



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization  
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

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**Twelfth North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation Meeting  
(NACC/DCA/12)  
Placencia, Belize, 9-11 July 2024**

**Agenda Item 5: Toward More Effective Implementation Support**

**PROPOSAL FOR A STRATEGIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF QATAR AND THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ICAO NACC REGION**

(Presented by Qatar)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This working paper outlines the State of Qatar’s ongoing efforts to cooperate with ICAO member States, international and regional organizations and industry stakeholders through the implementation of capacity building activities in the fields of aviation safety, air traffic management, aviation security and facilitation, air transport, meteorological services, and legal affairs; with a view to further support the effective implementation of ICAO SARPs and to promote the safety and development of international civil aviation.

<b>Action:</b>	The State of Qatar requests the member States of the ICAO NACC region to consider the establishment of a strategic partnership in line with paragraph 4.3 of this working paper.
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<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Safety</li><li>• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency</li><li>• Security &amp; Facilitation</li><li>• Economic Development of Air Transport</li><li>• Environmental Protection</li></ul>
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**1. Introduction**

1.1 The Civil Aviation Authority of the State of Qatar (QCAA) is an official governmental institution responsible for civil aviation affairs and policy development in the country. QCAA vision is to maintain a safe, effective and sustainable civil aviation system.

1.2 In line with the Qatar National Vision 2030<sup>1</sup>, QCAA has embraced international cooperation with ICAO member States, as well as international and regional organizations as a core value within its activities, being key in our aspiration to offer assistance to our partners to support the effective implementation of the Standard and Recommended Practices (SARPs) established by the International

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gco.gov.qa/en/about-qatar/national-vision2030/>

Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) with a view to further support the continuous growth and sustainable development of international civil aviation.

1.3 The State of Qatar has established a bilateral aviation framework with 19<sup>2</sup> of the 22 member States of the ICAO NACC region through the negotiation and signature of Air Services Agreements (ASA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). These agreements and arrangements are and will be essential to promote the region's connectivity to the world.

1.4 It is worth mentioning that our international cooperation activities and the establishment of partnerships across all regions of the world have been facilitated thanks to our active role within ICAO and specially after the State of Qatar secured its membership to the ICAO Council for the period 2022-2025 (Part III) during the ICAO General Assembly held in 2022.

1.5 Since the start of our membership in the ICAO Council, the State of Qatar has been actively participating in different committees, including the Air Transport Committee (ATC), Technical Cooperation and Implementation Support Committee (TCC), Aviation Security Committee, Climate and Environment Committee; and the Committee on Governance. As a recognition of our commitment and contributions to ICAO, we were elected as chairperson of the TCC for the period 2023-2024 and we were recently elected as the chairperson of the ATC for the period 2024-2025.

## **2. Cooperation framework**

2.1 Some examples of QCAA efforts to establish collaboration to support other civil aviation authorities and regional organizations to enhance their aviation system are our partnerships with member States from the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), the Latin America Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority (ECCAA), and the Central America Corporation for Air Navigation Services (COCESNA).

2.2 QCAA's overall approach is to support the efforts of States to fulfil their aviation requirements; and we have concluded robust Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation with LACAC (signed on 23 March 2022) and COCESNA (signed on 26 February 2024), both organizations having ICAO member States from the NACC region. We are eager to initiate discussions and achieve a similar cooperation framework with the regional organizations in the Caribbean, like CARICOM, ECCAA or the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System (CASSOS) to further support the safe, secure, and sustainable development of the aviation sector in the region.

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<sup>2</sup> Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and United States

2.3 The cooperation framework that we have developed aims carry out joint cooperative activities in the fields of aviation safety, air traffic management, aviation security and facilitation, air transport, meteorological services, and legal affairs. Some of these cooperation activities include the exchange of trained and qualified competencies, exchange of information about matters related to aviation, and the organization of seminars, conferences, workshops and training courses.

### **3. Cooperation activities in the NACC region**

3.1 As part of QCAA ongoing efforts to achieve our common goal of advancing international civil aviation we are continuously holding discussions with representatives from the civil aviation authorities and industry stakeholders of the ICAO NACC region to evaluate the status of our bilateral aviation relations, as well as to identify and explore new and innovative cooperation mechanisms.

3.2 QCAA has already implemented a series of cooperation activities in the region aimed to enhance the standards of the aviation sector focusing on safety, security, environmental protection, and economic development in line with ICAO's strategic objectives.

3.3 One of the cornerstones of QCAA's cooperation approach is capacity-building, as we recognize the importance of having well-trained professionals to ensuring aviation safety and efficiency. This commitment has materialized in a series of training courses that have benefited a significant number of delegates from across the NACC region.

3.4 Some of the capacity building activities already implemented in the region include training courses in aviation law and environmental sustainability, as well as internships and competency exchanges. This is in addition to the scholarships we have granted to delegates from the NACC region under the Qatar-ICAO Developing Countries Scholarship Programme (DCSP). The DCSP offers a two-year diploma in the following areas: Pilot Training, Aircraft Maintenance, Advanced Aviation Management, Air Traffic Control, Meteorology, and a Foundation Program. The programme is intended for Developing Countries that are most in need of assistance, especially in aviation training, with the objective to enhance their capabilities to implement the ICAO SARPs and to promote the safety and development of civil aviation.

### **4. Proposal for a Strategic Cooperation**

4.1 The State of Qatar is ready to offer a strategic cooperation to the member States of the ICAO NACC region. QCAA is committed to build a strategic partnership with the countries in this region, either at a bilateral level or through the umbrella of your regional organizations.

4.2 QCAA enduring aspiration is to become a strategic partner for the ICAO NACC office, its member States, and the regional organizations in line with our objectives and core values to achieve further cooperation and promote the development of the civil aviation sector.

4.3 In support of our proposed strategic partnership, QCAA invites all ICAO NACC member States to identify potential areas of assistance and cooperation with a view to foster a mutually beneficial collaboration between the State of Qatar and the region, and we would also like to urge all ICAO NACC member States to submit candidates for the next phase of the Qatar-ICAO Developing Countries Scholarship Programme which will be duly communicated via an official ICAO State Letter.

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