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MERVYN FERNANDO RE-APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF THE AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION

Mervyn Fernando, who served his first term as president of the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in 2010, has been unanimously re-appointed through a secret ballot for another term beginning 2011

Under Fernando, the ANC actively pursued key aviation commitments in 2010. Some of the ANC highlights include:

The development of air navigation-related proposals presented to the 37th Session of the ICAO Assembly in September/October 2010. To improve aircraft operations, ANC facilitated the creation of an electronic database on terrain and obstacles around airports worldwide (eTOD) to help future air traffic management systems. Enhancements to cockpit recording devices to aid aircraft accident investigations was also given emphasis as well as provisions on rescue and fire fighting services in support of long range flight operations and diversions to the nearest suitable aerodrome. Fernando was also instrumental in reorganising the ANC's work flow to ensure the development of more robust yet implementable rules governing air navigation.

The President of the ANC is appointed by the Council of the ICAO from within the ANC, which comprises 19 technical experts, all of whom are appointed by the Council of the ICAO. Fernando was first appointed as a Member of the ANC in 2006, and reappointed twice in 2007 and 2010.

For 2011, Fernando said, "I will focus on following up on the 75 directives of the 37th ICAO Assembly including the development of a new Annex to the ICAO Convention, currently referred to as 'Annex 19, Safety Management.' I will also oversee the modernisation of the ANC Chamber and its working system, including conducting paperless meetings."

Mr Yap Ong Heng, Director-General, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) said, "We are honoured that Mr Mervyn Fernando has been unanimously re-appointed President of the ANC for another term. As a member of the Council of the ICAO and with Mr Fernando as President of the ANC, Singapore will continue to actively contribute to the growth of international civil aviation to the next level."

