

CANDIDACY OF THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA TO THE COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

PERIOD 2022 - 2025

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela signed the Convention on International Civil Aviation on April 1, 1947, in order to contribute to the strategic objectives framed in this important instrument for the organization of aeronautical operations worldwide, being a faithful defender of compliance with the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) emanated by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

In this sense, the Venezuelan State Aeronautical Authority has maintained since its beginnings a leading participation within the Organization, attending numerous meetings convened by the ICAO and specialized organizations of the international aeronautical sector, always willing to facilitate the greatest cooperation hand in hand with its aeronautical inspectors who have an outstanding international trajectory, this position has allowed us to be part of the ICAO Council on several occasions since 1950, specifically in Part II - States that contribute the most to the provision of facilities and services for international civil air navigation, always willing to support the initiatives that derive from this space for the safe, orderly and efficient development of international civil aviation.

The Venezuelan aeronautical sector innovating in the face of the pandemic produced by COVID-19.

The air transportation has been directly affected since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic declaration by the World Health Organization (WHO); however, the Venezuelan State's aeronautical sector has been working uninterruptedly and tirelessly hand in hand with the ICAO, in order to prevent the spread of the virus.

To this effect, once the pandemic was declared, the transportation sector was considered a priority area in the national territory, and efforts were joined to guarantee the continuity in the provision of public transportation services for passengers, cargo and mail by air. In this sense, the Venezuelan Aeronautical Authority initiated a series of protocols to protect the health of the aeronautical personnel that day after day went to work in order to maintain air operations. Such is the case of the implementation of measures to mitigate the risk of contagion, through the Air Traffic Management (ATM) Contingency Plan in case of a Public Health Emergency of International Importance (PHEIC) within the ATM facilities. Likewise, vaccination of aeronautical technical personnel has been guaranteed to date with three (03) doses, in order to reduce the risk of contagion and mortality in this essential population for the air activity.

Likewise, the Venezuelan State published the "Technical regulation that provides for the applicability of biosecurity protocols to mitigate, contain and avoid the effects of the COVID-19 disease and the spread of the same as a consequence of the development of the Civil Aeronautical activity", which compiles the spirit of the recommendations issued by the Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART) of the ICAO and the WHO. This protocol has made it possible to avoid the entry of infected passengers by air with less than 1% of the people coming into the country with the virus.

Furthermore, it has actively participated in the work meetings coordinated by the ICAO, generating initiatives through Study Notes to prevent and deal with the spread of COVID-19, among which the "Proposal for the unification of the public health form for tracing passengers and the COVID-19 health self-declaration form for the traveling public" are noteworthy, as well as the "Tool for Mental Health Assessment of Aeronautical Operational Personnel (VSM- POA- 2020)", the latter worked jointly between the

Venezuelan Association of Aeronautical Psychology and the Venezuelan Aeronautical Authority, in order to obtain reliable data to identify emerging dangers related to mental health and to guide the management of Operational Safety (OPS) risks.

Aspects to know about Operational Safety and Aviation Security.

The Venezuelan State shares ICAO's vision of safe, orderly, efficient and sustainable international civil aviation. For this reason, its main commitment to the aeronautical sector has been to maintain the highest standards of compliance with the SARPs emanating from the Chicago Convention, whose implementation has been evaluated on multiple occasions by ICAO through the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) and the Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP) in its Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA), where the results have demonstrated the great effort made by the human talent of the aeronautical sector and the leadership of the Venezuelan State to guarantee Operational Safety and Aviation Security (AVSEC).

In the sameway, it actively participates in the Organization's projects such as the South American Region Digital Network (REDDIG) and Satellite Segment Administration, the Regional Safety Oversight Cooperation System (SRVSOP), the CAR/SAM Regional Planning and Implementation Group (GREPECAS), among others, being one of the leaders in the implementation of the State Safety Programme (SSP) of the South American Region.

On the other hand, the National Operational Safety Plan has been developed, aligned with the requirements of the ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan, providing from the Venezuelan aeronautical perspective great contributions close together with the national industry in high-level meetings, such as new initiatives in human factors regulations, mental health tools for aeronautical personnel and the incorporation of international airports in the Airports Council International (ACI).

World-class Air Navigation Services.

As a sign of its commitment to the Organization and its Member States, Venezuela has the AMHS aeronautical messaging system and the Advanced System of Information Management for Air Traffic and Reports of Operational Interest (SAGITARIO) for the Control Tower, Maiquetía Approach and Maiquetía Control Center, which are considered fundamental pillars in air traffic management, making it possible to enhance security and immediacy in aeronautical communications and air navigation services.

It is important to highlight that in early 2021, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is a full member of the Civil Air Navigation Services Organization (CANSO), which covers more than 90% of the world's air traffic and guarantees the development and exchange of ideas on current issues related to air traffic management, allowing the strengthening of the services provided by the Venezuelan State.

Educational excellence at the service of international civil aviation.

Facing the new educational challenges generated by the constant changes in aviation, the Venezuelan State has important educational centers of excellence and international recognition.

Such is the case of the University Institute of Civil Aeronautics (IUAC) "Mayor (Av) Miguel Rodríguez", which has an important trajectory in the training of national and international aeronautical personnel, offering permanent training for aeronautical personnel in general. It is a full member of the TRAINAIR PLUS Programme, from where it has been able to

promote various sets of Standardized Training Packages (STP) available to ICAO member countries; it also develops courses, seminars, workshops, diploma courses, recurrent courses, university extension programs, undergraduate and graduate studies (specializations, masters and doctorates), giving continuity to the updating of theoretical and technical knowledge, according to the advances and demands that aeronautics requires.

Additionally, the Civil Aeronautics Instruction Center (CIAC), “Mayor (Av) Miguel Rodríguez”, where professionals are trained in the areas of private pilot, commercial pilot, aeronautical maintenance technician and remotely piloted aircraft operator (RPAS), of quality and excellence, through the application of academic, modern and innovative teaching processes, which allows it to be an institute of national and international reference with the highest academic level, which has the projection and recognition of the sector.

This training center with more than 82 years training pilots of excellence, has the latest technological platform, such as flight simulators, training aircraft, various models and RPAS simulators, among others, which, added to its great team of professionals and aeronautical technicians, make this center the main aeronautical training center of the Venezuelan State and one of the main ones in Latin America.

On the other hand, during the COVID-19 pandemic and as one of the pioneers in the South American Region, the Venezuelan State implemented the webinar modality, with the participation of international personalities from the International Civil Aviation Organization South American Regional Office (ICAO-SAM); executives of the Latin American and Caribbean Air Transport Association (ALTA) and CANSO authorities, with the objective to continue training aeronautical staff, as well as to keep the national and international community informed of the work developed by the Venezuelan Aeronautical Authority in favor of the supervision and revitalization of aerocommercial operations.

Working together for the benefit of an efficient and effective aviation.

Regarding the technical cooperation provided by the Venezuelan State, in accordance with the ICAO initiative "No Country Left Behind", the Venezuelan authorities have approved the support of national aeronautical experts to provide advice, training, conferences, webinars and inspections, mainly in the areas of PEL, AGA, AIR, OPS, ANS, SSP, MET, LEG and AVSEC, and thus strengthen the aviation safety of the countries that require it.

An example of this has been the requests for experts for the execution of the Aviation Safety and Security Improvement Plans to various States, with inspectors certified by the highest United Nations agency in aeronautical matters, which undoubtedly results in the improvement of the results of the audits carried out in those countries.

Expanding the frontiers of world connectivity.

Among the priorities of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is the recovery of air transportation; therefore, within the framework of the principle of international cooperation, INAC has fostered various approaches with Civil Aviation Authorities in order to strengthen aeronautical connectivity.

In this way, the Venezuelan State has worked to encourage the regularization of the air commercial activity, including non-traditional destinations in its agenda, through the promotion of instruments in the field of air services, which allow regularizing and enhancing air commercial transportation, shortening distances and promoting economic

and tourist growth, as well as offering users of international air transportation an excellent service.

Instead, in order to support international airlines in their recovery after the effects caused by COVID-19, the Venezuelan State has authorized a reduction in the rates for the provision of air navigation services and aeronautical fuel, which are among the lowest in the Region.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requests your cooperation.

In view of the above, we would be pleased to count on your invaluable support to the candidacy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to Part II of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization during the period 2022-2025 and, in this way, continue joining efforts to contribute to the strengthening of Operational Safety, AVSEC, environmental protection, Air Navigation, among others, common objectives that will be developed under an atmosphere of solidarity, cooperation, equal opportunities and respect between our countries.

Caracas, April 2022

