

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
THE INTERSTATE AVIATION COMMITTEE AND THE AUSTRALIAN
TRANSPORT SAFETY BUREAU
ON COOPERATION RELATING TO AVIATION INVESTIGATION**

Taking into consideration, that, in accordance with the Interstate Agreement on Civil Aviation and the Use of Airspace, signed by 12 Independent States: Azerbaidjan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan and Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the States-signatories to the Agreement), investigation of accidents, involving two or more States, is within the scope of authority of the Interstate Aviation Committee; accounting for broadening cooperation in the field of air transportation between the States-signatories to the Agreement and Australia; striving for high flight safety level promotion and recognising the necessity of joint efforts in this area.

The Interstate Aviation Committee (“IAC”) and the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (“ATSB”), together known as “the Parties”:

- a) Subscribing to the objective enshrined in Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (“the Chicago Convention”) that the sole object of the investigation of an aircraft accident or incident shall be the prevention of accidents and incidents and that it is not the purpose of the investigation activity to apportion blame or provide a means of determining liability;
- b) Committed to enhancing the capabilities and professionalism of their respective aircraft accident investigators;
- c) Wishing to share expertise and experience relating to aviation investigation;
- d) Acknowledging their common interest in establishing a lasting framework for cooperation in the area of aviation investigation; and
- e) Considering that there are many Russian and CIS aircraft charters now coming to Australia.

HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

Objective and Areas of Cooperation

1. In entering into this MOU, the sole objective of both Parties is the enhancement of aviation safety.

Acting within the scope of their authorities, the Contracting Parties will work in close cooperation during the investigation of accidents and incidents:

- a) to aircraft, operated by the States-signatories to the Agreement, occurring in the territory of Australia;
- b) to Australian-operated aircraft in the territory of the States-signatories to the Agreement;

2. The Parties will cooperate in aviation investigation, investigation training and sharing of information and expertise, consistent with the Standards and Recommended Practices of Annex 13 to the Chicago Convention. The areas of cooperation are as follows:

(a) Provision of Assistance

The Parties will offer assistance and the use of air safety investigation facilities and equipment to each other as deemed appropriate and as resources permit. This assistance may include expertise in the fields of air traffic services, engineering, operations, flight recorders, human performance and management organisation.

(b) Attendance of Courses and Training

The Parties will, where practicable, invite each other's investigators to attend general or specialist investigation courses and training conducted by them.

(c) Attachment to Investigation as Observers

The Parties will facilitate the attachment of each other's investigators as observers in their investigation of accidents and serious incidents, with a view to enhancing the understanding of each other's investigation requirements and procedures, so as to permit an effective cooperation in any investigation of accident to a Party's aircraft in the other Party's territory pursuant to Annex 13 to the Chicago Convention:

- mutual familiarisation with the organisational structure and main tasks of accident investigation bodies, with methods of organising and conducting accident investigations;
- mutual consultations during investigation of the most complicated occurrences, experience exchange on conducting specific studies;
- exchange of accident statistics in compatible units;
- discussion of and reaching the agreement on the problems, associated with ICAO activities in the field of flight safety.

Coordination

To establish such cooperation the Contracting parties form a joint working group, through which they will maintain regular direct working contacts:

The contact person in IAC for the implementation of this MOU is:

Chairman
 Air Transport Accident Investigation Commission of the Interstate Aviation
 Committee ("ATAIC")
 Building 22/2/1
 Bolshaya Ordynka Str
 Moscow 109017
 Russia

Tel:

Fax:

Tel :

E-mail:



The contact person in ATSB for the implementation of this MOU is
 Deputy Director
 Air Safety Investigation
 Australian Transport Safety Bureau
 P O Box 967
 Civic Square ACT 2608
 Australia
 Tel: 61 2 6274 6464 (Office), 61 417 660 194 (Mobile)
 Fax: 61 2 6274 6699
 E-mail: alan.stray@atsb.gov.au

Financial Matters

Unless otherwise agreed, each Party should bear its own cost for the implementation of the matters set out in this MOU.

Amendment

This MOU may be amended at any time by mutual consent of the Parties.

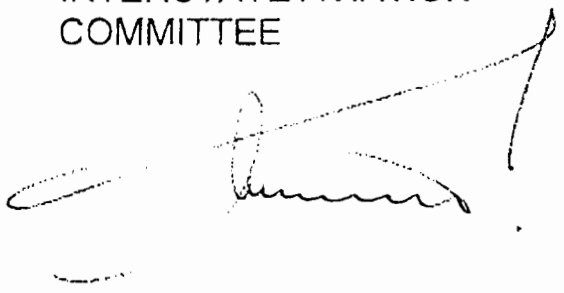
Commencement and Duration

This MOU will come into effect on the date of signing and will remain in effect unless it is terminated by either Party giving one month's written notice to the other Party.

The Parties may, by mutual agreement, provide for the survival of any arrangement upon termination of this MOU.

Signed in duplicate, at Cairns, this 10th day of March 2003.

DR RUDOLF TEYMOURAZOV
 VICE-CHAIRMAN
 INTERSTATE AVIATION
 COMMITTEE



MR KYM BILLS
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 AUSTRALIAN TRANSPORT
 SAFETY BUREAU

