the Strategic Plan during the Council Off-site Strategy Meeting (COSM), to be held from 3 to 5 June 2024, prior to the finalisation and approval of the Strategic Plan; and
- d) pursuant to c), above, agreed to delegate authority to the President of the Council to establish the composition of the Consultative Group, taking into consideration the need for equitable geographic representation and gender balance.

Reprioritization of the 2023-2025 Business Plan: Progress update

5. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report presented by the Secretary General. The Council also had for consideration oral reports thereon from the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) and the Committee on Governance (COG). In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the *Rules of Procedure for the Council*, given that the oral reports of the ANC and COG had not been made available at least 72 hours before the present meeting.

6. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) took note of the progress made by the Secretariat in its ongoing re-prioritization of the 2023 - 2025 ICAO Business Plan, including the next steps to be taken in this regard, as reported in the Secretary General's oral report;

- b) further noted the comments raised by the COG and the ANC in relation to the Priority Focus Areas (PFAs), as well as the views expressed over the course of the Council deliberations, including with regard to the need for adequate resources to be allocated toward the implementation of the outcomes of CAAF/3 and Assembly Resolution A41-21 (*c.f.* C-DEC 231/2 and C-DEC 231/3), and in doing so, requested that the Secretariat take these recommendations into account in the context of future reports on this subject, particularly the need to more clearly identify those projects and activities contained in the 2023- 2025 ICAO Business Plan for which funding was not available, in addition to those that have already been considered within the scope of the re-prioritization exercise; and
- c) encouraged the Secretariat to take into account any lessons learned from the development of the current Business Plan and ongoing re-prioritization in the context of its preparations of the 2026 – 2028 ICAO Business Plan, and in this regard, noted that an informal briefing on the 2026 - 2028 Business Plan was planned during the 232nd Session.

ICAO Accountability Framework

7. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report presented by the Committee on Governance. In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council, given that the oral report of the COG had not been made available at least 72 hours before the present meeting.

8. Following consideration, the Council noted the progress made toward the development of an ICAO Accountability Framework, it being understood that the draft Framework would be presented to the Council, through the COG and the Small Group on the Accountability Framework, for further consideration during the 232nd Session.

Work Programmes of the Council and its Committees for the 232nd Session

9. The Council considered this item on the basis of C-WP/15539, which presented the work programmes of the Council and its Committees for the 232nd Session. The Council also had for consideration an oral report thereon from the Committee on Governance (COG). In doing so, the Council agreed to waive the requirement in Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council, given that the oral report of the COG had not been made available at least 72 hours before the present meeting.

10. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) approved the work programmes of the Council and its Committees for the 232nd Session as contained in C-WP/15539, taking into consideration the comments of the COG in this regard, as reflected in its oral report, and in this connection, noted that in line with standard practice, there would be sufficient flexibility for supplementary items to be added to the work programmes of the Council and its Committees, including reports by the Small Groups, which would be considered as standalone items during a session and not under “Any other business”;
- b) further approved the list of proposed informal briefings, as provided in Appendix A to the COG oral report, while agreeing that these would be scheduled to the extent

possible during the Committee phase, and specifically in relation to the briefing “Progress report on the development of the Standardization Roadmap”, underscored the need for close coordination between the Air Navigation Commission and the Small Group on Innovation prior to the scheduling of this briefing, especially given the tight timeframe associated with the work being undertaken in this regard;

- c) took note of the proposed list of items to be shared for information purposes, as reflected in Appendix B to the COG oral report; and
- d) noted that the decisions taken by the Council over the course of the current Session that affect the work programme for the 232nd Session in terms of supplementary items, amendments to existing items, or deferrals of items, and that are not currently reflected, would be incorporated in a revised version of C-WP/15539, which would be issued in due course.

Council Off-site Strategy Meeting (COSM)

11. The Council took note of the information presented by the President of the Council with respect to the arrangements for the 2024 Council Off-site Strategy Meeting (COSM), and in that regard, agreed that the 2024 COSM would be held from 3 to 5 June 2024, at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier, in Ottawa, Canada. It was further noted that the thematic focus of the 2024 COSM would be on the ICAO Strategic Plan 2026 to 2050, with related sub-themes pertaining to key lessons learned from the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly, as well as the financial sustainability of the Organization’s budget. It was understood that documentation to facilitate the Council’s discussions during the COSM, as well as further information on the logistical aspects, would be circulated in due course.

12. The Council also took note that, consistent with the arrangements during the 2023 COSM, attendance to the 2024 COSM would be limited to Representatives on the Council, or, in their absence, the Alternate Representative, the President of the Air Navigation Commission, Secretary General, Bureau Directors, and the Secretariat staff required to support the meeting.

Any other business

Aviation occurrence in Argentina

13. The Council took note of the statement presented by the Representative of Argentina, as well as the subsequent comments made in relation thereto, and in doing so, encouraged the Member States involved to maintain an open dialogue while exploring all available options and continuing all efforts to resolve the matter through amicable consultations. It was noted that the intervention of the Representative would be reported in the minutes to this meeting (C-MIN 231/7 refers).

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

14. The Council took note of the information provided by the RHCC in relation to the status of issues under consideration by the Committee, and in particular, welcomed the progress made by the Secretariat to expand access to the medical clinic.

Status of Recruitment for the position of Chief, Office of Internal Oversight (OIO)

15. The Council noted the oral update provided by the Secretary General regarding the status of recruitment for the position of Chief, Office of Internal Oversight (C/OIO). In this regard, and with a view to avoiding any delays in the appointment of the new C/OIO, particularly as the term of the incumbent was due to end in June 2024, the Secretary General proposed, and the Council agreed to consider the Secretary General's decision on the appointment of the future C/OIO once finalized, via written procedure.

International Organizations invited to participate in the 39th Session of the Legal Committee

16. Pursuant to the request received by the President of the Council from the Air Crash Victims' Families' Federation International (ACVFFI) expressing their desire to attend the upcoming 39th Session of the ICAO Legal Committee (Montréal, 25 to 28 June 2024), the Council agreed that the ACVFFI should be invited to participate in this event.

Proposal to convene a High-level event on Aviation Security in Muscat

17. Pursuant to the Council's discussion regarding the dates for convening the 2024 ICAO Aviation Security week (C-DEC 231/6, refers), in Muscat, Oman, the Council took note of the additional information presented by the Secretariat in this regard, and in that connection, agreed that the 2024 Aviation Security week should be held from 9 to 11 December 2024, with the High-level Ministerial Segment to be organized on 11 December 2024.

Scheduling of the ICAO Symposium on Non-CO₂ Aviation Emissions

18. Pursuant to the Council's discussion regarding the dates for convening the ICAO Symposium on Non-CO₂ Aviation Emissions (C-DEC 231/3, refers), the Council took note of the additional information presented by the Secretariat in this regard, and in that connection, agreed that said Symposium would now be held from 16 to 18 September 2024. It was further noted that as the new dates coincided with the first week of the Committee phase of the 233rd Session, the calendar of Committee meetings would be planned accordingly.

ICAO 80th Anniversary Celebrations

19. The Council noted the oral update provided by the President of the Council regarding the status of preparations for the Organization's 80th anniversary celebrations, and in particular, took note that an extraordinary session of the Council would be held on Thursday, 5 December 2024, at the Chicago Hilton Hotel, in Chicago, Illinois, which was the venue for the signing of the Chicago Convention in 1944. It was understood that further information on the programme of activities planned in connection with the 80th anniversary would be communicated to the Council and to Member States in due course.

SARPs DMS Project

20. The Council noted, with appreciation, the information presented by the Secretariat regarding the ICAO SARPs DMS project, and the video demonstration of the new tool being developed in this regard.

Information items considered by Council Committees

21. The Council noted that based on the summaries of discussions issued over the course of the current session, the following information items had been considered by the various subsidiary bodies of the Council and that no further action was required therefrom:

- *Aviation Security Risk Overview*
- *Report on Capacity Development and Implementation Bureau activities during 2023*
- *Annual Report of the Chief of the Office of Internal Oversight (OIO)*

Items circulated for information only

22. The Council noted that the following information items had been circulated for information purposes, and had been published on the Council website, accordingly:

- *Annual report of the Investigative Entity on cases of misconduct handled on behalf of ICAO for 2023*
- *Annual Report of the ICAO Gender Equality Programme for 2023*
- *Annual report on actions taken in response to complaints of misconduct and retaliation for 2023*
- *Annual Report on the Implementation of the ICAO Multilingualism Strategy*
- *Annual report to Council on Regional Offices' activities during 2023*
- *Environmental protection – Recent developments in ICAO and other United Nations bodies and international organizations*
- *Explanatory note on ICAO's participation in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF)*
- *ICAO Financial Situation Report*
- *Progress Report on Enterprise Risk Management (ERM)*
- *Progress report on the implementation of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA)*
- *Report on the activities of the Implementation Support and Development – Security (ISD-SEC) Programme*
- *Report on the results of the International Telecommunication Union World Radio Conference 2023 (ITU-WRC/23)*
- *Report on the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Radio Frequency Interference*
- *Review of the Borrowing Authority 2023*
- *Secretary General's Sessional Progress Report*
- *Status of the People Strategy*
- *Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP) Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA) Analysis of Audit Results - 13th Edition 2023*
- *Update on the work on the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)*

— END —