



A36-WP/361
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ASSEMBLY — 36TH SESSION

REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMISSION ON AGENDA ITEMS 34 AND 38

(Presented by the Chairman of the Technical Commission)

The attached report on Agenda Items 34 and 38 has been approved by the Technical Commission. Resolution 34/1 is recommended for adoption by the Plenary.

Note.— After removal of this covering sheet, this paper should be inserted in the appropriate place in the report folder.

(5 pages)

Agenda Item 34: Support of the ICAO policy on radio frequency spectrum matters

34.1 The Commission reviewed A36-WP/7, containing a Council proposal to update policies in Assembly Resolution A32-13 for enhanced support to ICAO positions developed for ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRCs). The updates reflect the current aeronautical developments and guide the preparation for, and participation in, future WRCs. The Secretary pointed out that ITU WRCs were the fora where international agreements on the allocation and use of radio frequency spectrum to user services were established and that for the ICAO position to be duly considered by WRCs when deliberating on matters of interest to the aviation community, an increased level of support by ITU Member Administrations was essential. The current level of support had proven insufficient to guarantee that aviation requirements are consistently met.

34.2 In A36-WP/150, the United States proposed that ICAO coordinate the global effort to identify and propose a frequency spectrum bandwidth for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (unmanned aircraft vehicles). The next WRC, scheduled for October-November 2007, would not address UAS issues. With a requirement to establish an agenda three years in advance of the next meeting, the UAS community would benefit from increased ICAO support in developing a position for UAS spectrum requirements for consideration at the next possible opportunity, the WRC 2011.

34.3 The Secretary highlighted that the availability of the necessary radio frequency spectrum continued to be a prerequisite for the safety of civil aviation and the effective implementation of the communications, navigation, and surveillance/air traffic management (CNS/ATM) systems. The Commission noted that as demand for spectrum from non-aviation users was constantly growing, aviation faced increasing competition for the limited available spectrum, in particular from commercial telecommunications services.

34.4 The United States expressed the view that active participation in many fora was needed to ensure maximum aviation influence on ITU Member Administration positions. There was general agreement that ICAO needed to strengthen the support and resource commitment to protect the aeronautical spectrum which was critical to the international aviation community.

34.5 The Commission noted the common thrust of WP/7 and WP/150 and agreed that it was essential that aviation requirements for radio frequency spectrum be strongly supported by all ICAO Contracting States so as to ensure that aviation requirements for safety of life services would be duly presented and understood.

34.6 In the light of the discussion, the Commission agreed to submit, for adoption by the Plenary the following resolution:

Resolution 34/1: Support of the ICAO policy on radio frequency spectrum matters

Whereas ICAO is the specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for the safety, regularity and efficiency of international civil aviation;

Whereas ICAO adopts international Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for aeronautical communications systems and radio navigation aids;

Whereas the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the specialized agency of the United Nations regulating the use of the radio frequency spectrum;

Whereas the ICAO position, as approved by the Council, for ITU World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRCs) is the result of the coordination of international aviation requirements for radio frequency spectrum;

Recognizing that the development and the implementation of the communications, navigation, and surveillance/air traffic management (CNS/ATM) systems and the safety of international civil aviation could be seriously jeopardized unless aviation requirements for allocations of radio frequency spectrum are satisfied and protection of those allocations is achieved;

Recognizing that support from ITU member administrations is required to ensure that the ICAO position is supported by the WRC and that aviation requirements are met;

Considering the urgent need to increase such support due to the growing demand for spectrum and aggressive competition from commercial telecommunications services;

Considering the increased level of ITU WRC preparation activities associated with the growing demand for bandwidth from all users of the radio frequency (RF) spectrum, as well as the increased importance of the development of regional positions by regional telecommunication bodies such as APT, ASMG, ATU, CEPT, CITEL and RCC¹;

Considering Recommendations 7/3 and 7/6 of the Special Communications/Operations Divisional Meeting (1995) (SP COM/OPS/95) as well as Recommendation 5/2 of the Eleventh Air Navigation Conference (2003);

The Assembly:

1. *Urges* Contracting States and international organizations to support firmly the ICAO position at WRCs and in regional and other international activities conducted in preparation for WRCs by the following means:

- a) undertaking to provide for aviation interests to be fully integrated in the development of their positions presented to regional telecommunications fora involved in the preparation of joint proposals to the WRC;
- b) including in their proposals to the WRC, to the extent possible, material consistent with the ICAO position;

¹ APT: Asia-Pacific Telecommunity; ASMG: Arab Spectrum Management Group; ATU: African Telecommunications Union; CEPT: the European Conference for Posts and Telecommunications; CITEL: Comisión Interamericana de Telecomunicaciones; RCC: Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communication.

- c) supporting the ICAO position and the ICAO policy statements at ITU WRC's as approved by Council and incorporated in the *Handbook on Radio Frequency Spectrum Requirements for Civil Aviation* (Doc 9718);
- d) undertaking to provide experts from their civil aviation authorities to fully participate in the development of States' and regional positions; and development of aviation interests at the ITU; and
- e) ensuring, to the maximum extent possible, that their delegations to regional conferences, ITU study groups and WRCs include experts from representatives of their civil aviation authorities ~~administrations~~ or other aviation officials who are fully prepared to represent aviation interests;

2. *Requests* the Secretary General to bring to the attention of ITU the importance of adequate radio frequency spectrum allocation and protection for the safety of aviation; and

3. *Instructs* the Council and the Secretary General, as a matter of high priority within the budget adopted by the Assembly, to ensure that the resources necessary to support increased participation by ICAO to international and regional spectrum management activities are made available.

4. *Declares* that this resolution supersedes Resolution A32-13.

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Agenda Item 38: Assembly Resolutions to be consolidated or to be declared no longer in force

38.1 The Plenary had referred Appendix B of A35-WP/28 on Assembly Resolutions to be consolidated or to be declared no longer in force to the Technical Commission, which agreed with the Council's recommendation that Resolution A24-8 (Re-examination of the work programme in the air navigation field) in Part II of *Assembly Resolutions in Force (as of 8 October 2004)* (Doc 9848) should be declared no longer in force.

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