



منظمة الوحدة الافريقية
السكرتارية
ص. ب. 3243

ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAINNE
Secretariat
B. P. 3243

ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY
Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS Addis Ababa •• اديس ابابا
THIRTY-FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION
18 - 28 June 1980
Freetown, Sierra Leone

ORIGINAL : English
DISTRIBUTION: General
CM/1069 (XXXV)

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON DECLARATION
OF GENERAL POLICY IN THE FIELD OF
CIVIL AVIATION



CM-1069

MICROFICHE

DECLARATION OF GENERAL POLICY IN THE FIELD OF
CIVIL AVIATION

1. It is to be recalled that during the Thirty-third Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers in Monrovia a document entitled "Declaration on the General policy in the field of Civil Aviation" was presented for consideration by the Council of Ministers after its adoption by the Sixth Plenary Session of AFCAC.
2. At the conclusion of its deliberations on the matter, the Council of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/Res.742(XXXIII) Rev.1 calling on the Secretary-General to:
 - (a) communicate the text of the Draft Declaration of General Policy in the Field of Civil Aviation to all Member States for their remarks and observations with a view to its adoption by the Council of Ministers;
 - (b) submit a report, in consultation with AFCAC, to the Thirty-fourth Session of the Council of Ministers.
3. Accordingly, the Secretary-General circulated the above document to all Member States in compliance with Resolution CM/Res.742(XXXIII) Rev.1 and all the comments received so far from Member States are in favour of the adoption of the Declaration of General Policy in the Field of Civil Aviation.
4. The adoption of the "General Policy in the Field of Civil Aviation" is quite a crucial element in the implementation of the Transport and Communications Decade programmes in Africa. The air transport sector shares 7% of the Decade project which constitutes 48% of regional projects and 52% of national projects. It seems therefore, that the adoption of a Common Policy by African countries

will create an impetus in co-operation arrangements in the implementing regional projects which definitely will have a positive impact on the national projects.

5. In Civil Aviation, the OAU Specialized Agency (AFCAC) should be given a guiding mechanism by Member States of OAU to institute and implement measures compatible to a successful realization of the Decade Programme.

6. As has been pointed out, the inadequacies of the transport network in Africa is a bottleneck to Intra-African trade and other economic co-operation matters. We therefore request that the Council adopt the document presented to this Session which will form a working tool for the OAU.

7. The document entitled "Declaration of General Policy in the Field of Civil Aviation" is annexed to this report as Annex I.

RESOLUTION ON THE DECLARATION OF GENERAL POLICY IN
THE FIELD OF CIVIL AVIATION

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirty-Third Ordinary Session in Monrovia, Liberia, from 6 to 20 July 1979,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the OAU Specialized Agencies, Document CM/967(XXXIII) Part IV;

Considering Resolution S6 - of the Sixth Plenary Session of AFCAC (Bamako, Mali May - June 1979) adopting a Declaration of General Policy and recommending its presentation to the Thirty-Third Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers for its endorsement,

Convinced that a declaration of general policy will lead to the definition of principles of collective or individual action of Member States in the field of civil aviation;

Convinced of the vital role being played by Civil Aviation in the economic and social development in Africa;

1. TAKES NOTE of the Draft Declaration of General Policy in the field of civil aviation attached to the present Resolution.
2. CALLS ON the Administrative Secretary-General to:
 - (a) communicate the text of the Draft Declaration of General Policy in the field of Civil Aviation to all Member States for their remarks and observations with a view to its adoption by the Council of Ministers;
 - (b) submit a report, in consultation with AFCAC, to the Thirty-fourth Session of the Council of Ministers.

DECLARATION OF GENERAL POLICY IN THE
FIELD OF CIVIL AVIATION

The Plenary Session of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) convened at Bamako from 21 May to 1 June 1979 and pursuant to Article VII of the OAU/AFCAC Agreement signed at Addis Ababa on 18 May 1973, recommends the adoption of this declaration of General Policy in the field of civil aviation by the Thirty-Third Session of the Council of Ministers of the OAU and its approval by the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State and Government to be assembled at Monrovia (July 1979).

The Council of Ministers assembled at its Thirty-Third Session at Monrovia:

CONSIDERING Article II, Section 2 of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, which provides that the Member States shall co-ordinate and harmonize their general policies, particularly in the field of economic co-operation, transport and communications;

CONSIDERING Article 3 of the AFCAC Constitution which lays down that the Commission constitutes a framework within which Member States discuss and plan all the required measures of co-ordination and co-operation for all their civil aviation activities;

CONSIDERING in this context, that the main goal of AFCAC is to promote co-ordination, better utilization and orderly development of African air transport systems;

CONSIDERING the agreement between OAU and AFCAC, Article 1 of which provides that AFCAC shall be the OAU Specialized Agency in the field of civil aviation working towards the achievement of the objectives as provided in the Constitution of AFCAC;

CONSIDERING the African Declaration on Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence and, in particular Section III, A. 28, whereby African governments undertake to effectively strengthen co-operation between African airline companies with a view to the rationalization of the continent's air services, particularly as regards the harmonization of timetables, the setting up of special reduced rates, exchanges of air traffic rights, the standardization of aircraft used, the sharing of aircraft repair and maintenance facilities and joint organization of research and personnel training;

CONSIDERING Resolution CM/Res.675(XXXI) on the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

AWARE of the role which civil aviation can play in the economic and social development of Africa;

RESOLVES accordingly, to adopt this Declaration which defines the basic principles of collective or individual action by African States in the field of civil aviation.

A. POLICY OF AFCAC

I. Training of aviation personnel

General Plan

1. RECOGNIZES the efforts made by AFCAC to implement a general personnel training plan in all disciplines affecting aeronautical activity in order to satisfy the needs of the Member States,
2. RE-AFFIRMS the provisions of its Resolutions CM/Res.568(XXIX) and CM/Res.655(XXXI) relating to implementation of the aviation training programmes;
3. SUPPORTS the action taken by the joint AFCAC/OAU Co-ordination Committee with the participation of UNDP and ICAO to procure the necessary funds to implement the multinational pilot training centres, the establishment of which was decided upon by AFCAC;

4. REQUESTS that a high priority continue to be accorded to the promotion of all multinational projects in view of the benefits which result from the joint organization of personnel training and research;

Convention establishing
the multinational centres

5. ENDORSES the opinion of the AFCAC Plenary Session that the adoption, signing and ratification of the Convention establishing the multinational civil aviation training centres were a pre-requisite for the implementation of these training institutions particularly as regards their physical and administrative organization;

Standardized Syllabi 6. ASSOCIATES ITSELF with the policy of :

- a) implementing standardized syllabi for the training of aircraft pilots and maintenance technicians by all the African training institutions concerned;

- b) preparing appropriate standard syllabi for other disciplines of aviation training with a view to harmonizing the procedures for issuance of personnel licences and promoting a programme of personnel exchanges as a part of the overall co-operation between African States in the field;

II. Co-operation and integration of African airlines

7. ASSOCIATES ITSELF with the arrangements envisaged by AFCAC in the framework of the four-year plan (1978 - 1981) for establishing co-operation between African airlines with a view inter alia to achieving the following short and long term objectives :
 - standardization of aircraft and establishment of common technical specifications for the aircraft types to be operated;

- optimum utilization of technical and training facilities (existing or projected) through a better distribution of the workloads in every field;
- reduction of operating costs and a better return on investments;
- creation of jobs requiring a high degree of technical proficiency;
- strengthening of relations between States;
- creation of multinational airlines;

8. FOSTERS the arrangements made up to this time by the sub-regional meetings organized by AFCAC in the framework of the plan of action for 1978 - 1981 with a view inter alia to :

- harmonizing the different types of procedures for the issuance of air-worthiness certificates for aircraft and technical personnel licences, and aircraft operating and maintenance standards and procedures, having regard to three licencing systems (CAA, FAA, Bureau VERITAS) with a view to establishing a common policy in this field;
- collaborating with the African Airline Association and certain aircraft manufacturers for the purpose of making studies on common technical specifications for the aircraft to be operated;
- creating, in co-operation with African financial institutions (especially the ADB), structures which will make it possible for the African airlines to acquire aircraft on the most favourable terms;
- creating an African aircraft leasing corporation;

III. Optimum development of air services in Africa

9. RE-AFFIRMS the objectives laid down in the African Declaration on Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence (Addis Ababa, May 1973) which seek the best possible development of African international air services in every field, especially the structure of the networks, flight frequencies,

co-ordination of timetables, co-operative arrangements between airlines and the implementation of intra-African cargo services;

10. ENCOURAGES the conduct of studies on an optimum system of air-line flight connections which would form part of a concerted policy for co-ordinating timetables at a number of pre-determined airports (which would be treated in this respect as "hubs");
11. ENDORSES the opinion that it is necessary to adapt the airport infrastructure to the operating conditions of the system envisaged for implementation, and supports in this connection the preparation of a traffic forecast for the purpose of determining the capacity and quality of the services at each airport, as well as the cost-benefit of the routes concerned and the facilities to be implemented;
12. ASSOCIATES ITSELF with the resolutions on air transport policy adopted by the Conference of African Ministers responsible for transport, communications and planning (Addis-Ababa, 9-12 March 1979), which provides inter alia that the concept of cabotage traffic and its implications for international air transport in Africa shall be studied by AFCAC with a view to fostering the development of intra-African air transport;
13. ENCOURAGES the continuation of studies on the present policy of granting traffic rights (especially Fifth Freedom Rights) and the collection of data on certain routes vis-a-vis the financial provisions of the agreements concerning the routes in question;
14. LIKEWISE ASSOCIATES ITSELF with the Resolution of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for transport, communications

and planning on the establishment of an African Conference for negotiating and approving fares and rates and other related matters;

15. REQUESTS that a high priority be assigned to the study relating to the establishment of such machinery in Africa in response to recent developments which have taken place in the field of international air transport policy;
16. SUPPORTS the principle of establishing a data bank for the purpose of collecting, analysing and disseminating in the shortest reasonable time the information required for the application of a co-ordinated policy of development of air services;

IV. Financing of aeronautical activities and role of the African Development Bank

17. AWARE of the fact that air transport play an important role in the social and economic development of each country and in the promotion of exchanges among Africa;
18. CONVINCED of the role of sponsoring agencies which are instrumental in mobilizing human and financial resources as well as technical and technological knowledge in support of the development of Africa;
19. CONSIDERING in this connection the provisions of Article 2 of the Agreement establishing the African Development Bank, section 1(a) of which states that, to attain its goals, the Bank shall exercise the following functions:

- utilize its available resources to finance investment projects and programmes for the economic and social development of its Member States, in particular by giving priority to projects or programmes which in character or scope affect more than one State, or to those which seek to render the economy of its States increasingly complementary and develop their joint endeavours in an orderly fashion;

20. CONSIDERING, moreover, that pursuant to Article 2, section 2, the ADB should, in the exercise of its functions, co-operate with ~~national, sub-regional and regional development bodies in Africa;~~

21. CONSIDERING Article 3 of the AECAC Constitution which lists among the objectives of the Commission the co-ordination, better utilization and orderly development of African air transport systems;

22. CONSIDERING, moreover, the functions of AECAC enumerated in Article 4.1 of its Constitution, and particularly those which consist in making studies on the possibility of standardizing flight equipment and ground units servicing aircraft;

23. CONSIDERING that the category of those eligible for assistance from the ADB are, under Article 14 of the Agreement, its Member States, the public bodies or any institution or enterprise located on the territory of a Member State, together with the international or regional organizations or agencies concerned with the development of Africa;

~~24. CONVINCED of the necessity of fostering a co-ordinated policy in the financing of purchases of flight equipment required for~~

the optimum development of African air transport services and for the maintenance and overhaul of this equipment;

25. ENDORSES the opinion of the sub-regional meetings organized by AFCAC on co-operation between airlines, according to which the choice of an aircraft is often dictated by the mode of financing rather than the technical merits of the aircraft concerned;
26. URGES the ADB, in consultation with AFCAC, to:
- consider the possibility of setting up a structure within the ADB, the purpose of which would be to create conditions which will enable aircraft and associated equipment to be purchased by the African airlines at the lowest price with the object of implementing a concerted policy of standardization of flight equipment;
 - undertake a feasibility study on the creation of an African aircraft leasing corporation;

V. Aviation medicine

27. APPROVES the steps taken by AFCAC with a view to:
- 1) - collecting, analyzing and re-distributing data on health problems in civil aviation;
 - 2) - fostering an improvement in the field of aviation medicine;

- 3) - studying the advisability of recommending the establishment of a regional project with the assistance of the UNDP and the WHO, the aim of which would be to foster activity in the field of aviation medicine;

ASSOCIATES ITSELF with the AFCAC Resolution aimed at setting up the African Association for Aviation Medicine.

VI. Research activities in technical fields

28. REQUESTS that sustained and active attention be accorded to studies under-taken at world wide level;

- 1) - improve and upgrade the quality of aeronautical communications by the use of up-to-date techniques in field;
- 2) - organize upper airspace in Africa (use of air traffic control instead of advisory service, dimensioning of of flight information regions (FIR), so as to prevent their fragmentation;

VII. Technical co-operation

29. REQUESTS that a high priority be accorded to the organization within AFCAC of machinery to fulfill the requirements of Member States for the experts needed to execute certain tasks for periods of short duration pursuant to the new principles of UNDP policy whereby inter-country consultants of regional projects funded by the UNDP should be associated to regional or national agencies;

30. ASSOCIATES ITSELF with Recommendation No.19 framed by the Buenos Aires Conference on Technical Co-operation between Developing Countries (TCDC), which lays down that all governments should strengthen the capacity of sub-regional and regional bodies with a view to implementing activities and projects to further co-operation between developing countries, which should receive support from the UNDP in particular;

VIII. Co-ordination with other bodies

31. AFFIRMS that, in order to achieve the goals defined above and fulfill the necessary tasks in this connection, AFCAC - as the competent specialized agency of OAU in the civil aviation field - is co-ordinating its activities with the inter-governmental and non-governmental sub-regional, regional and worldwide bodies whose activities affect civil aviation;

32. SUPPORTS the arrangements which AFCAC has made, or is contemplating, for the conclusion of co-operative agreements with some of these bodies so as to promote co-ordination between its own activities and those of these organizations through mutual participation at meetings and the regular exchange of information of common interest;

IX. Action proposed by States

33. RE-AFFIRMS the provisions of Resolution CM/Res. 655 (XXXI) whereby Member States were to take all necessary steps to relate particular aviation projects which require outside assistance to the overhaul development requirements of each country;
34. URGES Member States in this connection to envisage any steps that may be required for funding training fellowships, particularly at multinational aviation training centres, through UNDP country programmes (national PPF) and other multinational and bilateral funds;
35. URGES Member States to implement the training programmes established or adopted by AFCAC at their national or multinational training centres with a view to standardizing the duration and contents of identical courses;

36. DRAWS the attention of States to the necessity of adopting or revising their regulations in the field of aviation training, taking account particularly of the programme prescribed for each aeronautical training course;
37. URGES States to ratify or accede to conventions establishing the multinational aeronautical training centres established under the auspices of AFCAC;
38. URGES States to implement the provisions of Resolution on African air transport policy adopted by the Ministers responsible for transport, communications and planning (Addis-Ababa, 9-12 March 1979) whereby:
- 1) - each African State shall facilitate the granting of traffic rights- especially Fifth Freedom Rights within Africa - to the airlines of all the Member States;

2. - The rights of transit and non-commercial stopover (First and Second Freedoms of the air as laid down in the Chicago Convention and the International Transit Agreement) shall be guaranteed without restriction to all airlines of OAU Member States;
39. DRAWS THE ATTENTION of States to the necessity of adopting a joint position on matters affecting the negotiation and conclusion of bilateral agreements with non Member States according to principles which will be determined by OAU in accordance with the development of world air transport policy;
40. URGES Member States to lend their support to AFCAC activities aimed at establishing - in collaboration with the African Airline

Association - of a machinery : for negotiating and approving air tariffs and other related matters in order to overcome the problems that have arisen both in the negotiations and in the multilateral fixing of a proper level of tariffs for travel to, from and within Africa;

41. URGES Member States to facilitate the movement of aircraft, persons and cargo by adopting regulations in this field in line with the arrangements adopted in the world as a whole, under the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation;
42. RECOMMENDS, with a view to fostering intra-African air transport, that action be taken to conclude agreements which will facilitate the travel of persons by abolition of entry visas or by easing of the formalities required in this connection.



AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE

African Union Common Repository

<http://archives.au.int>

Organs

Council of Ministers & Executive Council Collection

1980-06-18

Report of the Secretary-General on Declaration of General Policy in the Field of Civil Aviation

Organization of African Unity

Organization of African Unity

<https://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/10164>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository