



International Civil Aviation Organization

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

For information only

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STATUS OF CONTRACTING STATES' IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARDS RELATED TO LOCATION OF AN AIRCRAFT IN DISTRESS IN ANNEX 6, PART I

1. On 10 November 2016, Amendment 40-A to Annex 6 — *Operation of Aircraft, Part I — International Commercial Air Transport — Aeroplanes* became applicable, which required, inter alia, that all aeroplanes with a maximum take-off mass of over 27 000 kg and with a Certificate of Airworthiness issued on or after 1 January 2021 would be required to transmit information from which the location could be determined, when in distress.
2. The initial embedded equipage date of this Standard was revised in 2019, following a survey of readiness to implement the Standard, to a new date of 1 January 2023. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the industry, this date was further revised to apply to all the above-mentioned aeroplanes delivered from 1 January 2024, but with an additional one year period allowed for completion of the certification process, meaning installation was not required on the aircraft until 1 January 2025.
3. ICAO has received information that some manufacturers will not be able to fully comply with this requirement by 1 January 2025 due to ongoing delays in the certification process for the new equipment. Consequently, some Contracting States, where national regulations are in place, are establishing national exemptions to the provisions of Annex 6, Part I, 6.18 regarding the location of an aeroplane in distress.
4. The above-mentioned exemptions do not change the applicability date (1 January 2025) nor the date of issuance of a first Certificate of Airworthiness from which new aircraft are required to be equipped with devices meeting the requirements of the Standard in Annex 6, Part I, 6.18. (1 January 2024).
5. Additionally, Contracting States issuing national exemptions to this Standard are reminded of their obligations under Article 38 — *Departures from international standards and procedures* of the *Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation* (Doc 7300) to notify ICAO of any differences that may exist.

Issued under the authority of the Secretary General