★ ECA

European Cockpit Association

'Piloting Safety'

Revision of EASA Regulation 1592/2002

- Executive Summary of the ECA Position-

- > A single aviation market needs a single safety body ECA strongly supports the Commission proposals making EASA the *one-stop-shop* for *European aviation safety*.
- > **Safety Cannot Wait -** To avoid delaying the extension of EASA's scope, ECA suggests separating the controversial issue of EASA's governance, to deal with it later.
- > Uniform application of OPS rules across Europe can be ensured by extending EASA's scope to Air Operations. ECA supports the Commission proposals in this direction.
- > EU-OPS Regulation and the further development of Flight Time Limitations must be reflected in the 1592 context, ensuring that the EP achievements on EU-OPS (such as Art. 8(a)) would not be lost once EASA takes over Air Operations.
- > Aircraft inspections before each flight are essential for safety. ECA encourages the EP to resist the Council's (preliminary) proposal to reduce the number of pre-flight inspections for a "consistent series of consecutive flights".
- > Extension of EASA's scope to pilot licensing ensures a uniform application of rules across Member States. ECA supports this, while suggesting to:
 - 1. ensure that **scientific and technical progress** are taken into account, when Implementing Rules are established by amending Art. 6(a) §7.
 - 2. ensure that the *pilots' medical certificates are issued by doctors with aero-medical* training and experience by amending Art. 6(a) §2(3).
 - 3. **recognise the** *rating* **of pilots involved in pilot training**, thereby avoiding additional burden on flight training by adding a reference to "rating" in Art 6(a) §5.
 - 4. not allow assessment bodies **issue pilot licences for recreational flying**, unless they are **delegated by national aviation authorities** by amending Art 6(a) §2(2).
 - 5. reject the Council (preliminary) proposal to include **non-technical skills** into formal pilot licensing requirements (Annex III).
- Imposing common rules to third country aircraft by extending EASA's scope has distinct safety benefits, as long as ICAO standards are respected and risk of retaliation is minimised. ECA recommends to regroup all 3rd country related provisions into one article.
- > Strong collective oversight and enforcement by EASA are essential to guarantee the implementation of safety rules. ECA also suggests introducing a reference on effective sanctions for non-compliance by amending Art 7.
- "Protection of the source of information" is a key safety element in the 1592 proposal. To strengthen this, ECA suggest this protection to also apply to mandatory reporting, and a recital on non-punitive reporting systems to be added to the text.
- Flexibility Provisions are important for adapting safety actions. To ensure that these provisions are not abused, ECA proposes a new requirement for information and transparency. Moreover, provisions for granting permanent derogations from EASA safety rules need to be strengthened, by requiring stronger 'proof' that the problem cannot be addressed within the framework of existing rules.

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