



International  
Civil Aviation  
Organization

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Международная  
организация  
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авиации

منظمة الطيران  
المدني الدولي

国际民用  
航空组织

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Mr. Sergey Gudkov  
Representative of the Russian Federation  
on the Council of ICAO  
Suite: 16.25  
E-mail: russia@icao.int

Dear Mr. Gudkov,

I wish to invite the Russian Federation to provide its expertise to the ICAO Secretariat Study Group on Cybersecurity (SSGC). In light of the threat posed by cyber-attacks against civil aviation's critical infrastructure, information and communication technology systems and data, the 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly called for a coordinated approach and global framework for civil aviation stakeholders to address the challenges of cybersecurity and increase the resilience of the global aviation system to cyber threats. To that end, the Assembly adopted Resolution A39-19 — *Addressing cybersecurity in civil aviation*, and further instructed ICAO to lead the development of a comprehensive cybersecurity work plan and governance structure with all relevant stakeholders.

The SSGC has established several working groups with a view to addressing all elements of the international aviation framework that may be affected by cyber incidents and attacks. The SSGC will coordinate with those working groups so that any required cybersecurity provisions proposed by those same groups are developed in a harmonized and coordinated fashion in order to ensure global interoperability and compatibility, while maintaining required levels of safety and security.

I look forward to receiving the name of the expert in cybersecurity in civil aviation that will represent the Russian Federation. The experience, expertise and knowledge of the Russian Federation is regarded as instrumental in enabling the SSGC to achieve its objectives and assist in the development of ICAO's cybersecurity framework. This will be achieved through a horizontal, cross-cutting and functional approach involving air navigation, communication, surveillance, aircraft operations and airworthiness, and other relevant disciplines.

Yours sincerely,

Boubacar Djibo  
Director  
Air Transport Bureau

**Enclosure:**

Terms of Reference of the ICAO Secretariat  
Study Group on Cybersecurity

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## Secretariat Study Group on Cybersecurity (SSGC)

### Terms of Reference

#### BACKGROUND

Acknowledging the urgency and importance of protecting civil aviation's critical infrastructure, information and communication technology systems and data against cyber threats, the 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly called for a coordinated approach to achieve an acceptable and commensurate cyber resilience capability on a global scale. To that end, Resolution A39-19 — *Addressing cybersecurity in civil aviation* sets out the actions to be undertaken by States and other stakeholders to counter cyber threats to civil aviation through a cross-cutting, horizontal and collaborative approach.

Furthermore, the 39th Session of the ICAO Assembly instructed ICAO to lead and seek to attain a comprehensive cybersecurity, cyber safety and cyber resilience work plan and governance structure with all relevant stakeholders.

#### SCOPE

The Secretariat Study Group on Cybersecurity (SSGC) will establish several working groups (referred to as the working groups of the SSGC) with a view to addressing all elements of the international aviation framework that may be affected by cyber incidents. The SSGC will coordinate with those working groups so that any required cybersecurity, cyber safety and cyber resilience provisions proposed by those same groups are developed in a harmonized and coordinated fashion to ensure global interoperability and compatibility while maintaining required levels of safety and security. Furthermore, the SSGC should coordinate and liaise with other relevant stakeholders in the harmonization and integration of already existing cyber frameworks and initiatives.

#### COMPOSITION OF THE GROUPS

The SSGC and its working groups may be composed of experts involved in some or all of the following areas: information security, telecommunications, information management, aerodrome operations, airworthiness, aviation security policy, facilitation, airframe and avionics production and operations, air navigation services, systems and infrastructure, manned aircraft operations, unmanned aircraft systems, internet of things, and remotely-piloted aircraft systems operations.

#### OBJECTIVE

The SSGC will coordinate its efforts to:

- Serve as the focal point of all ICAO cybersecurity, cyber safety, and cyber resilience related work;
- Define relevant areas to be considered by the working groups of the SSGC and validate their respective terms of reference to ensure that no overlapping of duties and responsibilities occur;
- Periodically review the terms of reference of the working groups of the SSGC;
- Advise the working groups of the SSGC, as necessary, on cross-cutting matters;
- Conduct a review of the ICAO Annexes to consolidate existing SARPs related to cybersecurity.
- Review the proposals for amendment to ICAO provisions or new provisions to be developed related to cybersecurity, cyber safety and cyber resilience, proposed by the working groups of the SSGC;

- Encourage the development of, and participation in, government/industry partnerships and mechanisms, nationally and internationally, for the systematic sharing of information on cyber threats, incidents, trends and mitigation efforts; and
- Promote cybersecurity, cyber safety and cyber resilience awareness throughout the aviation community.

## **THE WORKING GROUPS OF THE SSGC**

The working groups of the SSGC will be established to consider the following areas:

- Airworthiness provisions to ensure resilience to cyber threats, incidents and unauthorized interference (SSGC/WG-AW);
- Future air navigation systems and infrastructure, including System Wide Information Management (SSGC/WG-ANS);
- All aspects of aerodrome operations not including air navigation systems (SSGC/WG-AD);
- Legal obligations to deter individuals and entities from tampering with civil aviation's critical infrastructure, data and information and communication technology systems; and
- Any other areas of interest not listed in these terms of reference that require the attention of the SSGC.

Each working group will elect a Rapporteur, whose responsibilities are the coordination of activities, under the guidance and support of the Secretariat, within the respective working group. Furthermore, the Rapporteur will inform the SSGC through regular briefings and updates on the progress of the working groups.

## **WORK METHODOLOGY**

The SSGC and its working groups will conduct their activities by:

- Engaging in regular exchange of e-mails, telephone calls, conference calls, videoconferences whenever possible or required, and face-to-face meetings when necessary; and
- Drafting and agreeing on prioritization of activities and determining target delivery dates for action, as necessary, in consultation with the working groups of the SSGC.