

FINAL

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE

DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION - EUR/NAT REGIONS

2024 MEETING (EUR/NAT-DGCA/2024)

(Toulouse, France, 23 April 2024)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Meeting of the Directors General of Civil Aviation of the ICAO European and North Atlantic Regions (EUR/NAT-DGCA/2024) was kindly hosted by the École Nationale de l'Aviation Civile (ENAC) in Toulouse, France, on 23 April 2024.
- 1.2 The Meeting was attended by 98 participants from 38 States and 10 organizations. The list of participants is provided in **Appendix A**.
- 1.3 The Meeting commenced by welcome remarks from the Director General of ENAC, Mr. Olivier Chansou.
- 1.4 The ICAO Secretary General, Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, addressed the Meeting outlining ICAO's current priorities within its Strategic Objectives, with a focus on aviation de-carbonization and on the accelerating pace of innovation. He also emphasized ICAO's ongoing transformation into a modern, digital, adaptive, and collaborative organization, and highlighted the significance of ICAO's 80th Anniversary.
- 1.5 The EUR/NAT Regional Director (RD), Mr. Nicolas Rallo, who was the meeting Secretary, supported by other ICAO personnel, welcomed the Meeting. In his introductory remarks, the EUR/NAT RD emphasized the need for further enhancing information-sharing, coordination and cooperation amongst States and organizations in the EUR/NAT area. In addition, he highlighted the crucial importance of a sustainable civil aviation sector for States' socio-economic development.

Approval of Agenda

1.6 The Meeting approved the following agenda:

Agenda Item 1: Opening remarks

Agenda Item 2: Approval of the agenda and elections of the Chair and Vice-Chair

Agenda Item 3: ICAO updates

Agenda Item 4: Aviation training and NGAP: Building bridges within and beyond aviation to identify

relevant training solutions while optimizing the ICAO Next Generation of Aviation

Professionals (NGAP) efforts.

Agenda Item 5: Sustainability: timely actions and cooperation to achieve the LTAG

Agenda Item 6: Enhancing resilience

Agenda Item 7: Collaboration for implementation support: enhancing coordination and cooperation

Agenda Item 8: Gender equality

Agenda Item 9: Ratification of international air law treaties

Agenda Item 10: Any other business and next meeting.

Elections of Chair Team

1.7 Based on the nominations received and in accordance with the *EUR/NAT DGCA Handbook*, the Meeting elected the following Chair Team:

a) Chairperson: Mr. David Benito Astudillo, Director General of Civil Aviation, DGCA of Spain

o) Vice-Chairperson: Mrs. Mirjana Čizmarov, Director General of the Civil Aviation

Directorate, DGCA of Serbia

c) Vice-Chairperson: Mr. Tahir Nazarov, Director of CAA, DGCA of Uzbekistan

1.8 Mr. David Benito Astudillo thanked the Meeting participants for his election and expressed the Chair Team's commitment to work towards a successful outcome of the meeting.

2. ICAO Updates

- 2.1 The Meeting took note of the information paper made available on the latest updates of ICAO documents, State Letters as well as the calendar of forthcoming global and regional events.
- 3. Aviation training and NGAP: Building bridges within and beyond aviation to identify relevant training solutions while optimizing the ICAO Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) efforts
- 3.1 The Meeting was provided with a working paper identifying challenges related to the availability of the skilled workforce required to operate the international air transport system safely, securely, and efficiently, with a focus on the training components of these challenges and the associated ICAO initiatives.
- 3.2 It was noted that in response to the workforce challenges faced by the civil aviation sector, ICAO had revitalized the Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) programme and identified the aviation workforce forecasting, planning and monitoring as one of the main focus areas for collaboration among all key stakeholders through joint initiatives and partnerships.
- 3.3 The Meeting noted information on the challenges identified by the ICAO European Aviation System Planning Group (EASPG) related to the existing gap between the demand for, and availability of the qualified workforce in the civil aviation sector. It was noted that to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the needs, data on the current-, medium-, and long-term human resources requirements should be collected, analysed and monitored. The aim of this activity would be to support policy decisions, identify areas for enhancement, and formulate targeted strategies to meet workforce and training demands. Ultimately, the objective was to bridge the gap between training/education and industry needs.
- 3.4 In order to address the foregoing challenges, the following actions were agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/1 – Regional Skills Shortage

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic:

- a) convene a regional meeting of States, international and regional organizations, industry and aviation training organizations with a view to investigating the feasibility of setting up a regional skills shortage monitoring process; and
- b) invite States, international and regional organizations, industry and aviation training organizations to cooperate with ICAO on the above-mentioned initiative.
- 3.5 In this regard, the Meeting noted a proposal from Kazakhstan to host the first regional meeting.

- 3.6 Furthermore, the Meeting noted the challenges identified in the provision of On-the-Job Training (OJT). In this regard, it was noted that ICAO had started the development of a portfolio of courses aimed at enhancing and harmonizing the competencies of OJT instructors. Five (5) such courses for OJT instructors were already available from the portfolio of ICAO training for dissemination to States.
- 3.7 The Meeting agreed that States should be encouraged to collaborate and assist each other to the possible extent in the provision of OJT and that the ICAO EUR/NAT Office could play a role in facilitating such collaboration while ensuring not to circumvent existing agreements of collaboration and technical assistance between States but rather to provide good ground for expanding their scope or the establishment of new ones, as deemed appropriate.
- 3.8 Therefore, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/2 – Provision of OJT for CAA Inspectors

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic:

- a) invite States to identify and share with the ICAO EUR/NAT Office their challenges related to the provision of On-the-Job-Training (OJT) for Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) inspectors, taking into consideration the complexities associated with the OJT process;
- b) review the information provided by States on their challenges related to OJT provision, with a view to helping support States in overcoming these challenges;
- c) invite States with support needs in the area of OJT to reach out to the ICAO EUR/NAT Office; and
- d) invite States to inform the ICAO EUR/NAT Office of their intention to offer OJT opportunities for CAA inspectors from other States in the EUR/NAT area based on delivery modalities to be agreed upon between the donor and recipient States.
- 3.9 The Meeting further discussed opportunities for building bridges within and beyond the aviation ecosystem for enhanced training solutions. It was noted that in order to assist in overcoming the existing and emerging challenges, further efforts should be made to better identify relevant and targeted training solutions. Training organizations should be strongly encouraged to continue to build bridges within and beyond the aviation ecosystem.
- 3.10 Accordingly, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/3 – Opportunities to build bridges within and beyond the aviation ecosystem for enhanced training solutions

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic:

- a) invite States to reach out to ICAO for any need of support for strengthening their training capacity through the creation or upgrade/enhancement of aviation training organizations under dedicated capacity building projects;
- b) invite States, international and regional organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to continue cooperating with ICAO and its TRAINAIR PLUS Programme network on the issues highlighted at the EUR/NAT-DGCA/2024 meeting; and
- c) convene regional meetings of States, international and regional organizations, and other relevant industry stakeholders in the EUR/NAT area to initiate dialogue regarding education and training on cross sectoral issues.
- 3.11 In this regard, the Meeting noted a proposal from the JAA-TO to support the agreed actions and host the first regional meeting.

4. Sustainability: timely actions and cooperation to achieve the LTAG

- 4.1 The Meeting was presented with a working paper providing updates on ICAO's activities at the global level as well as in the EUR/NAT area in follow up to EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2023/2 in support of further enhancing engagement, information-sharing, coordination and cooperation to achieve the Long Term Aspirational Goal (LTAG) of Net Zero CO₂ emissions in international civil aviation by the year 2050.
- 4.2 As a result of the discussions, the following actions were agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/4 – Further enhancing coordination and cooperation to achieve LTAG

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, take action to:

- a) remind EUR/NAT States that they shall verify and submit their reports on CO₂ emissions from international flights for the year 2023 to ICAO using the Central CORSIA Registry (CCR) before end of July 2024;
- b) encourage EUR/NAT States to:
 - i) develop or update their quantified States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities in accordance with the provisions in the new *Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on CO₂ Emissions Reduction Activities* (ICAO Doc 9988) including cleaner energies, green technologies and innovations mitigation measures as well as long-term emission reduction initiatives and submit the Plan to ICAO before June 2024;
 - ii) use the ICAO environmental tools to estimate the emissions reductions from the implementation of the mitigation measures as part of the development of States' action plans;
- iii) join CORSIA in the first phase and notify ICAO accordingly (by 30 June 2024 for voluntary participation from 1 January 2025);
- iv) join (as donor States or beneficiary States) the ICAO ACT-CORSIA Capacity-Building activities, including the CORSIA buddy partnerships;
- v) join (as donor States or beneficiary States) the ICAO Assistance, Capacity-building and Training for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (ICAO ACT-SAF) programme by signing the Terms and Conditions available on the ICAO website;
- vi) inform the ICAO EUR/NAT Office of any ongoing or envisaged activity related to Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), including SAF feasibility studies and capacity building activities;
- vii) reach out to the ICAO EUR/NAT Office for any support needed for the preparation and submission of States' Action Plans, and implementation of the related mitigation measures; and
- viii) invite Organizations active in the EUR/NAT area, including international and regional organizations, to continue to support information-sharing and coordination, in order to avoid duplication of efforts and promote synergies and ensure consistency, and support ICAO regional activities related to environmental protection.
- 4.3 The EUR/NAT-DGCA Meeting took note of the concerns presented by Azerbaijan on behalf of Azerbaijan and Türkiye on potential challenges, inconsistencies and duplications that may arise from the coexistence of obligations under the Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), as the only global market-based measure for international aviation, and Emission Trading System (ETS) mechanisms.

4.4 The Meeting also took note of the ongoing regulatory work within the European Union as reported by the DGCA of Belgium during the meeting. Based on the ensuing discussions, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/5 - Potential Challenges related to CORSIA Implementation

That the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Director take actions to encourage States to engage in a dialogue and collaboration with concerned States and Organizations on potential challenges related to CORSIA implementation.

5. Enhancing resilience

- 5.1 The Meeting was presented with a working paper providing updates on ICAO's activities in the EUR/NAT area in follow up to EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2023/3 on enhancing resilience in civil aviation.
- As a result of the discussions, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/6 – Enhancing resilience in civil aviation

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, invite:

- a) States to utilise the content from the *ICAO Crisis Management Framework Document* (EUR Doc 031, 2nd edition) in national activities to enhance crisis preparedness and response;
- b) States to provide updates in the Electronic Filing of Differences (EFOD) system on the status of the establishment and implementation of National Air Transport Facilitation Programmes and Committees, as needed;
- c) States, international and regional organisations to further enhance information-sharing, coordination and cooperation to support the implementation of Annex 9 provisions related to National Air Transport Facilitation Programme (NATFP)/National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (NATFC) and public health; and
- d) States, international and regional organisations to further enhance information-sharing, coordination and cooperation to support the implementation of ICAO provisions related to cybersecurity.
- 5.3 The Meeting noted that the ICAO Symposium on Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families (AAAVF2024) would be held from 26 to 28 November 2024 at the Concert Hall PHIL in Haarlem, the Netherlands, which would be an opportunity to enhance international cooperation on the successful implementation of practical measures in several areas.
- 5.4 In this regard, the Meeting recalled the outcomes of the regional workshop on assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families that was jointly organized by ECAC and the ICAO EUR/NAT Office in Milano, Italy, on 20 February 2023.
- 5.5 In order to further build on the momentum that was generated by the regional workshop and facilitate preparations for the AAAVF2024 Symposium, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/7 – Assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, invite:

a) States to prioritize the implementation of Corrective Actions Plans to address the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) related Protocol Questions (PQs) 6.381 and 6.383 with the objective to enhance their capabilities to effectively establish and implement a comprehensive system for the assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families;

- b) States, regional and international organisations to actively engage in a follow up webinar to be organized by the ICAO EUR/NAT Office in 2024 to address the sharing of information and experience regarding the provision of updates on self-assessment, CAPs and CAP implementation progress for PQs 6.381 and 6.383; and
- c) States, regional and international organisations to participate and actively engage in the Symposium on Assistance to Aircraft Accident Victims and their Families (AAAVF2024) to be organized by ICAO in Haarlem, the Netherlands, from 26 to 28 November 2024.

6. Collaboration for implementation support: enhancing coordination and cooperation

- 6.1 The Meeting was presented with a working paper providing updates on the collaboration for safety-related implementation support activities in the EUR/NAT area.
- It was noted that in follow-up to the EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2023/4, ICAO had signed with the Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan a Management Service Agreement (MSA), underpinned by a commitment for the Country Strategic Plan of Action (COSPA)/Collaborative Implementation Support Roadmap (CISRO) pilot programme proposed by ICAO. The first meeting of the COSPA's Strategic Review Board (SRB), comprising representatives of Uzbekistan, ICAO and potential partner States and Organizations (including States, international and regional organizations, industry partners and Multilateral Development Banks) was tentatively scheduled to be held at the ICAO EUR/NAT Office on 18 June 2024. The invitation letter would be dispatched by mid-May 2024.
- Based on the presentation and ensuing discussions, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/8 – Implementation of the COSPA/CISRO pilot programme for Uzbekistan

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, take action to:

- a) invite States, international and regional organizations, industry partners and Multilateral Development Banks willing to provide support to the Country Strategic Plan of Action (COSPA)/Collaborative Implementation Support Roadmap (CISRO) pilot programme for Uzbekistan to contact the ICAO EUR/NAT Office; and
- b) following coordination with Uzbekistan, invite selected States, international and regional organizations, industry partners and Multilateral Development Banks, to the first meeting of the programme's Steering Committee.
- The Meeting was presented with information on the ICAO Capacity Development and Implementation (CDI) Programme which provides technical support and resource mobilization services to support States in achieving their safety, security, efficiency, and environmental sustainability goals for national and international civil aviation. Full information on ICAO's CDI portfolio of products and services is available at https://www.icao.int/capacity-development/Documents/icao-products-and-services-portfolio.pdf.
- 6.5 Based on the presentation and discussions, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/9 – Use of ICAO's portfolio of products and services for capacity development and implementation support

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, invite:

- States to make the best use of ICAO's portfolio of products and services for capacity development and implementation support, considering their specific needs and in particular their priority needs; and
- b) States and Organizations to share information with the ICAO EUR/NAT Office on ongoing and/or planned activities related to capacity development and implementation support, in order to help avoid duplication of efforts.

7. Gender Equality

- 7.1 The Meeting was presented with a working paper outlining ongoing ICAO initiatives to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women in aviation, in line with Assembly Resolution A41-26, ICAO Gender Equality Programme and in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- 7.2 The Meeting was informed that, in response to the ICAO State Letter on the subject of "Advancing gender equality in aviation exchange of information on policies, programmes and other initiatives" (sent in July 2023), 20 EUR/NAT States had responded by nominating a "gender equality focal point".
- 7.3 Based on the presented material and ensuing discussions, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/10 – Advancing gender equality in aviation

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic, invite:

- a) States to nominate a "Gender Equality Focal Point" and inform the ICAO EUR/NAT Office accordingly, if they have not yet done so;
- b) States and Organizations to participate and actively engage in ICAO global and regional activities on gender equality and empowerment of women in aviation;
- c) States and Organizations to express their interest in supporting mentoring activities for women in aviation; and
- d) States and Organizations to consider providing in-kind and voluntary contributions to the ICAO Gender Equality Programme as well as initiatives and activities in support of improving gender equality in aviation, such as scholarships and financial assistance to enable young women and girls to pursue careers in aviation.

8. Ratification of international air law treaties

- 8.1 The Meeting was presented with a working paper providing updates on actions undertaken in follow up to EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2023/6 on Ratification of International Air Law Treaties and proposing future actions.
- 8.2 The Meeting was informed that, in response to the ICAO State Letter on the subject of "Ratification of international air law treaties" (sent in July 2023), 26 EUR/NAT States had responded by nominating a Focal Point and informing the ICAO EUR/NAT Office on the progress toward the ratification of the Air Law Treaties.
- 8.3 In light of the presented material and ensuing discussions, the following was agreed:

EUR/NAT-DGCA Conclusion 2024/11 - Ratification of International Air Law Treaties

That the ICAO Regional Director, Europe and North Atlantic:

- a) take action to invite EUR/NAT States to:
 - i) become parties to the six international air law treaties and to any other international air law treaties that they have not yet ratified;
 - ii) nominate a Focal Point for the Ratification of International Air Law Treaties, if they have not already done so, and to inform the ICAO EUR/NAT Office accordingly;

- iii) participate in the ICAO Air Law Treaty Workshop from 22 to 23 May 2024 in Paris, France, the third edition of the Civil Aviation Legal Advisers Forum (CALAF) in London, United Kingdom from 26 to 28 November 2024, in upcoming ICAO International Air Law Courses as well as other similar events for the continuous training and development of their legal advisers with regard to ratification and implementation of international air law instruments and to consider hosting from time to time such events in their States;
- iv) inform ICAO before **30 September 2024** of, not only the status of ratification, but also the progress made towards the ratification of international air law treaties by updating/using the DGCA tracking matrix set out in **Appendix B** to this Summary of Discussions;
- v) contact the ICAO LEB Treaty Section for any information or assistance with regard to ratification matters; and
- b) report on the progress made by EUR/NAT States at the 2025 EUR/NAT-DGCA meeting.

9. Any other business and Next Meeting

Any other business

9.1 The Meeting noted information provided by Kazakhstan on the ongoing initiative by several States in the eastern part of the EUR/NAT area to establish a "EurAsian Civil Aviation Conference (EACAC)".

Next Meeting

9.2 The Meeting agreed that the next EUR/NAT-DGCA would take place in Paris, France, in June 2025, during the week of the Paris Air Show (16 to 22 June 2025). The specific dates of the meeting would be confirmed in due time.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A—List of Participants

Appendix B—DGCA Ratification Tracking Matrix

APPENDIX A — LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

(Paragraph 1.2 refers)

ALBANIA

Maksim ET'HEMAJ

Megi XHARO

Dorina VERDHO

ALGERIA

Hakim GANOUN

Iméne LAOUARI

ANDORRA

Carles MIQUEL

Guillem SANTACREU

MARTINEZ

AUSTRIA

Antonina HATLER

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Samir BAGHIROV

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Nazim ZIYADOV

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Koen MILIS

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Zorislav IVANOVIC

Igor STUPAR

BULGARIA

Anelia MARINOVA

Vanya Dimitrova

CANADA

Felix MEUNIER

CROATIA

Ana KAPETANOVIC

CYPRUS

Neophytos

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DENMARK

Henrik ELLERMANN

FRANCE

Damien CAZE

Jérôme LESOURD

Charlotte BASQUIN

Marie-Estelle NAPOLI

GEORGIA

Givi DAVITASHVILI

Nino TSOTOIDZE

Levan KARANADZE

GERMANY

Sylvia BIELEFELD

Nabil NAOUMI

GREECE

Christos TSITOURAS

Kalliopi LYKOU

ICELAND

Jon Gunnar JONSSON

Hlin HOLM

IRELAND

Ethna BROGAN

Niamh O'BRIEN

Sean PATRICK

ITALY

Alessio QUARANTA

Valeria del SORDO

KAZAKHSTAN

Saltanat TOMPIYEVA

Catalin RADU

Beken SEIDAKHMETOV

Daulet TUREAKHMETOV

KYRGYZSTAN

Daniyar BOSTONOV

Kunduz

ISKENDERBEKOVA

LITHUANIA

Marius BARANAUSKAS

Vidmantas PLETA

LUXEMBOURG

Pierre JAEGER

Charles KLEIN

MONTENEGRO

Marijana VUKCEVIC

Ivan SCEKIC

MOROCCO

Nabil MASSALI

NETHERLANDS

M. J. Ties VAN ZANTEN

Ingeborg Van GASTEREN

NORWAY

Karl KOEFOED

POLAND

Julian ROTTER

Robert PRZYBYLSKI

PORTUGAL

Ana VIEIRA DA MATA

Fernanda BANDARRA

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Vasile SARAMET

ROMANIA

Nicolae Octavian STOICA

Madalina Laura CATRINA

SERBIA

Mirjana CIZMAROV

Ana LAZAREVIC

SLOVAKIA

Michal HYSEK

SPAIN

David BENITO ASTUDILLO

UKRAINE

Oleksandr BILCHUK Alina ZADOROZHNIA

UNITED KINGDOM

Mari DURBAN

Sarah HILL

UNITED STATES

Jennifer SOLOMON

Daniel WILLIAMS

UZBEKISTAN

Takhir NAZAROV

Tokhir

NURMUKHAMEDOV

Nargiza BAYMURZAEVA

ACAO

Hicham BENNANI

ASA

Fabio GAMBA

CANSO

Tanja GROBOTEK

EASA

Maria RUEDA

ECAC

Patricia REVERDY

EUROCONTROL

Enrique FRAILE-RIESCO

IATA

Rafael SCHVARTZMAN

ICCAIA

Eric DEMONEY

Marc HAMY

Olivier HUSSE

IFALPA

Arnaud DU BEDAT

JAA-TO

Eric

SCHOONDERWOERD

Karl SCHREIBER

Murat YALCIN

ICAO

Nicolas RALLO

Elkhan NAHMADOV

Masha MEYER

Blandine FERRIER

Mekki LAHLOU

Ignacio IGLESIA

FIGUEROA

Patricia CUFF

Isabelle HOFSTETTER

Carolyne OTTIENO

APPENDIX B — DGCA RATIFICATION TRACKING MATRIX

(paragraph 8.2 refers)

[NAME OF THE MEMBER STATE]					
	TREATY PROPOSED BY DGCA TO COMPETENT AUTHORITY FOR RATIFICATION	TREATY SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL TO LEGISLATURE OR OTHER COMPETENT AUTHORITY	AWAITING SUBMISSION OF THE INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION TO THE DEPOSITARY (E.G., ICAO)	TREATY NOT CONSIDERED FOR RATIFICATION	COMMENTS
PROTOCOL OF AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 50(a) OF THE CHICAGO CONVENTION, 2016 (Not in force)					
PROTOCOL OF AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 56 OF THE CHICAGO CONVENTION, 2016 (Not in force)					
MONTREAL CONVENTION, 1999					
BEIJING CONVENTION, 2010					
BEIJING PROTOCOL, 2010					
MONTRÉAL PROTOCOL, 2014					

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