



International Civil Aviation Organization

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SIGNIFICANT CONCERN TO THE SAFETY OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION CAUSED BY THE DPRK MISSILE LAUNCHES

Concern about recent repeated ballistic missile launches by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the risk they pose to international civil aviation was raised today at the first meeting of the Council's 212th Session. The Council recalled that these ballistic missile launches had occurred over or near international air routes and without prior notice being given, thus causing significant concerns vis-à-vis the safety of international civil aviation in the region. It was further noted that in response to these incidents, the President of the Council had sent several letters to the DPRK to urge the country to comply with the provisions of the *Convention on International Civil Aviation*, its Annexes, related procedures and relevant ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPS).

As a signatory to the Convention, the DPRK is expected to notify adjacent countries of any activity or incident arising from its territories which may pose risks to nearby civil aviation routes or operations. This would include matters which may affect civil aviation such as, inter alia, volcanic ash clouds from local eruptions or aerial testing of missiles. ICAO has sought to engage the DPRK and has been corresponding with it and adjacent States for many years now to better ensure reliable sharing of safety advisories.

From its discussion, the Council:

recalled Assembly Resolution A32-6, *Safety of Navigation*;

expressed its strong condemnation of the continued launching of ballistic missiles by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea over or near international air routes without advance notification, which seriously threatens the safety of international civil aviation;

strongly urged the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to comply with the provisions of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, its Annexes, related procedures, and relevant ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) in order to prevent the recurrence of such potentially hazardous activities; and

noted that the United Nations Security Council had determined that the launching of ballistic missiles by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was in violation of its resolutions.

Aviation is the safest form of transport, largely due to the excellent international collaboration and consensus supporting the global network which is fully dependent upon the commitment of ICAO's Member States to adhere to the *Convention on International Civil Aviation* and its Annexes.

Issued under the authority of the Secretary General