



AVIATION WORKING GROUP

DRAFT CONVENTION ON COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGES CAUSED BY AIRCRAFT TO THIRD PARTIES, IN THE CASE OF UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE AND THE ICAO LEGAL COMMITTEE

The Aviation Working Group ('*AWG*'), having participated in the six meetings of the Special Group for the Modernization of the Rome Convention of 1952 ('*SGMR*'), shares the views of the SGMR that the text of the Draft Convention on Compensation for Damages caused by Aircraft to Third Parties, in the case of Unlawful Interference ('*Modernized Rome Convention*') is in proper form, and is sufficiently mature, for review at an ICAO Legal Committee.

Furthermore, AWG urges ICAO to place the Modernized Rome Convention on the agenda for full consideration at the next ICAO Legal Committee, expected to be authorized by the ICAO Council in late 2007 and convened in early 2008.

In our view, the air transport sector has a responsibility to advance the Modernized Rome Convention as promptly as possible, ensuring that a sound legal structure is in place to address the consequences of acts of unlawful interference. In short, the Modernized Rome Convention is central to minimizing the risk of disruptions to air transport in this context. Should the Modernized Rome Convention not be subject to review at the anticipated early 2008 Legal Committee meeting, the fulfillment of these important objectives would be delayed for a significant period of time, increasing risks to the air transport sector.

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