

TEL.: (514) 954-6708

Ref.: AN 13/45.1-00/74

23 June 2000

Subject: Proposals for amendments to Annex 10, Volume II and the PANS-RAC (Doc 4444) concerning phraseologies

Action required: Comments to reach Montreal by 23 September 2000

Sir/Madam,

1. I have the honour to inform you that the Air Navigation Commission, at the fourth and fifth meetings of its 154th Session held on 23 and 25 May 2000, carried out a preliminary review of proposals for the amendment of Annex 10 — *Aeronautical Telecommunications, Volume II — Communication procedures including those with PANS Status*, and the *Procedures for Air Navigation Services — Rules of the Air and Air Traffic Services* (PANS-RAC, Doc 4444) and authorized their transmittal to Contracting States and appropriate international organizations for comments. The proposed amendments to Annex 10, Volume II and the PANS-RAC, aimed at harmonization of radiotelephony speech and improvement in the use of standard phraseology, are contained in Attachments A and B to this letter, respectively.

2. The proposed amendments are based on recommendations of the Multi-Agency Air Traffic Services Procedures Co-ordination Group (MAPCOG), which comprises experts from the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL), the United States Federal Aviation Administration and the Canadian air traffic services provider, NAV CANADA. In some cases, MAPCOG proposed alternative choices to ICAO phraseologies for situations where a different phraseology with the same intent was known to be in use in some States. During the Air Navigation Commission's review, it was recognized that it was indeed important for pilots to be aware of these variations; however, offering alternative phraseologies would be counter to the need for standardization, which is the foundation of aviation safety, and would conflict with the intent of Procedures for Air Navigation Services, which are approved by the Council and recommended to Contracting States for worldwide application. Alternative phraseologies are therefore not included in the proposals attached hereto.

3. The Commission recognized that, in the application of phraseologies, there was a need to avoid the possibility of misinterpretation. Specifically, the Commission asked me to draw your attention to, and invite your comments on, the desirability of including the note associated with the phrase "GO AHEAD", intended to minimize the possibility of the phrase "GO AHEAD" being misconstrued as a clearance for the aircraft to proceed.

4. In examining the proposed amendments, you should not feel obliged to comment on editorial aspects as such matters will be addressed by the Air Navigation Commission during its final review of the draft amendment.

5. May I request that any comments you may wish to make on the proposed amendments be dispatched to reach me not later than 23 September 2000. The Air Navigation Commission has asked me to specifically indicate that comments received after the due date may not be considered by the Commission and the Council. In this connection, should you anticipate a delay in the receipt of your reply, please let me know in advance of the due date.

6. For your information the proposed amendments are envisaged for applicability on 1 November 2001. Any comments you may have thereon would be appreciated.

7. The subsequent work of the Air Navigation Commission and the Council would be greatly facilitated by specific statements on the acceptability or otherwise of the proposal. Please note that, for the review of your comments by the Air Navigation Commission and the Council, replies are normally classified as "agreement with or without comments", "disagreement with or without comments" or "no indication of position". If in your reply the expression "no objections" or "no comments" are used, they will be taken to mean "agreement without comment" and "no indication of position", respectively.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

R.C. Costa Pereira
Secretary General

Enclosures:

Attachment A — Proposed amendments to Annex 10,
Volume II

Attachment B — Proposed amendments to the PANS-RAC